BABY MAFIA 181

Chapter 181: "Daughter Instead Of Son"

Finley's head throbbed when his dad glared at him like that. He knew that a long a*s lecture was going to unfold.

Finley was about to answer, but then his father got Impatient. Grabbing the boy's wrist, Evan tugged his son toward him.

"Fin! Answer me!" The hot daddy's ruby eyes reddened, almost becoming like a devil from hell. Finley couldn't help but shudder, and his innocent face turned grave.

"Calm down, dad! It's not like I'm bewitched or something!" Finley shook his dad's grip on his wrist and hurriedly backed off, creating a distance from his dad.

Although they're still sitting on the same couch...

Sensing his grip didn't touch anything, Evan looked down at his palms and squinted.

"...Fin. Explain." The man didn't look at Finley anymore and just clenched his fists tightly. However, the chilly aura around him worsened, scaring even Percival, his contracted fairy.

"Okay, okay, it's just a misunderstanding, get it?" Finley had no choice but to tell his father. Actually...his dad already knew about Ainsley, but he didn't pay attention to that baby, thinking that she's just his son's new friend or something.

When Finley told his dad that he wants to go to the casino to protect the baby in secret, only then Evan's face changed.

The always cold-looking father revealed a trace of shock and disbelief for the first time.

"You...why are you doing so much for a mere friend? She's also from a lower-class family, right?" Evan was dumbfounded. He looked at his son and pinched the boy's cheek to make sure this isn't a dream.

How could his son, who never made any female friend, suddenly got one and even went as far as doing these?

Are you sure she's just a friend?

"A mere friend?" Finley immediately displayed his displeasure as the boy harrumphed. "Ain is my best friend, dad! She's amazing and unique! You will like her if you see her too..."

"Ah, the girl that Chronos told me? Is it that girl?" Percival, who was listening at the side, suddenly interrupted. He looked at Finley with a slight interest in his eyes.

"Uh yeah, Perry. She's the one." Finley looked at the tiny Percival and subconsciously answered.

"The 3-years-old toddler who already awakened four abilities, and one of them is even a high-ranked ability?" Percival asked once more. This time, his violet eyes twinkled brightly.

The poor daddy who was tossed to the side watched these two people's interaction with wide eyes.

What? What's going on? A three years old baby awakened four abilities? One of them is a high-ranked ability?

"Uhuh." Finley answered Percival with a nod, but his answer indirectly responded to his dad's inner questions.

"Her shaman ability is undoubtedly top-ranked. The spirit she's contracted with is also super formidable!" Finley wasn't stingy to praise Ainsley to the moon, especially in front of Percival.

Well, he had the intention to brag about Ainsley to his dad too, but he would never admit that even if he died.

"Ain also has a baby charm ability. It's super strong, and the ability range is wide! I almost can't believe that she's only 3..."

Finley let out a dramatic sigh as he peeked at his dad, who already turned into a statue.

"F-fin. There's such a baby?" Evan stuttered while turning his body around. The handsome daddy looked at Finley with his mouth open.

"Are you serious?"

"Of course, I am! That baby is also the new Sloan family head that you told me to meet, dad." Finley grinned from ear to ear as he secretly chuckled inside.

"Remember, that, right?"

"The new...Sloan Family head...?"

It was as if another thunderbolt struck the poor father. Evan's body swayed, and his face turned pale as fast as turning one's hand.

"The new Sloan Family head...isn't an adult? It's a baby?" Evan murmured. His eyes showed strong disbelief in his son's words.

He had long known that the Sloan Family, that mid-rank family changed their family head, and their situation was worsening until their family fell to the low-class family rank.

But he still sent his son to congratulate whoever became the Sloan Family's new family head because in the past, the Sloan Family was one of the 7 great families.

And he had quite a good relationship with the 16'th family head, Ainsley's grandpa, who already passed away due to illness.

He knew that the 17th family head, Ainsley's father, was a dunce and finally ran away from his family. That's why he thought that the family would appoint a new family head from the branch families or something...

However, never in his wildest dream, he would think that the new family head wasn't from the branch families but that old man's granddaughter instead!

Are those Sloan family's elders crazy or what?! That baby is only 3!

Evan's face became stern once more, and he looked at Finley with a slight worry hidden deep inside his ruby eyes.

"So...that baby...uh...Ainsley? How is she? You said that she awakened four abilities..." Evan didn't realise that his voice already softened when he mentioned Ainsley.

After all, he would only be strict with his own families. To other babies...he could show mercy as long as they're not his enemy.

Seeing his dad change as fast as blinking, Finley sucked in the cold air.

I know it. I know that you want to have a daughter and not a son, right?!

Finley already tossed whatever Evan asked him at the moment. His focus was on Evan's subtle change.

This...no wonder I often saw female baby's necessities around the room near dad's bedroom....

So it's for this reason! Dad wants a daughter instead of a son!

Chapter 182: "It's All Misunderstanding!"

So...those female baby necessities were just because dad longed for a baby daughter?

Mom thought that he's having an affair with his old love and they got a baby daughter somewhere outside of the family!

Isn't this precisely why mom got so depressed that she chose to become the sacrifice for Chronos's timeturning magic?

When Finley recalled his mom's last words, and then it all turned out to be a petty misunderstanding, he suddenly flared up.

"Dad. Ainsley isn't your daughter. You don't need to care about her. Me alone is enough." Finley spat out cold words in a spur of the moment.

He's already an adult inside, but with his body being a child, sometimes, he would also show childish behaviour like

now.

Evan, who was still engrossed in imagining what Ainsley looked like, immediately snapped out of his daze. He was quite sensitive, and he felt that his son...was angry at him.

"Uh...yeah, I know she's not my daughter. She's just the granddaughter of an old friend. That's why I'm curious." Evan coughed to hide his embarrassment.

How could he tell his son that he actually longed for a baby daughter? Wouldn't that hurt his son's feelings?

