

On a bench under a tree by the entrance of the Four Seasons Hotel.

Nathan sat casually on the bench as he smoked, while Colin stood beside him "General, Zayn's operation was a success, and the blood clot has been extracted. Dr. Rothschild said that he should be about to regain consciousness in a day or two."

Nathan had a somewhat mournful expression as he replied calmly, "Good!"

He suddenly noticed that there were a lot of students cleaning up the streets, and they even wiped the utility poles on the side of the street clean.

That piqued his curiosity. "What are they doing?"

Colin looked at the students and flashed a bright smile. "Tomorrow is Memorial Day!"

Nathan finally understood what was going on. "Memorial Day! I would've forgotten if you didn't tell me!"



Colin nodded. "When I came by just now, I realized there were a lot of students cleaning up the streets. According to the flyers they put up, they were cleaning up to prepare for Memorial Day."

Nathan felt a sense of pride as he smiled. "This is great!"

They were living in peace now because of the countless soldiers defending their nation.

Only by the sacrifice of countless heroic lives could they experience peace, so they felt a sense of pride when they remembered the soldiers' contribution to their nation.

Only by appreciating what they had could they strive to better themselves, so they treated Memorial Day with utmost respect.

Nathan asked Colin, "Tomorrow is Memorial Day, so there must be many events going around nationwide. Do we have anything of the sort in Cledondale?"



"Yes! Schools send their students to museums to be reminded of the heroic sacrifice the soldiers made; companies have their own events as well. Besides that, Mayor Kenny Wates and Commander-in-chief Darius Clooney will gather the military leaders and honor the fallen warriors at the Lionheart Memorial Park."

"Tell Kenny and Darius we'll be attending their event tomorrow."

Colin replied in a low voice, "Alright!"

As Nathan returned to the hotel room, Penny and Kylie welcomed him.

Penny immediately said, "Hubby, where did you go? I was looking for you."

"I went outside for a smoke. What's up?"

"The deal between Cross Group and the Lanes has been sealed. Tomorrow is Memorial Day, and the mayor and military leaders will honor the fallen warriors in Memorial Park. Let's join them!"



Nathan smiled and agreed. "Alright!"

That night, in the Cross family's mansion.

Preston arrived at the mansion again. Helen and he spent the night together at the master bedroom as before.

She cuddled Preston lazily as she said coyly, "Mr. Lupin, I arranged for the butler to send Zayn to the hospital for an operation. He'll probably kick the bucket tomorrow. Meanwhile, how's it going on your side? How are you planning to deal with Nathan? If he doesn't die and tries to steal the family's inheritance from me, things will get ugly."

Preston smiled in amusement. "Don't worry. Even if I don't want half of your wealth, I still want to avenge my brother. I heard the Cross couple will attend the memorial tomorrow at the Lionheart Memorial Park. We'll bring someone there as well and kill them right after the ceremony ends."

Helen's eyes sparkled when she heard



that. "The Memorial Park is in the suburbs, so we can disguise our men as civilians attending the memorial. The Cross couple wouldn't even know what hit them. However, many military leaders will be attending the ceremony. Isn't it inappropriate if we do that?"

Lupin chuckled menacingly, "That's exactly what I want!"

Helen was dumbstruck, but she immediately understood what he meant.

Nathan is nothing compared to the immensely powerful Lupin family!

Nathan killed Werner and enraged them.

Naturally, they want to execute him publicly and let everyone know the consequence of opposing them.

Helen smirked. "Haha. If so, I want to attend tomorrow's event as well because I want to see that little brat die."

Preston grinned coldly. "Both Zayn and



Nathan will die tomorrow. They can accompany each other in their journey to hell."

"That's right. May our collaboration succeed!"

As Preston saw the seductive and alluring beauty, his lips curled up slightly. He uncovered the blanket and went for it again.



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The next day.

Nathan, Penny, Kylie, and a few executives from Cross Group set off to Lionheart Memorial Park along with Colin and the Elite Eight.

Usually, no one visited the park, but it was extremely crowded because of the memorial ceremony happening today.

Many armed policemen were standing guard to maintain the order.

The park was separated into two areas because there were too many political and military leaders and esteemed guests attending the event.

Only people as powerful as Mayor Kenny and Darius had the right to ascend to the top of Lionheart hill to attend the memorial ceremony.

Normal citizens could only partake in the event at Memorial Plaza

Fortunately, the spacious plaza could fit



tens of thousands of people.

When Nathan and his companions arrived at the plaza, it was already packed.

Suddenly, a jarring honk of a vehicle could be heard from behind.

Nathan and the others tried to make way as they frowned and looked in that direction.

The honking came from a Rolls Royce. There were a few black sedans trailing behind it.

As the Rolls Royce passed by Nathan, it stopped and the window was wound down. To their surprise, Preston and Helen were sitting in the backseat.

Helen had a very faint smug smile on her face as she said sarcastically, "Long time no see, Nathan. Why didn't come home since you're here in Cledondale?"

Penny's and Kylie's expressions immediately changed because they



realized that that woman was Nathan's stepmother.

Penny subtly held her husband's hand. She knew how much harm that woman brought to Nathan and his mother, so she was afraid that he might lose his temper and act recklessly.

However, Nathan seemed unfazed.

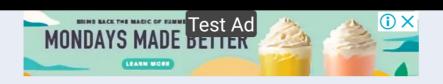
He stared at Helen indifferently. "Very well, then. I'll come home tonight. When you first arrived at my house, my mother left. This time, I'm afraid it's time for you to leave too."

Helen smirked. "Let's wait and see if you can survive today!"

When Penny and the rest heard that, their expressions darkened abruptly.

Helen is insinuating that Nathan can't live past today. She's planning to kill him tonight?

Nathan cocked his eyebrows. "Just who



do you think you are?"

Preston, who sat beside Helen, said smugly, "Don't forget about me!"

He then glared at Nathan coldly and asked, "Do you know how many people I brought today to kill you? Three thousand. Three whole thousand men! They have all arrived at the plaza and blended in with the crowd. Today is the day you die. Don't even think about making it out of here alive."

Color drained from their faces as they stared at the surroundings in fear.

The plaza was packed like sardines in a can. They couldn't tell who was from the Lupin family at all.

Helen grinned smugly. "Haha. Nathan, you're not dying alone tonight. Your wife, your friends and subordinates, and even your damned father is gonna die too! If I'm attending the memorial next year, I'll send you my prayers. Haha."

Nathan glared at the couple and said in a



monotonous tone, "No one is dying tonight except for the both of you!"

Helen smirked coldly. She thought he was just acting tough as he was facing his death soon.

Preston smirked too. "Haha. We're going to the top of the mountain to attend the memorial with the leaders. Just wait here and accept your fate of death!"



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After Preston had parked his car, he and Madam Helen went up along with their lackeys. Penny was worried, for she knew the bad blood between Madam Helen and Nathan ran deep, and she had heard of the Lupin family's power.

Penny looked at Nathan, concerned. "They said they've laid a death trap here for us. What should we do?"

"It's fine." Nathan smiled. "They're just trying to scare us. There are a lot of city officials and military leaders here. They can't just do whatever they want."

Penny thought he had a point, then she remembered that Nathan was friends with Kenny, so if something propped up, Kenny could save them. That thought made her ease up, but only for a bit.

Nathan told Colin and the Elite Eight, "Keep an eye out for enemies, and keep the madam safe."

"Yes, sir." They replied.



The event would be starting soon, and Nathan knew it was time. "My stomach's acting up, so I'll need to use the restroom."

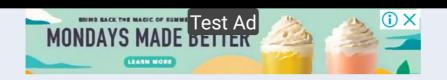
"Take two bodyguards with you." Penny suggested.

"It's fine." Nathan grinned. "I was a soldier, and I can fight better than them, so bringing them is redundant."