"Oh, and I'm curious because this Ainsley...seems to be a genius. Isn't it?" Evan put on his poker face once more, afraid that his sensitive son would discover something wrong with him, but Finley had already done.

The boy ignored Evan's words and glared at the hot daddy instead.

"Dad. Tell me. Do you want to have a baby daughter? Is that why you...you store a lot of female baby necessities near your bedroom?!"

Finley abruptly stood up and raised his voice. In the living room where the servants were nowhere to be seen, only the father, the son, and a fairy remained to have a conversation.

The boy's heart-wrenching voice rang throughout the room, startling both the cold-blooded father and the mysterious fairy.

"...Fin..?" Evan's voice softened as he looked at his son. His son was currently glaring at him as if he's a sworn enemy.

"No. Don't call me. Just answer me first. Am I right, Mr Walter?" Finley crossed his arms and stood still. The way he addressed his father also changed.

He seemed to be...in a rage...

Of course, he would be. He always thought that his mom chose to die because she didn't love dad and couldn't bear to live in a cold-blooded mafia family because her mafia family was rather slacking and easy-going.

But if it didn't turn out to be like that....

If it turned out because mom loved dad so much and then she thought he's having an affair with another woman...the woman whom he genuinely loved before they got into a political marriage...

If that's the case, he had to smack his dad and made him repent!

Facing his son's sudden outburst, Evan knew that it's not time to talk about Ainsley whatsoever.

If he didn't solve this problem now, it might become a thorn inside his son's heart and hindered his psychological growth in the future.

"...okay, I admit it. I want a baby daughter." Evan let out a long sigh. But before Finley spoke, he cut in.

"But, listen. It doesn't mean I hate you. And I also never pestered Cecile to bear me a baby daughter." Evan's voice sounded stiff, but his eyes were looking at Finley with full sincerity.

"I know Cecile doesn't like me, and she only wants to bear one child. That's why I hid those female baby's necessities from her." Evan's gaze turned cloudy for a second.

"I thought that my first child would be a daughter, and that's why I already bought a lot of things...but it turned out to be a boy- "

"Wait, wait. Wait." Finley suddenly stopped his dad and went back to sit on the couch. The boy crossed his legs into a lotus position before glaring at his father.

"Did you just say that mom hates you?"

"Huh? Isn't it like that?" Evan let out a gasp. "She always avoids me, and whenever she meets me, she would tremble, cry, or faint." Evan shrugged slightly.

"If she doesn't hate me, then what?"

Finley, who had a belly full of complaints, suddenly became speechless.

Yooo, old man, is your EQ that low? How come that becomes mom hating you?

Isn't it clear that she's afraid of you? Afraid of your corpse-like expressions...and your cold-blooded nature?

How come you said she's the one hating you?

We always thought that it's you who hates her!

Finley gulped and slowly began to tell his father what his mom said. When on the deathbed, mom said not to hate dad, and that she always loved him, but if he wanted to remarry after she died, it's fine.

It's also OK to bring his illegitimate daughter to the family if he wanted to, as long as Finley's position as Walter's family heir remained unchanging.

Finley told his story around 15 minutes, and after he's done, Evan already slumped on the sofa, looking like a slime.

"Cecil...Cecil said that before she passed away?" Evan's face sank. His eyes revealed a deep grievance that Finley had never seen before.

"Yeah, that's what she said." Finley nodded. Of course, he wouldn't tell dad that mom died because she volunteered to be the sacrifice of Chronos's magic.

When she heard that Finley returned from the future and his future was terrible, she didn't hesitate to offer herself as the sacrifice.

When Evan heard that his wife passed away with such a thought, he suddenly felt like crying.

"Fin...it's all misunderstanding!"

Chapter 183: "Reincarnating"

"Listen, Fin. I indeed loved someone when I married your mom, but after I married Cecil, I slowly opened my heart to her and forgot my old love!"

Evan gasped for air as he explained things that he would never explain if not for this misunderstanding. Saying that you love your wife is kind of embarrassing for someone like Evan.

"I never cheat on your mom, and I also love her. If not, why would I give birth to you?" Evan let out a long sigh as he massaged his temple. "I'm not the type to bear a child just for the family."

"Uh...but mom always thought that you hated her because you rarely met her, and every time you two met each other, she said that you're always frowning..."

Finley had a sour look on his face as he retold what his mom told him. In his eyes, his dad is indeed a cold man that doesn't care about his wife.

But when Evan heard that, he suddenly looked a bit lost.

"Huh? I'm glaring at her? But I always try to hug her whenever we meet, but she's the one running away from me!" Evan was flabbergasted.

"I always sent her gifts, jewellery, and all kinds of things she would like after I went home from a long mission, but I guess she didn't like it because she never wore it?"

"Uh...mom said you sent her gifts because you feel guilty that you're cheating..."

"The heck? Just because I kept a female baby's necessities, does it make me cheat on her?" Evan raised his voice, unable to hold back his emotion.

Isn't this misunderstanding too big to begin with?

"But dad, mom said she once saw you go on a date with your old love..."

"Ah, we just coincidentally met at the cafe around the estate. Back then, she was with her maids, and I was also with my people. We didn't meet alone."

Evan pressed the space between his eyebrows as he continued to explain the misunderstanding. From the so-called affair, and his so-called cold behaviours...

All of that was just a big misunderstanding.

Well, his scary face also contributed a lot to the misunderstanding.

After Finley finished listening to his dad's explanation, he suddenly slumped to the sofa.

"Ahhh...damn it. So mom passed away with a heart full of grievances, but she didn't know the truth!" Finley suddenly regretted complying with his mom's wish to be the sacrifice.

He could just let Chronos take his soul as the price of turning back time, never to reincarnate, but then, his mom became the sacrifice...

"Oh, right, dad. Maybe it's still not too late." Finley, who was looking gloomy, suddenly brightened up. He looked at Percival, the oracle fairy, before looking at his dad.

"I heard from Chronos that mom would reincarnate as a young woman outside of the mafia family. She's going to be in another country. If dad can find her soul in her new body..."

Finley paused. He peeked at his dad's serious face before continuing.

"You can possibly meet her and then pursue her? Even though she won't remember you, at least you can make up for what you can't give her in the past– "

Before Finley could finish, Evan suddenly stood up. He grabbed Finley's hands and grasped it tight. "Is that true? Chronos said Cecile is going to reincarnate into a young woman's body?"

"Err, yeah– "

"Okay, then. If you can tell dad when Cecile is going to reincarnate, dad will find some soul shamans to find her soul!" Evan's eyes lit up like a child getting candy.

It was the first time Finley saw his dad getting overly excited like now.

The concept of reincarnation was not a secret in this world, and that's why shamans with a contracted dead spirit that could detect souls were fairly popular to find the reincarnated people.

Even though these people wouldn't remember their past life anymore, their loved one would try to get them back. Well, as long as they didn't bother the reincarnated people's new life.

However, only a tiny part of society could do this because a dead spirit with soul-related ability was extremely scarce. Fairies and other creatures related to souls that could detect one's unique soul was also not easy to find.

However, the Walter family could do that thanks to Aetheria.

Chronos's lukewarm relationship with Aetheria and her good relationship with Finley made it possibly for the family to even detect their reincarnated enemy and extinguished their souls or something.

This was why ever since Finley got Chronos, Finley's value in the Walter Family was top-notch. And that's why a lot of people wanted him dead.

Because thanks to Finley, offending the Walter family was the same as never reincarnating again. And if you could reincarnate, they also could detect you wherever you are and kill you once more!

This time, Evan wanted to borrow Aetheria's power to find his wife's reincarnated body. Even when Aetheria was only the fairy of space, she could at least detect reincarnated souls.

But to extinguish souls, the Walter Family usually paid some prices to the fairy of soul and spirits.

That fairy was also a royal fairy close to Percival, Evan's contracted fairy. Ah, Percival could also foresee where Cecile's new body is, and so on.

In short, this family was a giant among giants until Aetheria made a contract with Blair in the past.

After the father and son discussed finding their mom's reincarnated body, the topic went back to Ainsley and the casino.

"So, Fin, tell me. What is Ainsley to you until you want to accompany her to the casino silently?"

Evan looked at his son with a slightly mischievous smile.

Chapter 184: "Gossiping Ainsley"

When Evan shifted the conversation back to Finley and Ainsley, even the quiet fairy, Percival, couldn't help but look at Finley with sparkling eyes.

Yes, gossiping nature ran inside this family's blood.

Finley suddenly felt the need to run away, not wanting to tell his dad about Ainsley, afraid that he would adopt her or something. However, to borrow a force from his dad or use his own force, he had to get his dad's permission.

After all, he's still 8 outside and not even his dad knew that he went back in time.

"Uh...if you ask why I want to accompany Ain...simply because I'm worried?" Finley chose a rather mild answer as not to arouse his dad's curious nature. But what he said became a boomerang instead.

"What kind of relationship makes you feel so worried for someone until you want to go to the town that is 3 days away from the estate and is full of danger?" Evan rolled his eyes at Finley's innocent answer.

"Fin, tell me, what do you think of Ainsley? It can't be that you two are only friends, right?"

"Dad!" Finley instantly reacted as if someone stepped on his tail.

"Ain is only 3, okay? What kind of beast am I to have any indecent thoughts about her aside from friendship?" For a moment, the boy's face flushed red a bit.

"And I'm only 8 this year. We are still kids, okay? Our relationship is purely a good friend! A partner!"

"A partner? Is it not you being that girl's nanny? After all, she's only 3. What can she do to be your equal? Nothing much." Evan subconsciously furrowed his eyebrows.

It's not that he belittled Ainsley, but the reality was cruel. His son got so many fake friends wanting to latch on him because of the Walter Family's prestige. As his father, he had to make sure his son never fell for those snakes.

How could Finley not know what his father was pointing out when the guy already looked as if he ate a sour lemon? Finley inhaled deeply before sighing.

"It's not like what you think, dad. Ain...doesn't even know that I'm the heir of the Walter family."

"Ah? Is it because she's still 3? Make sense. Even if she's a genius that awakened four abilities at such an early age, she should still be rather naive-"

"Mmm, no, dad. Ain is smarter than kids her age, so she should already know about the power hierarchy of the mafia world." Finley shook his head. He suddenly put on a bitter smile while scratching his cheek.

"It's just that...I meet her under another identity...."

"Oh? You disguise yourself?"

"No, no. She saw me before, so I can easily use my current appearance. But...I lied to her." Finley stuck out his tongue when he muttered the last part.

"You lied to her? How? Don't tell me you make use of your appearance similar to a fairy and say you're a royal fairy or something..."

Evan laughed as he threw out that fairy joke thingy, thinking that Finley would pout because he never liked to be called a 'fairy' before.

However, contrary to his belief, his son suddenly nodded weakly.

"Hahaha...yeah. I told her I'm a library fairy, Chronos's brother."

At that moment, even Percival, who was nibbling his popcorn he got from nowhere, almost choked and died.

"What?! Fin, you told her that you're a fairy?!" Percival instantly transformed into his boy appearance and pounced on Finley.

"But you never like it when we tease your appearance! You said that you're prettier than fairies, and it's an insult to say you're just like Chronos- "

"Perry. If you say anything more than this, those old hags at your kingdom will skin me alive." Finley pushed Percival's face away since the fairy got too close to him.

But even though Percival got kicked away, it didn't stop the fairy from bullying Finley.

"Fin, did you eat a forbidden fruit or what? To think that you volunteer to say you're a fairy!" Percival burst out laughing.

"Just...who is this Ainsley? You go as far as doing something you dislike to fool her..."

"Ugh, at that time, when I visited the Sloan Family to greet their new family head, I saw her at the library. That's when I knew she's the new family head, so I want to tease her."