Then Nathan left, but instead of going to a restroom, he went up the mountain.

Many among the crowd in Memorial Plaza were Preston's lackeys. They received orders to destroy Nathan and his entourage after the event had ended. There were eyes on Nathan all the time, and when Nathan had left, they thought he was escaping. But when they saw that he went up the mountain, they were stupefied.

Aside from political and military leaders, only a select few could ascend the mountain to join in the event with the leaders. That rascal is a nobody. He can't just barge in like that.



The leaders, generals, and celebrated figures in Cledondale congregated at the peak.

Preston and Madam Helen were surrounded by many such influential people. In fact, the crowd around them was bigger than that of the Mayor's!

It made sense since powerful families would be in power for a long time, but mayors wouldn't.

Mayors wouldn't stay in power for too long, but the Lupin family had been in Cledondale for a thousand years. In the eyes of most people, the Lupin family was more powerful than the mayor.

Preston and Madam Helen already knew about Nathan coming up, and they looked at each other. They thought Nathan was just a nobody, so he wasn't worthy enough to take part in the event.

Shouldn't he be partaking in the event along with those peasants at the Memorial Plaza?



Madam Helen guessed, "The Cross Group is going to invest in Cledondale. Maybe the leaders are just giving a spot away for Nathan to honor that."

Preston nodded. "That's the only explanation."

Nathan had arrived at the peak, and the duo sneered at him.

Madam Helen mocked, "Oh, didn't know you can buy your way here, Nathan. How much did you pay?"

Similarly, Preston scoffed at Nathan. "Cross, you know we're going to kill you after the event, but still you came here? You got guts."

Nathan looked at them. "You done trash talking?" He asked calmly.



#### What?!

Preston and Madam Helen stared at Nathan in disbelief.

"Laugh while you can, because it won't be long before you can't anymore," Nathan said coldly.

Madam Helen scoffed. "Don't you worry about that. We'll laugh louder when your whole family is dead."

Preston sneered. "I'll make sure you die a horrible death for that attitude, kid."

"I'll be waiting then." Nathan nodded.

A middle-aged man in a robe came over and bowed to Nathan. "Mr. Cross, you need a change of clothes. Please follow me."

A change of clothes? Preston and Madam Helen were caught by surprise. What's that supposed to mean?

They looked at Nathan's attire, then they



looked down at their relatively more glamorous attire, and their confusion was swept away.

Everyone's wearing suits and gowns in this event, and he's in a casual getup? Maybe some leader is annoyed by this. Must have ordered Nathan to change his clothes.

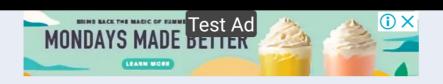
Preston and Madam Helen scorned Nathan. He doesn't even know he has to wear a suit here. What a bumpkin. No wonder he doesn't fear death, because he's an idiot.

Their mockery was ignored by Nathan, and he told the middle-aged man calmly, "Lead the way, then."

As Nathan walked away, Preston mocked, "I bet some leaders around here got annoyed by his getup. Why else did he have to change?"

Madam Helen dismissed, "Doesn't he even have a suit? How embarrassing."

Suddenly, a commotion erupted, and it



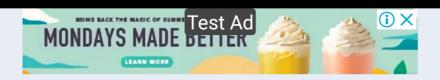
attracted everyone's attention. A moment later, one excited Kenny announced, "I have exciting news, everyone! Summerton's God of War, the General of the North, shall partake in this event with us shortly!"

Upon hearing this news, everyone buzzing with excitement for it was an honor to partake in any event with the General of the North. Even Preston and Madam Helen were surprised. "Is this true?" Preston asked.

General Clooney, the commander-in-chief for Cledondale, glanced at Preston and confirmed his suspicion. "Yes. The general is already here, and he shall meet us shortly."

The exhilaration was palpable, and everyone couldn't wait to meet and greet the young general. Then, one of the patrol officers announced sternly, "Everyone, stand up straight! We shall be welcoming the general right away!"

"Hello, general!" As the leaders of every



industry greeted the general, a tall, muscular man in military uniform strode in, surrounded by the top dogs of the city.

This man was none other than Nathan, whose appearance stunned Madam Helen and Preston. A moment later, their expressions changed drastically when they noticed he was in military uniform. They quickly looked at the badges on his shoulder, and what greeted them was the nation's crest as well as a sword.

Madam Helen and Preston were thunderstruck, and their jaws dropped to the floor. Nathan is the general?



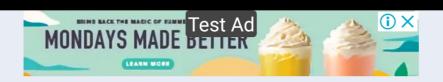
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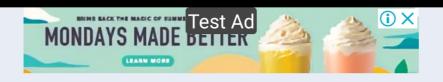


Everyone exploded into cheer as they looked at Nathan in awe. He's the legendary god of war! The invincible warrior of Summerton! He's the nation's treasure! The General of the North! He was Nathan Cross, the divine warrior and the idol of countless soldiers.

Everyone was whipped into a frenzy, except for Preston and Madam Helen. Preston was shaken to find out that Nathan was the general, and he looked at him multiple times to confirm it. Oh my god, I'm not dreaming. This is real. F\*ck! I crossed someone like that? Preston felt his heart pounding, and he almost passed out from the shock.

Madam Helen wasn't any better. Her face was ashen, and her smug look was replaced by fear and despair. She couldn't believe this was the truth, and now she was in the first of the five stages of grief—denial. "This isn't true, this isn't true." She mumbled. "He's too young. He can't be the General of the North"

As if fate wanted to refute her, General

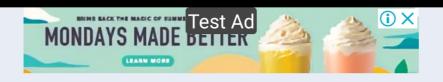


Darius announced, "The general shall deliver his speech now."

Nathan looked around at the leaders and celebrated figures around him before starting, "Greetings, everyone. It is an honor to stand here and pay our respects to the past heroes of our nation. Never should we forget the humiliation we suffered at the hands of our enemies, and never should we forget the heroes who gave themselves to the nation. Forevermore should we remember our purpose and move forward, no matter how hard it may be."

It was a short speech, but everyone could feel the weight behind his every word. The weight on their shoulders seem to become corporeal now, and they clapped. Right at the end of the speech, Kenny announced the start of the event.

The bell of peace was rang three times, and a thousand doves were freed from their cages, soaring into the sky. A moment later, the siren blared, and the whole city started mourning for their fallen



#### heroes.

Nathan didn't spare a look for Preston and Madam Helen throughout the event, nor did he speak to them. Despite that, the duo felt a suffocating pressure crushing them, which left them drenched in cold sweat.

Everyone was mourning their past heroes, except Preston and Madam Helen who were more worried for themselves. All they could think of was that they were done for.

The event ended soon after, and Nathan announced, "Guests, you may take your leave. Leaders, please stay with me for a bit. And remember to deploy some soldiers to keep the order of the people in the plaza. Remember to let them leave without any commotion or roughing up."

Everyone praised Nathan for being so considerate about the people to the point he cared about their safe departure. He even let them leave first by asking the leaders to say.

On the other hand, Madam Helen and



Preston shivered after hearing the announcement. Their heart started sinking, for they knew Nathan was doing this because he wanted to keep them around so he could get back at them for what they did.

When she and Preston were about to leave with the other guests, a group of armed soldiers stopped them. A colonel told them coldly, "Both of you must stay. These are the general's orders."



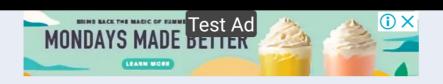
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That sounded like a death sentence for Madam Helen and Preston. At the same time, twenty thousand armed soldiers surrounded the plaza at the mountain's base.

Preston's army of three thousand didn't make any movements, for they were surrounded, and they hadn't gotten any orders from him. On the other hand, after the civilians had thinned out, the soldiers quickly apprehended the elites of Preston.

Penny, Kylie, and everyone else watched this arrest in awe. "What's going on?" She gasped.