Finley grumbled as he kicked Percival's knees, yet that didn't stop the fairy from harassing the boy.

"And? And? How the hell do you think of impersonating a fairy?" The usually quiet oracle fairy suddenly became a chatterbox.

Even Finley's dad, Evan, was a bit dumbfounded.

He knew that his son was someone loved by many powerful fairies but didn't think that these two's relationship was close enough for his son to treat Percival like a mere fly...

"Geez, Perry! Why are you so curious, anyway? I thought of impersonating a fairy only on a whim! It's because of the circumstances!" Finley finally snapped. He glared at Percival, ready to punch his pretty face.

But Percival, this dense fortune teller, ignored Finley's glare and took advantage of Chronos's absence to tease this human boy.

"Ohhh, what circumstances? Is it because that girl likes fairy, and you thought of fooling her?"

When Percival said this, Finley froze on the spot. He suddenly regretted saying anything to this oracle.

It's clear that Percival just used his ability to peek into the past and already knew everything going on between him and Ainsley.

"...dammit, Perry. You're not playing fairly." Finley gritted his teeth. He decided to ignore Percival's evil smile and went to look at his father instead.

Let's ignore this fcking fortune teller!

Chapter 185: "Bermuda Triangle"

"Okay, dad, anyway, Ain doesn't know I'm the Walter Family's heir! So, she and I can be friends, right?"

Finley actually wanted to say that Ainsley seemed to dislike the heir of the Walter family for no reason, and he might get killed by that baby if he ever disclosed his real identity.

Just thinking about that possibility makes Finley shudder.

"In fact...she might despise me if she knew my real identity..." Finley murmured with his imaginary cat ears dropping.

Seeing his son being so dejected, Evan couldn't help but chuckle.

"I didn't think there would be a day when someone would hate you because you're the Walter Family's heir..." Evan's cold face eased up a bit, looking slightly gentle compared to his usual self.

"And this girl isn't our family's enemy, right?"

"She's not. She's the true-blue Sloan Family's descendants, and that family shouldn't be hostile to our family." Finley hurriedly ensured his father.

After all, the mafia world also had factions, and some powerful families were opposing the Walter Family.

One of them was the Aretha. This family was ranked third in the mafia family ranking, but thanks to Blair, they moved up to second place.

In the future, this family would propose their daughter to be betrothed to Finley to strengthen both families. If this union happened, both family could monopolise the entire mafia world.

Sadly, it ended with the Walter Family's demise. Thinking up to here, maybe the Aretha Family already planned to deal with the Walter Family, and it's not just them.

Finley's face hardened whenever he thought of his 'enemy', who should only be a toddler right now. But she would grow up to be a thorn in his eyes.

'Should I send some assassins to kill her?'

Finley's mind drifted to another matter when his dad suddenly opened his mouth.

"Okay, seeing that Ainsley isn't our family's enemy and she's trustworthy, you may go to the casino to protect her in the dark."

Evan finally gave his permission even though his face went back to being his cold self.

Finley instantly snapped out of his thoughts and looked at his father with sparkling eyes.

"Yey! Thanks, dad- " he hadn't finished his words when Evan shook his head.

"Don't be too happy. I say you can go, but I'll go with you."

Finley's smile on his face stiffened in the blink of an eye. Silence filled the living room, and the talkative Percival also went back to his quiet nature.

"....seriously, dad? You will go back to the capital with me?" Finley looked at Evan in disbelief. He even almost jumped out of his seat and pounced on his dad.

His dad had never been someone so caring that he would accompany his son to the capital!

"Don't get me wrong. I also have something to do at the capital." Evan hurriedly denied things since if he said he did this to protect his son, his rebellious son would hate it.

"I need to find Cecile's new reincarnated body, and going to the capital will give me a better chance."

"Ah, so you won't go to Billios casino, right?" Finley let out a sigh and patted his chest.

If his dad followed him around, he might cause unforeseen trouble...

Such as? Maybe dad might accidentally reveal my identity to Ainsley, or perhaps when he sees Ain, he will want to adopt her...

Yeah, that's possible.

"No, I won't go to Billios Casino. But I'll pick you up after you finish your business there."

Evan shook his head as he peeked at Percival. The fairy already shrunk into his tiny self and went back to hide in his shirt pocket.

"You will bring Chronos with you, right?" Evan paused for a bit before asking out of the blue. Even when he would assign some guards for his son, he couldn't rest at ease if Chronos didn't follow.

"Naturally. Chronos won't stay still if I don't bring him along." Finley shrugged at his dad's question.

That naughty fairy would want to do some adventures in the town, anyway...

"Okay, good. We will depart tomorrow, right? You can ask the guards to prepare." Evan confirmed Finley's plan and slowly stood up.

"You can choose the guards you want to bring...or maybe you can get your personal guards?"

"Ah, the Bermuda Triangle?" Finley titled his head as he mentioned the name of his personal guards.

Ah, not guards. The trio named Bermuda Triangle was actually the geniuses of the Walter Family groomed to assist the next family head.

The three of them hadn't vow loyalty to Finley, but it's only because the boy was too young to receive vows from the three of them. The tradition stated that to have personal guards, one must be at least 10 years old.

But Finley already had the loyalty of some other subordinates like his butler, and so on. Similar to how Elliana vowed her loyalty to Ainsley since she's not a part of the five buds.

"You will bring those trio troublemakers?" Evan, who was about to walk away, suddenly paused. As the current family head, he also had his personal guards similar to five buds.

The team also consisted of three people, but their name wasn't the Bermuda Triangle but the Abyssal Trinity. They were also the best people in the family when it was Evan's era.

"Trio troublemakers? C'mon, dad, those guys are just a bit naughty..." Finley let out a chuckle when his dad called his personal guards 'troublemakers'.

Those childish people were indeed troublemakers, but they're pretty docile...

Oh, they're only docile in front of Finley and also after knowing how powerful Finley was. If not for that...

Those bastards might even backstab Fin!

Chapter 186: "Time To Depart"

"Ha...yeah, up to you. If you bring along the Bermuda Triangle, then you don't need to bring so many guards, right?"

Evan closed his eyes and chose to turn a blind eye to his son's plan.

Even though the Bermuda Triangle was a bunch of psychopaths, they're loyal and kind to his son, Finley. There should be no problem.

"I need the other 15 guards to assist Ain, dad. I know she will go with her sacred guardian and maybe some other guards, but we don't know what kind of danger she will face..."

Finley tried to keep a calm face, but his ears already reddened.

"I-I am just a bit worried. Ain is still too young, after all."

When Evan and Percival saw Finley being all blushy and fidgety, their eyes popped out of their sockets.

This...is this really their crafty Finley? That little devil who kills all the assassins coming his way...is actually blushing...

"...Fin, I know you're pretty fond of that Ain girl, but make sure you don't do anything indecent." Evan couldn't help but show a stern face at his son, afraid that his son would commit a crime...

"Yeah, Fin! Don't commit adultery with an underage kid-"

Percival suddenly welcomed a burst of wind coming his way, almost slamming him to the wall.

"Kek!"

"Hmph!" Finley shook his hand as he glared at Percival, the pitiful fairy who was wobbling to fly to Evan's pocket.

"Don't try my patience, Perry. I know you're a royal fairy, but if I snitch to those old hags..." Finley puffed his cheeks as he made a slicing gesture to his throat.

That's right. The only human who could bully a fairy just like this was Finley alone. It's thanks to his face that resembled the royal fairy's purest bloodline that the elders of the fairy world cherished him.

His abilities are also powerful even among the fairies, gaining him another plus point. Someone said that Finley had an exclusive ability to make foreign creatures can't be hostile to him.

The proof was the fairies at the fairy world, who always disliked humans to a certain degree, liked Finley to the point of almost abducting him.

Of course, this only happened after Finley returned in time. Before that, he's just close to the fairies, thanks to his face.

Yeah, a pretty privilege at its finest.

Percival, who almost hit the wall because of Finley's wind control instantly pouted.

"Fin, you're too cruel! I just want to remind you and not teasing you, okay?!" The usually quiet fairy became surprisingly talkative in front of Finley.

He even almost resembled the noisy Chronos who was away to have a date with Aetheria...

"And why would you remind me? I know what I'm doing, and I won't cross the line." Finley clicked his tongue, clearly not believing Percival's words.

Percival was going to retort once more when Evan picked the back of his collar and shook his head.

"Percival, stop. Don't tease Fin. I think we need to rest before departing tomorrow. We shall go." Evan politely dragged Percival, leaving Finley in the living room.

Evan knew that Percival, despite being a quiet fairy, was also a hot-blooded individual. That fairy would go all-out to debate with Finley, and it would end up with Finley snitching to the fairy elders...

"Mmmpphh! Mmmph!" Percival ended up leaving with his mouth blocked. Evan tactfully sealed the boy's mouth and vanished from Finley's eyesight.

Once those two went away, only then Finley stood up and sighed in relief.

"Damn it. That Percival is going to mislead my dad. If he keeps saying nonsense..."

Finley was afraid that when this fairy met Ainsley, he would cause troubles. He already said a thousand times he only saw Ainsley as a friend.

At least for now.

How could he have some indecent thoughts to a three-year-old kid? Even if she looked mature beyond her age, and was also smarter, she's still a kid!

Finley truly never saw Ainsley in such a romantic light and would never do that until the baby grew up. At least until she turned 10, then he could start to see whether he truly liked her or not.

"Hhhh...I better prepare now." Finley ruffled his hair and decided to find his personal guards and choose the 15 personnel to go with him.

At the same time, Ainsley was also preparing things. She informed Kyuseli about her idea, and Kyuseli agreed to follow her to the casino.

The five buds already prepared to accompany Ainsley to the town while Cellino quietly trained his newly-gained power to help Ainsley.

The night was busy, but time passed by.

7 a.m, Sloan Family's dining hall.

"Ain, have you packed all the things you need to bring?" Grandpa Yofan, in his usual white robe, put down his soup spoon as he looked at the baby next to him.

Since it's summer, the baby currently wore sleeveless clothes with a mini puffy skirt. The clothes resembled the iconic gown of the Red Queen from Alice In Wonderland.

It matched well with Ainsley's bob-cut hair that already changed to black due to her disguise. Her blue eyes also turned ruby red, quite intimidating for a baby.

"Hwum! Ain ish readwy, Gwandpa. (Ain is ready, grandpa)." Ainsley pointed at her silver necklace with a thumb-sized ruby pendant.

The pendant was a storage stone that could store up to several boxes of things.

Ainsley kept her things inside this necklace given by Grandpa Yofan.

Grandpa Yofan looked at the shining ruby pendant and silently nodded.

"Okay then. Ain...take care until you come back safely."

"Mmm!" Ainsley nodded as she clenched her fists.

Finally...it's time to depart.

The capital, the casino...here I come!

Chapter 187: "A White Tiger"

After breakfast, Grandpa Yofan escorted Ainsley and Cellino to the front gate of the mansion. Elliana and Kyuseli walked behind the two while wearing a formal white shirt and black suit, typical of a mafia.

On their right chest was embedded a silver badge with a unique carving on the surface. When Ainsley saw the badge for the first time, she almost couldn't believe her eyes.

Why doesn't the badge show a dolphin, the symbol of the Sloan main family? This badge showed a completely different symbol instead...

And what they used was a carving of a Fenrir looking to the left, a black panther looking to the right, and a white tiger at the centre. Its red eyes were made of real rubies.

Such a badge...is it the Sloan Family's symbol, or what?

Ainsley finally asked Grandpa Yofan as they walked to the front yard, and indeed, it turned out, the Sloan Family's symbol was the three sacred guardians.

The dolphin thingy was just used to represent the family head. It's because a dolphin looked cute but was actually savage and brutal. That's how the Sloan Family wished their family head would be.