Colin answered, "Probably some criminals who were hiding in the crowd. We did nothing wrong, so they won't arrest us. Don't panic."

"Why isn't Nathan back yet? Is he in danger?" Penny was worried.

"He's fine. He's just having a bad case of diarrhea, so he told me to tell you guys to wait for him." Colin explained.



Penny quickly blushed with annoyance. "He's so impudent!"

Back on Lionheart Hill, Kenny and the other leaders bade Nathan goodbye. In the end, only Nathan, Darius, the generals, and the soldiers were left with Madam Helen and Preston.

Nathan stood with one hand behind his back and watched as Preston's elites were captured. "Preston, Helen. I seem to recall the both of you saying you'll kill my family after the event is over, no?" Nathan said coldly. "The event's over now, so you may begin."

The fear was too much for them to bear, so the duo started groveling before Nathan. Preston lost all his arrogance and begged like a death row inmate, "Please, general, forgive me! I-I didn't mean to offend you! Please have mercy on me!"

Nathan looked at him coldly. "Half an hour ago, you threatened to kill my whole family. If I were just a civilian instead of the general of the north, our positions



would be switched, no? If I were in your position, would you have let me live?"

Preston's face was ashen pale. Shaking like a leaf, he opened his mouth to say something but no words came out.

Preston wanted to lie and said he would have let Nathan off but he knew Nathan wouldn't believe it.

Nathan glanced at him coolly. "You've been staying over at the Cross residence for the past two nights. Fun, wasn't it? I think the Cross family might not share the same sentiments though."

Lupin was shocked to the core.

Staying over at the residence and having sex with Madam Helen was just a bit of fun, for his true goal was the immense wealth of the Cross family.

Even so, he knew this scandal with Helen would utterly humiliate the Cross family.

While he had been exiled, Zayn was still his



father, so even if their relationship were tense, Nathan couldn't stand by when Zayn was insulted this way.

Nathan's revelation was the nail in the coffin for Preston, and he stiffened up in despair.

Nathan waved. "Send Mr. Lupin on a one way trip to hell."

A few soldiers came up and dragged him away. After a few moments, a sound of gunshot was heard, and with it, Preston went out with a bang, literally.

"Preston is executed, general."

Nathan waved the colonel down and turned to look at Helen.

Helen's head was already bleeding from banging it against the ground. "Nathan, I know you're as kind as your mother was! Please, have mercy on me!"



Her plea for mercy fell on deaf ears, and Nathan told her, "Don't beg for my mercy. Your fate is in the Cross Family's hands now, not mine. I'm no longer a part of them, so leave."

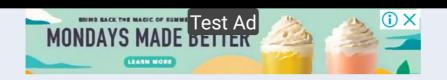
Helen looked up in disbelief. "You're not killing me?"

"No." He replied calmly.

Ecstasy flooded Madam Helen, and the first thing she wanted to do was go back, transfer all the Cross Family's assets to herself, then she would flee overseas to lead a good life. With that idea in mind, she thanked Nathan and escaped the place, for she was worried Nathan might change his mind.

As she ran down the mountain, Nathan mumbled, "I won't kill you, but I'm not sure if he'll do the same thing."

Madam Helen quickly ran back to the parking lot, and her bodyguards welcomed her back. "What happened, madam?"



She was still fearing for her life. "Quick, get inside the car and leave this place at once!" Her voice trembled. However, the bodyguards looked behind Madam Helen, petrified.

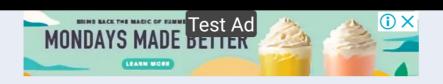
"What are you doing? Who's behind me?" She turned around, and when she saw who was there, Madam Helen stiffened up in shock.

Francis was pushing a wheelchair, and the one sitting on it was none other than Zayn Cross, the Cross Family's patriarch. And currently, he was accompanied by the Cross Family's old servants, including Patrick and Simon.

Madam Helen looked incredulous, and she panicked. Worried, she looked at Francis, wanting to get an answer to her burning question.

I thought I told Francis to get a quack to perform the surgery so this old git would die! So why is he here?

Francis pushed the wheelchair toward her,



though he didn't face Helen. Helen held back her shock and pretended to be surprised. "Honey!"

Zayn raised his hand, signaling Francis to stop, then he told everyone, including Helen's bodyguards, "Everyone, leave. I have something to settle with the madam."

Francis, Patrick, Simon, and the bodyguards looked at one another before leaving quietly, till only Madam Helen, as well as the wheelchair-bound Zayn, were left.

Helen forced a surprised smile as she went up to Zayn. "Honey, your surgery's a success. When did you wake up? Nobody told me about it."

Zayn looked feeble, but his gaze was still sharp as ever. He stared back at her and said coldly, "Even if they did, you were too busy seducing men and sending assassins after Nathan."

Helen stiffened up, and everything went numb. Fear crept up on her, and her voice



trembled. "Honey, did someone try to slander me? We've been married for so long. Don't you believe me?"

"I want to, but look at everything you did! You betrayed me!" He hissed. "You took a boy toy in behind my back! As if that isn't enough, you hooked up with multiple men! I was just in a coma, not dead! And as if that isn't enough for you, you tried to kill me to get your hands on the family's wealth!"

The more he said, the angrier Zayn was, and the color drained from Helen's face. A moment later, Zayn tossed her a gun and looked away. "Do it yourself. I don't want to dirty my hands killing you." He said hoarsely.



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Madam Helen picked the gun up with trembling hands, and she gave Zayn a complex look. "Honey, we've been married for years. Do you really want me dead?"

Zayn told her calmly, "Do it yourself. It'll be better for you. If you want my men to do it, your death will be less than pleasant."

That finally made Helen snap, so she pointed the gun at Zayn. "I'll drag you down with me even if it's the last thing I do!" She pulled the trigger, but there was no gunshot sound, for the gun was empty. Helen was stupefied, and she stared at the gun dumbly before looking at Zayn in horror.

Zayn whipped out a gun. "You failed the final test, you evil woman." He looked at her coldly.

"Honey, I can explain! I—" Helen scrambled for an explanation, but that followed her to the grave. A moment later, blood flowed down her forehead as the bullet pierced through her. She fell down with her eyes wide, and even in death, she was



# disquieted.

When Patrick and the others heard the gunshot, they came in quickly, only to see Helen's corpse. Zayn tossed the gun to Patrick and told them, "Dispose of her quietly. I don't want anyone to find out. And clear out everything related to her in the residence. I'm going to see my son and granddaughter. They shall be welcomed back to the family."

Patrick, Francis, and everyone else obliged. Zayn felt like he had finally woken from his slumber. He was a shrewd man, but in the end, he fell for an evil woman. Because of her, he left his wife and disowned his son, which caused him to end up in this sorry state.

Nothing was more important than his family now. All he wanted to do was beg for Nathan's forgiveness so that he would come back.

However, when they came to Four Seasons Hotel, they were told that Nathan and his entourage had left, and now they were on



the flight back to Channing.

Zayn was crestfallen. "He still refuses to forgive me."

"Sir, the young master is just like you and Mrs. Kemp. If you tackle this matter at its roots, you'll gain his forgiveness."

"Tell me more." Zayn was surprised.

"The young master might be a decisive man like you, sir, but he's actually a kind and righteous person, just like Mrs. Kemp." Patrick smiled.

"If you're willing to kneel before Mrs. Kemp's grave and repent, I think the young master will slowly change his opinion about you. Blood is thicker than water after all."

After a long while of silence, Zayn sighed. "Very well then. I've been wrong all my life, and I do owe her. Fine. I will be repenting before her grave for three nights then."

After Nathan and the gang came back to



Channing, Benson and Leah were reunited with them happily. Over the next few days, Penny was busy with work, while Nathan would go on an occasional trip to the company and spend all of his time with the kids.