But the pillars of the family was still undoubtedly the three sacred guardians. That's how it ended up becoming the Sloan Family's symbol.

'So...the white tiger at the centre is the last sacred guardian...and the strongest? The only female among the other guardians?'

Ainsley peeked at the badge shining on Elliana's chest. It was her first time knowing the last sacred guardian's true form...which was a white tiger with red eyes like a demon.

No wonder it would be the strongest...a white tiger was one of the four legendary beasts of ancient China.

Its fame could be on par with a Fenrir. Ah, no, it should be more because Fenrir wasn't that well-known among beasts such as dragons or other creatures.

The black Panther most likely only existed as a legend in this world and not related to legend from another world. But since its power was great, it could be the second strongest.

Ainsley mused over the three beasts carved on the badge until she arrived at the front gate, the last line one must take to step out of the mansion.

"Ain, where are here." Grandpa Yofan put Ainsley down from his arms and carefully pointed at the black fence with a large Sloan Family's symbol at the centre.

Ainsley instantly snapped out of her daze and lifted her head to see the 10-meters tall gate, the thing prohibiting her from going outside.

Even though the gate was a type of fence and one could see things through the gaps, surprisingly, Ainsley could see nothing but white fog.

Maybe it was some kind of security measure...

While Ainsley was inspecting the shining black gate under the soft sunlight of the morning, Grandpa Yofan held the baby's hand and pointed at the corner of the gate where one could come in and out through there.

"Ain, the five buds are waiting there. Let's go."

"Hwum!" Ainsley, with Cellino and the invisible Godfather tailing behind her, headed toward the five buds.

The five buds also wore the same typical mafia uniform and wore the same emblem as Elliana and Kyuseli, but they wore an additional cloak to distinguish themselves from regular members.

The five buds each carried their own symbol on the surface of the cloak they wore.

Jevon, the pack leader, had the symbol of a tree root, symbolising his position as the core of the team.

Ethania, despite her small body and such, was given the symbol of a sturdy trunk since she's one of the most influential members in the pack and had the strength to carry the group.

Marietta, the mediator of the group, had the symbol of fresh green leaf in sync with her plant manipulation ability.

Alvaro, the most mysterious yet capable member, was entrusted with the symbol of an exquisite branch. Because he's an otherworldly summoner, he truly could spread his influence just like tree branches.

Last but not least, the most highly seeked part of a tree-

The fruit and the flower.

Those symbols were given to Nouvan, the youngest among the five buds but was also an all-rounder like Jevon.

His ability was beautiful and sweet, especially his healing ability that many would vie for.

Just like that, the five buds proudly stuck out their chest as Ainsley approached them.

"Good morning, young miss!" Jevon was the first one to give a polite salute to Ainsley, even when she's still 10 meters away from his place.

Following Jevon were Marietta and the others.

"Good morning, princess."

"Yooo, morning, boss!"

"Good morning, family head."

"...morning."

The four people took turns to greet Ainsley, with Marietta being second after Jevon and Alvaro being the last, as usual.

"Mowning!" Ainsley returned the greeting with a sweet smile, instantly melting these youngsters' hearts.

Especially Jevon.

"Y-young miss! We will travel to the capital using a special carriage. Do you mind?" Jevon hurriedly approached Ainsley and started to pique her interest as he explained what they're going to do now.

Indeed, Ainsley's ears perked up at the news.

"Cwalliage? (Carriage?)"

Ainsley blinked her round red eyes in confusion. Thankfully, the five buds already knew she's in disguise. Else, they would freak out.

"Yes, young miss. A carriage built by special ability users to ward off monsters on the way to the capital!" Jevon cleared Ainsley's doubts within a second.

Ahhh, so that's why we will use a carriage instead of a car...

Although there is a modern vehicle here, they can't ward off monsters just like a carriage pulled by some beasts.

And here I thought we don't use a car because we are broke...

Chapter 188: "Have A Safe Journey"

What Ainsley thought of was actually not wrong. Indeed, normal cars would be useless to travel to the capital, but specially-made vehicles would be faster and safer than a carriage pulled by tamed beasts.

Beasts could be said to be similar to monsters, but monsters were all evil and chaotic, while beasts were like Cellino. They had higher intelligence than monsters, but lower physical power.

Of course, if the beasts had special abilities like Cellino, they would be stronger than monsters.

The beasts used to pull carriages wouldn't be as good as Cellino and would only be slightly stronger than average monsters. Hence, they would ward off average monsters, but when there was an abnormal monster...

The passenger would have to fight.

On the other hand, elite vehicles made with special materials could go into an invisible state that erased their presence along with the smell, etc. It's perfect to avoid any kind of monsters, even the strong ones.

Ainsley didn't know that because her family was poor, they could only afford to bring a white marble carriage pulled by two fire wolves. They couldn't even get horses with a unicorn or pegasus bloodline to pull their carriage.

That's why they would arrive at the capital in 5 days or more, whereas Finley, if he used an elite car, he could arrive in less than a day!

Of course, Finley asked his dad to go with a carriage instead, to match Ainsley party's speed.

"Here is the carriage, young miss." Jevon brought Ainsley to the front gate where a huge white carriage with a golden Sloan Family symbol carved on the body was waiting on standby.

Two reddish wolves as huge as horses stood in front of the white carriage, standing proud and mighty. One could see flames flickering on their paws, leaving a burnt trace everywhere they stepped onto.

Seeing such a magical sight, Ainsley couldn't help but gasp.

"Waaahhh. Cwool!" The baby ran to the carriage and looked up. To enter the carriage alone, Ainsley had to jump or get an adult to help her. Else, she couldn't get in.

That's how tall the carriage was. Maybe as tall as your usual car...or even taller.

"Ain, the journey to the capital, will take around five days. You have to take care and listen to the five buds, okay?" Grandpa Yofan lifted Ainsley and brought her to the carriage.

The two guards wearing mafia uniform immediately opened the carriage door, letting Ainsley and the group to enter the carriage.

Once Ainsley entered, the first thing she realised was that the inside of the carriage was larger than what it looked from outside!

'Is this carriage made by someone with a space-control ability?'

Ainsley couldn't help but gulp. Space-control ability users that could make storage rings and magic carriage like this were pretty rare!

For the Sloan Family to own such a carriage...they truly were a great family in the past. This carriage must be an heirloom or something passed down from generation to generation in the past.

"You will travel with these people, Ain. If you have any discomfort, tell Elliana and the girls. They'll help you." Grandpa Yofan kept advising Ainsley as he went to tour the carriage interior.

Even though the interior was larger than the carriage size itself, it wasn't decorated lavishly. There were only two long burgundy couches, one tea table, and a few mini cabinets around the couch.

The lamps were hung on the carriage wall, one for each corner.

The carriage's shape was like a pumpkin, so the inside also didn't look like your usual square room. It's quite comfortable to look at, like the inside of a mushroom house, maybe?

All in all, Ainsley liked how the carriage also had a window on the opposite side of the carriage door. During the day, the sunlight could get inside, and during the night, one only needed to pull the red curtain to cover the window.

"How is it, Ain? Do you like your carriage?" Grandpa Yofan finished the tour and let Ainsley sat on the couch facing the coachman so that she wouldn't feel dizzy when the carriage moved later.

"Hwum! Me wike ith! (Me like it!)" Ainsley earnestly praised the Sloan Family's one and only magic carriage, wanting to make Grandpa Yofan a bit happy when the godfather's careless comment struck her ears.

[Meh. This kind of lousy carriage is good? It only has space ability inside and doesn't even have defensive or offensive features. As expected of a third-rated family–]

Ainsley moved her hand and slapped the floating Godfather while pretending to chase away a mosquito. Of course, her hand just went through the young man's cheek, but that was enough to shock the arrogant mafia.

[Y-you dare to hit this lord?! Hey, brat! You-]

[Uncle, if you don't want to ride the carriage, you can go on foot.] Ainsley ignored the rambling Godfather and decided to entertain Grandpa Yofan and the others.

After touring the carriage while tossing away a certain legendary spirit, the group settled themselves inside the carriage while Alvaro went out to take the coachman seat.

"Remember. Prioritise your safety, okay, Ain?" Grandpa Yofan stood outside of the carriage as he spoke one last piece of advice for the baby.

The old man had a look as if he didn't want to let go of his cute family head, but he had to.

Seeing the worry in Grandpa Yofan's eyes, Ainsley flashed a sweet smile. "Yesh, Gwandpa. Ain will bwe caleful! (Ain will be careful!)"

"Mmm. Then...see you..." Grandpa Yofan forced a smile as the guards closed the carriage door and Elliana locked it from the inside.

With teary eyes, the old man waved at the carriage.

Have a safe journey, Ain.

Chapter 189: "Following Ainsley"

"Giddy up!" Alvaro commanded the fire wolves and the two beasts lifted their head to the sky. A loud howl escaped their mouth.

"Auuuuu!"

The next second, the flame on their paws flickered, and the wolves made a huge leap to the front. That one simple dash covered 5 meters in an instant.

The white carriage shook. The sturdy wheels kicked the pebbles and dust around, forming a long tail full of muddy dust.

In a breath, the carriage's huge figure became smaller and smaller, only leaving behind the trail of dust and pebbles behind.

The originally cramped front yard suddenly felt vast without the carriage and the two wolves.

Silence filled the front yard, as Grandpa Yofan was the only person standing there. The wind blew his white beard...and the smell of nature tickled his nose.

With eyes full of reluctance, Grandpa Yofan gazed at the direction where the carriage went until he couldn't see even a speck of the carriage's figure.

Only then he took a deep breath and went back inside. The gate immediately closed after he went inside, and the two family guards stood in front of the gate.

'Take care, Ain.'

Grandpa Yofan prayed for Ainsley while he headed to the mansion, looking a bit listless. This mansion would be different from the usual in 7 days straight...

At the same time, Ainsley and the group already passed through the small road leading to the village outside of the Sloan Family's mansion.

As it turned out, they had been living in a village, like a duchy territory, all this time and the Sloan Family's mansion was like the castle.

The carriage passed by the small rocky road of the village with the villagers bustling on the left and right side. It looked like a traditional market with shops and vendors opening for business.

Ainsley silently looked outside through the carriage window. Her eyes were profound and full of thoughts.

No wonder there's territorial war among the mafia families...it seems that mafia is like an aristocrat or nobles in some magic world.

The mafia family had their own territory to manage, and that included ordinary citizens. If the family couldn't protect these people, they would lose their territory in territorial war.

As for now, the Sloan Family already lost ? of their territories. Even though the lost territory didn't have many citizens, it still counted as the Sloan Family's loss.

No wonder they got degraded to a mid-rank family from a high-rank one.

Ainsley's carriage didn't stop moving and went through the solid path made especially for the Sloan Family to go in and out of their territory. The citizens seemed to be used to this scene already, and none bothered to look at the carriage.

However, some curious kids would always run alongside the carriage, either for fun or whatever. However, they would lose sight of the carriage in just a few seconds.

The carriage went past the crowded area for 30 minutes and finally came out of the Sloan Family's main territory.

It could be said that the Sloan Family already occupied a small town, although it couldn't be compared to territories owned by other mafia families.

Going out of the territory, the carriage immediately entered a free territory belonging to the government.

This kind of free territory didn't allow mafias to fight since these territories were usually public manufacturers such as roads used to travel to other places.

To go to the capital, they had to go through this free manufacture territory, but this road was still full of danger. For convenience, the road bypassed the forest full of monsters and wild beasts.

Only mafia families and other strong forces could use this road. For average citizens, they had to take a detour and God knew how long they would take to arrive at the capital.