Colin came to tell him about how Zayn went to The East and repented before Nathan's mother grave for three days despite his illness.

After listening to the report, Nathan snorted. "It's too late to repent now. My mother's dead."

"Zayn wants to welcome you back to the Cross Family so he can leave his wealth to you," Colin whispered.

"No. It's just a trillion, and I don't care for that." Nathan replied calmly. "Also, tell Zayn to never disturb me, or else he's going to get it."

"Yes sir." Colin had no choice but to oblige.



Chapter 769 How Dare You

Over the next two weeks, Penny focused on expanding into the Northania market.

Much to her surprise, Julia was a capable person.

After being an agent for the Cross Group's vaccine, the Lane Family quickly promoted it in Northania.

Aside from that, the Cross Family also lent a hand.

Thanks to that, the Cross Group's liver cancer vaccine was easily promoted in Northania, and the market was opened to them. Penny was overjoyed, for their hard work was rewarded. She let all the employees and factory workers have three days off to wind down.

After announcing the days off and coming back home, Sean brought Ferlyn, Benson, Samuel, Miles, and May to see her. Penny had a strained relationship with her grandfather's family, but as Sean saw that Cross Group was getting richer and that Nathan was getting more mysteriously



Chapter 769 How Dare You

powerful, they wanted to butter Penny up.

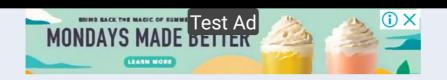
Sean came here with a ton of gifts, and he told her why he came. Sean thought he was getting old, and his days were numbered, so he wanted to go on a trip with his whole family while he still could. He wanted to go to The East, and he planned on inviting Penny's family.

Benson did want to reconnect with his family now that they were extending an olive branch, but he felt that he had no say in this matter, so he glanced at Leah, Nathan, and Penny."

"No comments from me." Leah said. "I'll go with what Penny and Nathan say."

Sean's family and Benson looked at Nathan and Penny hopefully. Nathan smiled at Penny. "I'm fine either way. It depends on what you want, honey."

Penny wanted to reconcile, so she whispered, "Honey, our company has successfully entered the Northania market, but there's an issue in The East.



#### Chapter 769 How Dare You

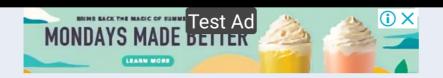
There are many sellers selling our product there, but we don't have a single, centralized agent. It's messy and hard to handle. Why don't we go on a trip with grandpa and pick a suitable company as our agent in The East?"

Nathan nodded. "Sure."

The next day, the Smiths reserved a whole bus and took the whole family on a trip. Halfway through, the bus stopped at a rest area for ten minutes. Everyone disembarked, and some went to the restroom, while some moved around.

There was a Porsche 911 beside the bus, and a young man was driving it. A moment later, this young man tossed a mineral water's bottle out of the window, and it rolled toward Sean. Sean was surprised to see this, then he flew into a rage.

He picked the bottle up and tossed it back into the Porsche. "Son, didn't you see the sign here? No littering. I swear, kids nowadays really need some discipline." He lectured.



Chapter 769 How Dare You

The young driver was angered. "Do you f\*cking want to die, you old git?!" He then came down and threatened to beat Sean up.



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When Nathan saw this, he roared, "Hold it! You littered, and now you threaten to use violence against the elderly?!"

The Smiths came over, and Benson was livid. "If you lay a finger on my father, you're getting it, brat!"

The driver didn't make a move, for he was outnumbered. "Fine, you win! I'm Stephen Cote, and you'd better remember that! If I see you in Glyngarth, you're getting it!" Then he drove away.

After the Porsche had left, Sean had a look of worry in his eyes, for their destination this time was Glyngarth. Also, he remembered that the Cote Family was famous in Glyngarth. Could that young man be a part of the Cotes?

Penny consoled him, "Don't worry, grandpa. There are a lot of Cotes in this world. He's not necessarily a part of that family. Besides, we are ruled by law. Even if he is a part of the Cote Family, he's not above it."



Benson chimed, "Don't worry, dad. Glyngarth is a big place, so it's unlikely we would meet him again."

Sean thought they had a point, so they went back to the bus and resumed their journey. Two hours later, they arrived at Glyngarth.

The moment the bus exited the highway, they came across some traffic officers. The leader was Jamien, captain of the fifth team. Now, Jamien and his colleagues were standing beside a Porsche 911.



He was smiling at the driver. "It's OK now, Mr. Cote. You driving without a license is just a misunderstanding. You may leave now, and send my regards to your father."

The driver was none other than Stephen. He was blocked for unlicensed driving, but then he called Jamien over to settle this for him. When he was about to leave, through his rear-view mirror, he saw the bus exiting the highway.

His eyes lit up, and he sneered. "Well, well,



well, we meet again. And right after they crossed me."

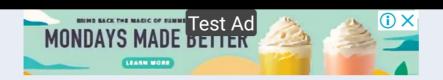
Jamien looked at the bus that just exited the highway and asked, "What's wrong, Mr. Cote?" Stephen whispered what happened to him, and Jamien sneered. "They must be blind for crossing you, Mr. Cote. I'll teach them a lesson for you right away."

Jamien brought his lackeys and went to stop the bus. "Pull over and show me your ID. Everyone get off!"

The driver handed his ID and tried to negotiate, "Captain, we have children and the elderly here, and the kids are asleep. Can they stay here if there's nothing else? It's going to be hard to put them to sleep if we wake them now."

Jamien glared at him. "That's not up to you! Tell everyone to come down, or I'll charge you with obstruction of official business!"

Nathan and the others frowned, but they had no choice, so they came down with



the kids in hand.

After they had disembarked, everyone saw Stephen smoking beside his Porsche smugly, and they understood what happened. So he's behind this.



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Jamien was especially meticulous as he scan through the documents on the driver and his vehicle. He didn't find anything wrong with it.

Yet, he wasn't going to let the incident off the hook just so easily. He started from the first page and flipped through the whole document again repeatedly. As he was turning the pages, his eyes made a few unfriendly glances at the driver and Nathan every now and then.

The driver couldn't wait any longer and said with a soft tone, "Sir, if there aren't any problems, may we take our leave?"

Jamien stared at him. "You are in no position to say that we are good to go here. I will definitely dig something up today no matter what."

Nathan heard his words and his face darkened. He said coldly, "Hold up, what do you mean when you say you'll definitely dig something up today? If there's a problem, there's a problem. Just let us go if there are no problems. Or are you trying



to make up some 'problem' for our lack of a problem just so you can detain us?"

Jamien bellowed with rage, "Say that again, rascal!"

Stephen chuckled at one side and said, "Chief Lee, oh my, isn't this brat trying to teach you how to do your job now?"

Jamien glared at Nathan. "Hey little brat, do you believe me when I say I will arrest you for obstructing official duty?"

Sean's family heard the chief's words and became anxious. They immediately tried to get Nathan to put his ego aside and take the blame.

After all, they were in Glyngarth and not Channing. Outside of their territory, they had better hide their claws and be agreeable people.

However, Nathan laughed and said, "Just because you have some bigshot to back you up doesn't mean you can get away with anything. I am right here. If you're



really worth your salt, get someone to arrest me now."

Jamien was still racking his brains for an excuse to get Nathan arrested, but now that the latter had spoken, he let out a cunning chuckle, "You little rascal, you're bringing this upon yourself!"

As he got his phone out to order someone over for Nathan's arrest, he muttered in a vexed manner, "I will definitely get my hands on you today!"

On the other hand, Stephen Cote was leaning on a Porsche nearby and smoking his cigarette while enjoying the show in front of him.

Everyone in Penny's family started to panic. All of them thought they were dead meat now that Nathan had landed himself into a big blunder.

This place was nowhere close to Channing, where they would at least have some means to salvage a sticky situation like this!



However, Nathan had nothing but a display of indifference on his face. They were unsure whether he had all that bravado because he didn't know what he had gotten himself into or he didn't take Jamien seriously at all.

Jamien was still fumbling around with his phone and looking for the contact of the police headquarters when police sirens started to wail out of the blue.

The loud sirens came from somewhere ahead. In that direction, they saw eight troopers parting the crowd into two.

Behind them were numerous police cars. Some of them were traffic officers and some of them were armed. They were making a lot of commotion as their parade marched on forward.

Jamien and Stephen, as well as Penny and the rest, were stupefied by the strength of the patrol in front of them.

Someone in the crowd gasped, "Oh Lord, why did they have to send in so many



officers? Are they going to detain some dangerous criminal?"

Immediately, someone said their piece of mind too, "Maybe they are escorting the president of some state!"

Suddenly, all of the police cars halted their movements on the highway.

A man with a broad and squarish face got off the first vehicle with a bunch of traffic police.

Jamien was shocked to see the guy with a squarish face. He hurried over and greeted him politely, "Lieutenant Dixon, why are you personally leading a team for your mission? If there is anything to be done, just inform your subordinates and let them settle it. It's our honor to serve you!"

It turned out that the guy with the squarish jaw was none other than the renowned Yohannes Dixon from Glyngarth's Police Headquarters.

Half an hour ago, Glyngarth's division had



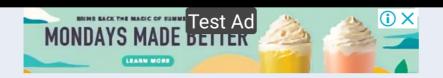
received a sudden message from Captain Colin Dunne that the General of the North would be visiting Glyngarth and the Glyngarth's division was to stay on patrol in case anything went south.

However, Colin did request for Glyngarth's troops to welcome their arrival in a low-profile manner that would not grab any attention.

Still, Glyngarth's division had immediately started with the preparations. They had sent Yohannes ahead of the troop to receive the General at the highway's exit.

Glyngarth's governor and its other higherups were waiting for the General's arrival at Glyngarth's reception office with a welcome banquet set up.

Yohannes spoke in a tone that commanded respect, "The superiors had just received notice that an important person would be visiting Glyngarth. The governor of the district had already set up a banquet at the reception office to welcome his arrival. I am here on orders to



# receive our esteemed guest."



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Yohannes finished his announcement and looked at Jamien and the rest. He then noticed the presence of a few coach buses parked along the street and the Porsche. He furrowed his brows and asked, "What are you doing here?"

Jamien quickly answered, "I am inspecting the vehicles over here!"

Yohannes said with a hint of ire in his voice, "Are there any problems with those cars? If there any issues, bring them back to the headquarters to settle the issues. If not, just let them go already."

Jamien took the opportunity and said, "Lieutenant Dixon, there are some problems with the coach."

The driver of the coach anxiously pleaded innocent, "Kind sir, please don't listen to his nonsense. There's definitely nothing wrong with our coach. We have all our documents in this folder. There's nothing missing here, so what issues do we have?"

Jamien snorted with derision and pointed



a finger at Nathan. He said with an edge in his tone, "This person is obstructing us from carrying out our official duty and challenging the State's laws. Lieutenant Dixon, it is fortunate that you brought along your armed unit. They could be of use in arresting the young brat over here and bringing him back to the headquarters for interrogation."

Yohannes had just received his orders not long ago before he rushed over to receive the General.

He had no idea how the vehicle that carried the General looked like, and had only taken a quick glance at the General's photo ID and tried his best to burn his image into his mind.

His eyes looked toward the direction of Jamien and landed on Nathan.

The familiar face suddenly registered in his mind. He had a moment of realization that numbed him

His face was full of horror.



That tall man was none other than the General himself!

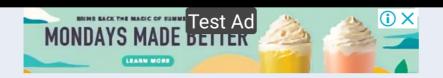
Yohannes' mouth gaped wide. He was preparing himself to yell a greeting at the General.

However, Nathan had already guessed his intentions.

Before he could yell anything, Nathan made the first move. "You are Lieutenant Dixon, am I correct? So you're in charge of the traffic police in this area, yes? Your arrival is timely. I believe Chief Lee here was trying to make things difficult for us ordinary travelers from other lands. How would you take care of this issue?"

Nathan had placed extra emphasis on the term "ordinary travelers".

Yohannes stared blankly at him for a moment. He then looked at the casual clothing Nathan had on him and recalled Colin saying to keep everything simple and low-profile.



Yohannes immediately understood what Colin meant. The General didn't want to make his arrival a big scene.

He turned to face Jamien and appeared composed as he asked, "Jamien, mind explaining what has happened?"

Jamien hadn't the slightest idea that a thunderstorm was brewing behind Yohannes' calm demeanor. He had thought that with his longtime superior-subordinate relationship with Yohannes, Yohannes would surely not betray but protect him if the sky were to fall on them that day.

He was still on his high horse when he said, "Lieutenant Dixon, this guy has really got an attitude. He was acting all arrogant and despotic before you came. I bet he is trying to make some trouble in this area. Also, not only was he being disrespectful toward me, but he had also hindered me from carrying out my duties. I will arrest him and teach him a good lesson!"

He continued, "If not, people like him



would just get away with anything and I won't be able to perform my duties as a policeman."

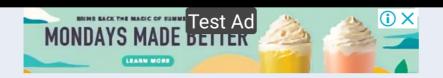
Yohannes nodded his head and replied, "Well if you can't perform your duties, just resign from your position."

Jamien's face was frozen in fear and uncertainty. He stuttered as he spoke, "L-Lieutenant Dixon, are you joking with me? You are, right? This joke might be nothing to you, but you have really gotten me!"

Yohannes' face was stern and unapologetic. He chided, "I am not joking! I hereby officially relieve you of your duties as the leader of the fifth platoon. Head back to the headquarters and get your documents settled this instant!"

#### Boom!

Jamien felt the rumbling boom of the thunderstorm that was just cast upon him. He was totally dumbstruck. The sky had really fallen on him that day.



The expression he had on his face was even sadder than when he was crying. He whimpered, "S-Sir, what's wrong?"

Yohannes pointed at Nathan and bellowed, "Do you know who is the person standing there? He is the esteemed guest I am supposed to receive! The Governor already has a banquet set up waiting for his arrival and you say you want to put Mr. Cross under arrest? Have you gotten tired of living?"



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#### What?

Lieutenant Dixon is leading a patrol of traffic officers and armed policemen here to receive Nathan?

And the Governor along with all the higherups has set up a banquet to welcome him?

Jamien took in a chilly breath in terror. His face had turned ashen grey. He was full of despair.

He knew that day was his Judgement day.

Mr. Cote who was still leaning against the Porsche and smoking to one side was also completely taken aback. His mouth gaped wide, and his cigarette had fallen onto the ground without him noticing.

Penny's entire family looked at Nathan full of shock.

Nathan had the Glyngarth's Governor set up a banquet and a welcoming patrol of traffic officers and SWAT members were sent just for him? Was he this important?



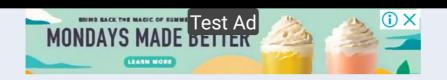
Yohannes scurried over to Nathan and laughed apologetically, "Mr. Cross, you are happy with how I settled things just now, right?"

Nathan said coldly, "You people are too careless. A rat like him who abuses his power to bully others is not suited to serve the people. It's the correct decision to kick him out of his platoon."

Nathan took a glance at the dejected Jamien, then turned his head to look at Stephen, who was standing next to the Porsche in his sandals. He said sternly, "But before you send Chief Lee back for his resignation, I wish for him to carry out his last duty as a policeman. Chief Lee, shouldn't you be inspecting the Porsche owner in his sandals over there?"

Yohannes turned his head to look at Stephen. As he recognized him as one of the heirs of the Cote family, he knitted his brows.