While the Sloan Family's carriage entered the straight road bypassing the forest, another carriage emerged 20 meters behind them.

The black carriage with a silver emblem carved on its body came from the territory not far from the Sloan Family's territory.

The emblem showed a symbol of two fairies facing left and right with holy light shining behind them. Such an elegant symbol and one that dared to use royal fairies as their family symbol...

Would only belong to the Walter Family.

By using carriage, one needed around an hour or more for people to travel from that family's territory to Sloan Family's territory. Unless they could fly like Fin and only used 15 minutes.

"Young master, their carriage already entered the silver road." A young man in a black robe and hoodie shifted his butt as he suddenly whispered to a boy inside the black carriage.

The boy was looking out through the window with a bored look when he heard the whisper and couldn't help but nod.

"Follow them. But pay attention to the distance. Also...make the carriage along with the beasts invisible." The blonde-haired boy instructed casually as if making a thing invisible wasn't a big deal for him.

"As you wish, young master."

The young man in a black robe politely bowed before communicating with the coachman outside through a mysterious black bead as big as one's fist.

"Zeon, make the carriage invisible. Ah, and make those guards riding their mounts to use stealth."

The coachman called Zeon fixed his robe hoodie as he nodded.

"Roger."

The coachman pocketed the black bead and suddenly whistled. The long whistle alarmed the two beasts pulling the carriage.

If one looked closer, these beasts absolutely looked like your usual black horses.

But with a dragon horn on their head and dragon scales covering their body like armour...could they say it's your average horse?

Chapter 190: "Ain Is In Danger!"

Those black horses were indeed, not your average horse. With a dragon horn on their head...they carried a dragon bloodline!

A draconic horse was their species name.

It was one of the fastest and strongest beasts suitable to pull a magic carriage. But with its scarce number, only a monster like the Walter Family and those from the 7 great mafia families could afford it.

Once the two horses heard the whistle command, they let out a fire breath before their silver scales glinted. The scales quickly grew in numbers, covering the horses from head to toes.

In just a few seconds, the black horses became silver horses with dragon scales.

But the most astonishing was that the horses suddenly looked transparent under the silver scales until one couldn't see them anymore.

Even the reins used to connect them with the carriage also vanished.

In reality, those scales didn't make the horses invisible but just distorted the sunlight, making it seem like they're invisible.

Along with the horse's disappearance, the black carriage similarly glinted and slowly vanished from one's sight.

The guards around the carriage mounting their aerial and land beasts also erased their presence. Even when one could see them, it was as if they're not there. No one noticed these 15 guards at all.

"Done, young master." The young man sitting next to the boy flashed a smile, but his smile seemed a bit eerie when one couldn't see his face under the hoodie.

"Mmm. Good job." The boy, Finley Walter, ignored the eerie young man and looked at a young woman in black robe across him instead.

The loose black robe completely hid the young woman's figure. One could only see her striking pink hair poking out of her hoodie.

"Clara. Make sure we don't speed up and leave the white carriage behind. No matter how fast we are, make sure we are slower than the white carriage in front."

Finley casually asked the young woman before shifting his gaze to the young man sitting next to the young woman.

But this young man didn't seem that young because he's someone around 40 already.

"What is it, son? You need my help too?" The middle-aged man with a handsome youthful face sent a cold gaze at the boy, either intentionally or unintentionally.

But from the boy's understanding of the man, he knew that the man didn't purposely act cold.

"Nothing, dad. You can just sit down and let me take care of you." Finley let out a laugh, but he couldn't continue his laughter after seeing a death glare from another three people donning a maroon robe.

Ah, actually only one of them glared at him.

These three people, one sat next to Evan, one sat next to the black-robed young man, and the other one sat right next to the pink-haired young woman.

The one next to the pink-haired young woman seemed to be a woman as well.

"Tch. Look at them, dad. Your Abyssal Trinity is so cruel they glare at your beloved son."

Finley clicked his tongue as he ignored the dead glare because his own people also started to look at the maroon-robed trio with a cold gaze as well.

Even though one of his people was outside to be a coachman, Finley didn't seem to mind the number difference.

Seeing one of his Abyssal Trinity glared at his son, Evan could only shake his head.

"You rascal. They're just sulking because you treat your dad like this." Evan shrugged. He then looked at the two people sitting on the same couch as his and shook his head.

"Calm down. That rascal is just so unruly."

"Yeah, so much so that I want to drill his head." A rough voice sounded from the maroon-robed person sitting next to Evan. He looked at Finley's bright smile with a frown on his forehead.

Which mafia family heir would treat their father as casual as this one heretic? The strict tradition in a mafia family made a father and their children's relationship to be formal.

No one would see something as ridiculous as a son teasing his dad in your daily mafia family.

The Walter Family just broke this unspoken tradition when this crazy young master grew up.

As one of Evan's closest attendants, the middle-aged man with a rough voice had been watching Finley's growth ever since the boy was just a baby.

8 years passed by, and he was still astonished at the boy's extraordinary development.

As a family member, he should be proud of the boy, but the boy seemed to be wild and mischievous.

God knows how Evan allowed this boy to go outside of the mansion when he's just 5. And so many other rules were broken for the sake of this boy.

As a conservative man, the middle-aged person didn't like this troublemaker boy and wished he could educate him a little...

But the other two maroon-robed people inside the carriage didn't seem to share the same idea.

"Aww, Lil Fin, you're already so strong to say you will take care of your dad, huh?" The middle-aged woman sitting next to the pink-haired youth almost pounce on Finley if not for Evan's death glare.

Even the man sitting on the same couch as Finley also nodded.

"The young master is indeed getting stronger and stronger. Our family will continue to thrive."

"Hmph. Of course! Who do you think our young master is?" The eerie young man in a black robe harrumphed arrogantly and was about to continue when their coachman's voice rang through the black bead in the carriage.

"Young master, a high-ranked monster attacks the white carriage in front of us!"

Hearing this, Finley instantly jumped to his feet.

Ain is in danger!