However, he remembered who Nathan was and immediately instructed Jamien



without any hesitations. "Did you hear that? Now go carry out your last duty and inspect the Porsche owner over there. Make sure he complies with the law."

Jamien's expression changed. His voice was shaking as he said, "Lieutenant Dixon, but he's Stephen from the Cote family..."

Yohannes said, "Just do what you have to do!"

Jamien couldn't disobey his orders, so he got a few of his platoon members together and went ahead to check on Stephen.



This time, he didn't dare to accept personal favors from anyone anymore. He convicted Stephen of two things; one, he was driving with his sandals on; secondly, he was driving without a license.

Stephen was taken aback and enraged at the same time. He had let Jamien teach Nathan a lesson but the tables had turned. Jamien was going to inspect him now instead of Nathan.



He shrieked in anger, "Do you all know who's my dad? How dare you arrest me?"

Nathan said indifferently, "Go home and ask your mom who's your dad! Chief Lee, according to the law, how should one be punished for driving without a license?"

Jamien looked at Yohannes and said timidly, "He will be detained and fined."

Nathan nodded his head. "Alright then. Put this fella under detainment now!"

Stephen blew his top. He roared, "Detain me if you dare!"

Yohannes made a gesture with his eye at his armed men and immediately they sprang into action. With a body lock, they managed to knock Stephen off his feet and clasp the handcuffs around his hands before bringing him away forcefully.

Everyone at the scene looked at one another

They looked at Nathan with a bewildered



face. Where did this person come from? Even Glyngarth's leaders are bowing down to him.

Sean was gleeful. He couldn't stop smiling. He laughed and said, "There's nothing my son-in-law can't do! Let's see if anyone dares to lay a finger on the Smiths anymore."

Now that Yohannes had dealt with Jamien and Stephen, he said in a deferential tone to Nathan, "Mr. Cross, the Governor and the other leaders await you at the reception office. A banquet has been set up to welcome you. Should we head over there now?"

Penny and the rest of the Smiths looked at Nathan with their faces full of awe and admiration.

However, Nathan said with a poker face, "Please tell the Governor that we do appreciate his kind hospitality but however, my family and I are only visiting Glyngarth for leisure. We are not attending any social functions."



Yohannes was dumbfounded. "Then..."

Nathan's face darkened. "Did I not make myself clear enough?"

Yohannes snapped out of his trance and answered in a hurry, "No, sir! I have heard your orders loud and clear! I will report this to the Governor right now!"

Very soon, Yohannes left with his subordinates.

The Smiths couldn't hold it in anymore. All of them huddled closer to Nathan, each of them exclaiming, "Nathan, we didn't know you have this much influence in Glyngarth! You're amazing!"

"Not only have you got the SWAT team to escort you, but even Glyngarth's governor also personally set up a banquet to welcome you!"

Even Ferlyn who wasn't a big fan of Nathan asked spitefully, "Yeah, who exactly are you? Why do even Glyngarth's leaders respect you so much?"



Everyone at the scene had their eyes on Nathan, waiting for an answer.

Nathan had an odd expression on his face. He didn't know how to answer all of a sudden.

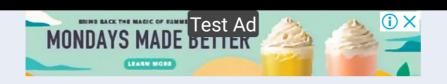
At that moment, Penny suddenly smiled prettily and said, "If I'm not wrong, this is definitely because of Nathan's dad's influence."

#### Nathan's dad?

Sean and the rest of the bunch couldn't help but think of the head of Cross Family of Northania, Zayn Cross at Penny's words.

All of them had confused expressions on their faces!

Sean said with an uncertain tone, "Hasn't Nathan been emancipated from the Cross Family in Northania a long time ago? Also, if I recall correctly, Nathan has a really bad relationship with Zayn, right? How is it possible that he is riding on the coattails



# of Zayn?"

Penny held Nathan's hand in her own and said, "Grandpa, there's something that you don't know. The Cross family has changed. Zayn regrets leaving his wife and son behind back then. He even begged for forgiveness in front of Nathan's mom's grave. Also, the Cross family has given us a lot of help when Cross Group was expanding its markets in Northania."

This time, the Smiths weren't the only people who were stunned.

Even Nathan himself was stunned!

Nathan looked at Penny. "How did you know Zayn had a change in mindset? And how did you know he went seeking my mom's forgiveness at her grave? I have not told you any of this before!"

Penny berated, "You weren't willing to tell me about this, but your dad called and told me about everything."

Nathan got on his guard, "What did he say



# to you?"

Penny said, "He didn't tell me much, really. But he did say he was wrong back then. Now he just wants to make it up to you. He's even willing to let you inherit his properties, which are worth a few billion. He also asked me to persuade you into forgiving him."

The Smiths heard Penny's words and collectively drew a sharp breath.

# A few billion?

Oh god, the Nathan we have always treated like scum is an heir to multibillion properties?

The Smiths' eyes were glimmering when they stared at Nathan in front of them.

Ferlyn had a complicated look in her eyes. Even she wanted to cry. Why had Penny lucked upon such an amazing husband!

Only Benson and Leah looked at Nathan with their usual gazes that were filled with



#### kindness.

In their eyes, even if Nathan wasn't a rich guy, he was still their good old son-in-law.

Were it for anyone else to receive the news that they would be inheriting billions, they would have gone crazy.

However, Nathan had a shadow across his face. He said emotionlessly, "Who wants his money? I'm no longer his son the day he chased me and my mom out of the Cross family. Never ever accept any of his favors, nor contact him again."

Everyone was dumbfounded. Not only did Nathan not have an eye for the multibillion inheritance, but he didn't even want to have anything to do with Zayn Cross at all.

Miles and a few other people sighed in despair. They wanted to ask Nathan whether his dad would accept someone else as his son.

Penny was soft with her words. "Darling, we will not butt into your affairs with your



dad. If you don't want us to have connections with him anymore, then we will ignore him the next time he reaches out to us, okay?"

She continued, "However, as your wife, I feel like I have to say something. I'm not forcing you or anything but, if it's possible, just try to forgive your dad for once."

Nathan said, "Let's talk about it another time!"



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Nathan and the rest boarded the coach. The coach drove into Glyngarth's city area and eventually stopped at one of Glyngarth's most well-known hotels, the Jade Hotel.

Everyone got off the bus. They all got their luggage from the compartment below and strolled into the Jade Hotel's glamorous reception hall.

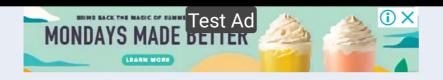
Nathan smiled at the receptionist. "Hello. Could we book three deluxe suites please?"

The woman at the reception answered, "No problem, sir. Could you please pass me the IDs of everyone you have here?"

Nathan and the others passed over their identity cards.

The receptionist was still smiling when she gave Nathan's card a quick scan. A second later, her smile was frozen.

She returned the identity card to Nathan and said dismissively, "Sorry, all of you are



on our hotel's blacklist. We apologize for not being able to serve you. Security, get these people out of here."

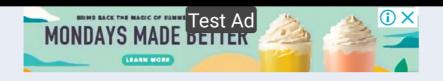
At once, a bunch of security personnel walked over, trying to chase them away.

The Smiths were in shock and rage. They had never been to Glyngarth before, much less visited the Jade Hotel, so how could their names be on the blacklist?

Nathan knitted his brows. He yelled for the security personnel to halt before he spat at the receptionist, "Could you care to explain what is the matter here?"

The receptionist said apathetically, "I can't give you an explanation. The moment I keyed in your particulars into the system, the blacklist popped out with all of your names on it. According to our hotel's rules, we are not to accommodate you."

Nathan snorted. "Well if you are not qualified enough to give me an explanation, then get me someone who is qualified enough to explain this to me."



Very soon, a stout, middle-aged man with a pair of gold-rimmed glasses on rushed over.`

The middle-aged man was John Lenon. He was the general manager of the Jade Hotel.

He strode over with a few of his lackeys in a haughty manner. In an unpleasant tone, he asked, "What's the big fuss over here?"

The receptionist immediately replied, "Sir, the system has displayed all of their names on our blacklist. As per our hotel's regulations, I've tried to send them away but they are unhappy with it and they want an explanation."

John Lenon said, "Let me see!"

He browsed through the information, then turned to face Nathan with a devilish grin on his face. "An hour ago, did you get into a conflict with our chairman's son and get him detained?"

Nathan furrowed his brows and said, "You



chairman's son? You mean Stephen Cote?"

John grinned with spite and said, "You're right, Stephen is the son of our chairman. You guys probably have no idea that the Jade Hotel is a property of the Cote family, right? Our chairman has said to put all of you on our blacklist. You are barred from entering any Cote properties."

Penny was furious, "So what? We will just stay at another hotel."

John Lennon said smugly, "Haha, our chairman Charlus Cote is the magnate of the tourism and F&B industries in Glyngarth. All other hotels or restaurants you visit in Glyngarth are likely to belong to the Cote family. And even if it doesn't belong to the Cote family, the directors of the other hotels and restaurants should be acquaintances of our chairman. Our chairman has already spread the word to all hotels and restaurants in Glyngarth just now to not host the lot of you."

The Smiths were shocked and infuriated.



However, a sense of sorrow also sailed into their hearts. They knew the Cote family was very influential in Glyngarth, especially in the tourism and F&B industries. They were the dominant species at the apex of the food chain in Glyngarth.

Charlus Cote had spread the word to all hotels and restaurants in Glyngarth to not host the Smiths.

Any regular restaurants and hotels wouldn't dare to go against Charlus' words. Nobody would welcome them to their premises.

Sean was infuriated. "This is too much!"

Nathan said calmly, "Old Master, cool down. Who does Charlus Cote even think he is? What right does he have to bar us from all of the hotels and restaurants here? We are staying here tonight no matter what!"



John Lenon overheard them and took a second glance at Nathan.

He wouldn't have noticed if he didn't look closer, but upon closer scrutiny, he laughed. "Hahaha, it is indeed such a small world. Aren't you my ex-boss Nathan?"

Apparently, John Lenon was from Cledondale of Northania.

Back when Nathan was still living with the Cross family, he had invested in a small company just for fun.

The manager at the company Nathan invested in was none other than John Lenon, who was Nathan's employee back then.

However, not long after Nathan and his mother were chased out of the Cross Family, the company closed their doors.

After that, John came to Glyngarth and climbed his way up from the bottom of the ranks. Soon, he was well known in the area as the general manager of a 5-star hotel in



the heart of Glyngarth.

John looked at Nathan in bewilderment, as if he had just landed on a new continent. He sized Nathan up in a disparaging manner and laughed coldly. "Hehe, I still remember the year you were chased out of the Cross family and your company shut down. Who knew you are still alive and kicking after all these years?"

He continued, "I guess you would never, even in your dreams, have imagined that the poor lackey under you would be a general manager at a five-star hotel today. Look at yourself now. You lost your reputation as the Cross Family's heir, and you're now worth nothing more than the dirt under my feet!"

It was only then Nathan recognized him as his former employee from before.

He curled his lips into a faint smile and said in a mild tone, "Well, I am about to disappoint you again. Yes, I used to be your boss, but who said that I am not your boss now?"



Nathan then pulled out his phone to dial for Colin Dunne. "Colin, I want Jade Hotel under my name in ten minutes."

The Smiths drew in a quick breath of cold air.

Even John was confounded. But he soon got back to his old self and laughed coldly. "Tsk. The Jade Hotel is worth five billion, and you want it transferred under your name in ten minutes? Who do you think you are, huh? Where is your money even coming from?"

The security personnel at the hotel's entrance looked at each other.

They couldn't hold it in them anymore as they asked, "Mr. Lenon, our chairman has personally ordered for them to be on our blacklist. Don't we have all the more reason to chase them out of the hotel now that this man has made such ridiculous claims over the future ownership of our hotel?"

John pushed his gold-rimmed glasses up



his nose, then put on a half-smile. "No, let us not chase them out of here yet. I would like to see how embarrassing it will be for him when he fails to buy our hotel in ten minutes' time. Hahahaha!"

Many of the hotel's employees and customers were pointing their fingers at Nathan and his family and talking behind their backs.

They were talking about how those tourists had gotten on the bad side of the chairman, Charlus Cote, who had sent an order to all hotels and restaurants in the region to not host the bunch of them.

A few elderly customers sighed and said, "Of all people, they shouldn't have offended Mr. Cote. Now they are stuck in Glyngarth with nowhere to go."

"Yeah. Since they have offended Mr. Cote, they might as well just leave Glyngarth quietly and go back to where they come from, instead of putting up with the trouble they are in now. Isn't it ridiculous for them to say that they will buy the Jade Hotel?



You can't buy the Jade Hotel with all the money you have in the world! It's the most famous hotel in all of Glyngarth!"

Sean heard the chattering of the crowd around them and felt his ears burning.

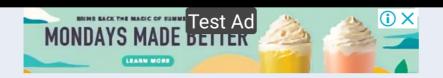
He finally couldn't take it anymore. He whispered to Nathan, "Let's leave this place now. It is getting more embarrassing for us to stay here by the second."

Penny also advised Nathan, "Let's find another hotel to stay at, Nathan. I don't believe that all of the hotels would pay heed to Charlus Cote's words and not welcome us."

Yet, Nathan smiled. "No, we are going to stay here tonight no matter what. We are not going to other hotels."

John grinned devilishly. "Dream on, loser. If only you have more sense in you. Two minutes left! Have you gotten our hotel under your name yet, liar? Hahaha!"

The moment had come!



A deafening screech of tires on pavement came from the entrance of the hotel.

A Rolls-Royce pulled over with five Mercedes-Benz cars behind. They lined up in a neat file along the entranceway.

Everyone gasped. They were all stunned by the grand entrance and thought that it was some billionaire whose identity they had yet to learn.



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Everything happened so quickly. Twenty men who were uniformly dressed in black tuxedos stepped out from five Mercedes-Benz. They stood tall with well-built physique.

They walked with a steady stride. Each of them carried an inner calmness as their sharp gaze scanned the surrounding.

Anyone could see that they were an elite group of professionally-trained bodyguard.

A Rolls-Royce pulled up, and the car door swung open. A middle-aged man stepped out, dressed in a butler uniform with a briefcase in his hands.

Everyone was amazed that a butler would show up. They wondered which family this butler came from.

Nathan Cross was taken aback when he saw this person. He recognized him as none other than Francis, the butler of the Cross Family.

Why did Francis show up here?



Nathan's phone rang. It was an incoming call from Colin Dunne.

When he answered the call, Colin's panicked voice came through, "General. Five minutes ago, Jade Hotel was bought over from the Cote family by a mysterious buyer."

"We're investigating the identity of the mysterious buyer. After getting the information, we'll purchase Jade Hotel from the person. It might take around ten minutes to complete the process."

Nathan looked at the briefcase in Francis' hand as he walked in with twenty bodyguards trailing behind him. "Zayn is the mysterious buyer," he replied calmly.

Colin was shocked by the news. Before he could respond, Nathan had already hung up the phone.

Meanwhile, John Lenon approached Francis with a few employees following behind him. "Dear sir, may I know which family you're working for? Is there anything



that we can assist you with?" He smiled politely.

Before John could get closer to Francis, the well-built bodyguards that were surrounding Francis pushed him away.

John was flabbergasted at what had happened and glared at Francis' group of people. Who are these people that are being so overbearing? He thought to himself.

Francis started walking towards Nathan with the twenty bodyguards in tow. When they reached Nathan, they arranged themselves in a straight row, bowed towards him, and greeted in unison, "Master!"

"Master!"

All the employees of Jade Hotel, the customers, and Penny's family were shocked upon hearing the way they addressed him.

John Lenon face turned pale. His eyes



were full of startlement and fear!

It is real. Nathan Cross bought Jade Hotel.

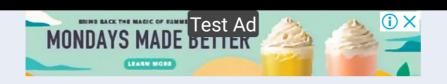
He was doomed. He thought of what happened earlier when he ridiculed and sneered at Nathan, saying that he was inferior and pathetic. Now Nathan was his new employer.

His body was shaking with fear. Hopelessness was written all over his face.

Nathan stared coldly at Francis, "Why are you here?"

Francis reached into his briefcase and took out a contract. He handed it to Nathan with a smile, "Master, I've helped you purchase Jade Hotel. Here's the acquisition agreement for your perusal."

Nathan examined Francis with an unreadable expression. Francis' forehead was dripping with sweat as he maintained in the same position, his body bowed slightly towards Nathan with the contract



in his hand. He did not dare to look Nathan in the eye.

The tourist bus driver worked for Zayn.

No wonder. That's how Zayn knew everything that happened during the journey.

Therefore, he knew that Nathan wanted to acquire the Jade Hotel and went a step ahead to get it before Nathan. He used his connections and wealth to purchase the hotel before anyone could.

Then, he gifted it to Nathan!

Finally, Nathan took the contract from Francis. As he looked through it, he noticed that it took ten billion to acquire Jade Hotel.

The corner of his mouth turned up in a cold smile. Zayn would go to great lengths to be in his good books, even if it cost him great wealth.

Zayn was willing to spend ten billion to



purchase a hotel although it was only worth five billion.

No wonder he could get his hands on the hotel at such short notice.

Nathan turned around and looked at John with a steely gaze. "Isn't it disappointing? You were once the boss. Now, I'm your boss."



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John kneeled with a thump. "Master Cross, I'm so sorry. I know it was my fault. Please forgive me." His voice trembled as he continued, "I was and will always be your servant. Please. I'm begging you. I'm willing to do anything for you."

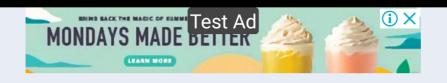
All these years, John would use his artifice and deviousness to obtain his desires. That was how he finally became the general manager with a three million annual income.

If he were sacked, he would have nothing left.

At this point, he did not care about his dignity or image anymore. He could only beg for Nathan to spare him.

The onlookers were puzzled. The man that was kneeling at the feet of Nathan Cross was the arrogant general manager.

Disdain towards John was written all over everyone's faces. Meanwhile, Nathan was getting admirable looks.



Who would've thought that Nathan had such capability!

Nathan looked down at John. He was prostrate on the floor, crying and begging for forgiveness. "Servant? You don't deserve to be my servant! You're just a wretched person who has no loyalty," Nathan said coldly.

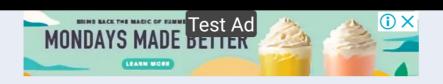
"From now on, you are officially fired!"

"Security, take this fellow out of my sight."

The security guards froze. Nathan was their future boss. At the realization, they responded quickly without hesitation towards Nathan's order. They carried John and kicked him out on the streets.

Nathan turned towards the receptionist. "Prepare three presidential suites right away. Is that possible now?" He said calmly.

The receptionist trembled and answered, "Mr. Cross... No, I mean, Boss. That wouldn't be an issue. I'll arrange it for you



#### this instant."

All the hotel employees started getting back to their work routine. They were on their best behavior, assisting their new boss to their utmost ability. After witnessing what had happened to John, they were afraid of getting sacked.

Sean Smith and his family gazed at Nathan with admiration. "Nathan, you did great! You made us proud!" They exclaimed excitedly.

"Please do me a favor and tell Zayn to keep this hotel for himself. I'll buy my own hotel. I don't need his help," Nathan said to Francis.

Francis lowered his head and said in a small voice, "Sir knew that you wouldn't accept anything from him, so he said that this hotel is not a gift to you."

Nathan frowned, "What do you mean?"

Francis glanced toward Queenie, who was in her mother's arms. "According to Sir, this



hotel is a gift to his granddaughter, Queenie," he answered timidly.

Wowl

The Smith family was astonished upon hearing what Francis had said.

The Cross family from Northania was really extraordinary.

Without batting an eye, Sir Cross gifted a hotel worth ten billion to his granddaughter.

Such extravagance!

The Smith family gazed at Penny's family enviously.

Nathan was stunned for a moment. Then, he gave a cold huff and said, "My daughter doesn't care for such lavishness. Will you do me a favor? Tell him to not interfere with my life."

"Or else, I'll kill each person that he placed here to keep track of me, one at a time."



Francis' face turned green. He nodded and quickly left with his subordinates.

As soon as Francis left, he immediately reported what happened to Zayn.

After listening to Francis, Zayn let out a bitter laugh, "This fellow's temper is more stubborn than I expected. It'll take some time to gain his forgiveness."

"Don't shadow him anymore. Ask all our agents to stop their surveillance."

"Yes, sir!" Francis replied.



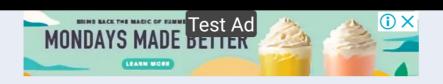
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Chapter 779 I Will Not Let This End Here

At the Cote family mansion in Moonlight Bay.

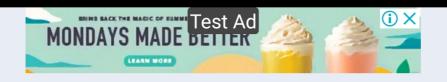
In the study was a rotund man with slicked-back hair, bushy eyebrows, and thick lips. Sausage-like fingers clenching a cigarette, Charlus Cote had a puzzled look on his face when he uttered, "What? The mysterious man who'd used ten billion to buy Jade Hotel from us was Nathan Cross?"

Dressed in a butler's uniform, Simon Horton answered, "To be precise, it was actually Nathan's father, Zayn Cross."

Charlus frowned. "Zayn Cross... As in the patriarch of the Northania Cross family?"

"That's him!" Simon nodded.

Sneering, Charlus muttered, "Here I was, saying that I was going to teach Nathan Cross a lesson. I'd planned on letting them go homeless, in Glyngarth. Yet, that sly old fox actually hid his identity and bought over my hotel at such an exorbitant rate, just so his son could have a place to stay.



Chapter 779 I Will Not Let This End Here

What a slap in the face! If only I'd known, I wouldn't have sold off the hotel!"

Simon shook his head. "We didn't know it was Zayn at the time. In addition to that, with the rate that he was willing to pay for it, any businessman would've signed the deal!"

"We might've earned some money, but we were humiliated in the process. I won't allow the father and son to run scot-free!" Charlus harrumphed angrily.

Timidly, Simon piped up, "Sir, the Cross family is one of Northania's aristocrats.

Their influence is no simple matter. Do you think it's wise to butt heads with them?"

"I don't care how powerful Zayn is in Northania. In Glyngarth, my territory, they'll have to do as I say. If I say kneel, they'd better ask, for how long?"

Simon hastily nodded. "Yes, yes, of course! I'm certain that they wouldn't dare to provoke the Cote family once again."



## Chapter 779 I Will Not Let This End Here

Temper abating slightly, Charlus changed the subject, "By the way, do my words carry no weight anymore? Why haven't the police released my son yet? How long do they intend on keeping him?"

"They'd informed me that they were originally going to detain him for ten days. However, for your sake, they've decided to release him after twenty-four hours. He'll be out by tomorrow afternoon," the butler answered with a bitter smile.

Charlus exploded in rage, once more, "What the f\*\*\*? The Crosses must've threatened the police. Otherwise, they would've released my son ages ago! That father-son pair is dead!"

The next day, it started to rain heavily in the morning.

This put a damper on everyone's moods, as their vacation plan was ruined. However, Glyngarth was an old city with plenty of ancient forts and buildings to visit.