

The Understated Dragon Lord

Chapter 41

Chapter 41 Spolled Rotten

Brittany felt incredibly wronged by Daniel's words and quickly turned to Jessica for **support**.

*Jessica, did you hear what he just said? He's deliberately trying to pick on me. Are you just going to let

him do that?"

"First, go buy that lighter, and **we'll** see what Daniel is up to. What he plans to do with that painting... If he's only doing this to bully you, I promise, I'll punish him severely. Now, please hurry up and **get a lighter!**"

I

Jessica's curiosity had been piqued by Daniel.

Above all, she cared about money. If the painting really was worth two hundred million dollars, that could solve major issues for the company! The nagging problem of cash flow that she had been worried about

could immediately be resolved.

As for the slight discomfort Brittany was experiencing—it was just a tiny lesson for her.

Before Daniel arrived on **the** scene, Brittany had respected just one person at TMO: Jessica. She didn't

care about anyone else. It seemed she had a distorted view of her own situation. Jessica had tried

several times to get her to be more reasonable, thinking maybe Brittany would see the error of her ways.

After all, Brittany had been with her for years and was quite capable, the most handy person under her management. Jessica didn't want to punish Brittany over some trivial matters!

And Daniel had indeed been a great help to her. First, he secured the Healthy Land deal for her, and now

he recovered the money Auctiq conned from her with interest. And most notably, he had dealt with the

nuisance that was Brittany!

The more Jessica watched Daniel, the happier she felt in her heart. However, she wasn't about to shorten

his trial period. What kind of person was he, really? That couldn't be discerned in a short period; she felt she needed to assess him for a year. If after one year, he still impressed her this much, she would marry

him. By then she would announce to everyone that Daniel was her husband, Jessica's husband! She'd throw a huge wedding and spread the news all over town!

At that moment, Brittany returned with a lighter that she had bought for one dollar and handed it to Daniel.

"Here you go. This cost me a hundred bucks. You'll have to reimburse me; the company won't cover it!"

"Jessica, could you give her the hundred dollars, please?" Daniel said.

"Jessica, Jessica, Jessica, is she your mother or something? Why do you keep going to her for everything? Are you even a man?" Brittany stomped her foot in frustration.

Jessica giggled quietly to the side. At the same time, she felt a bit puzzled. Daniel always leveraged Jessica's status, yet she wasn't annoyed with him in the slightest?

explained

"I am Jessica's personal assistant. Whatever trouble I face, of course, I turn to her!" Daniel explained.

"Brittany, regarding the money, any expenses Daniel incurs are eligible for reimbursement," Jessica clarified.

Chapter 41 Spoiled Rotten

“Jessica, aren’t you indulging him too much? What if he misuses company funds?”

“If you can sell something that’s initially worth a million for eighty million and generate an eighty–fold profit for the company, I’ll give you the same privileges.”

“Fine, just keep favoring him, Jessica! This loser’s getting too cocky. If you don’t rein him in soon, he’ll stop respecting you altogether.”

That’s when Daniel lit the alcohol burner.

And then, the shocking moment happened.

He actually placed the painting directly above the flame of the burner.

Brittany was stunned. “You idiot, what are you doing? Are you actually trying to burn the painting? Do you want to reduce it to ashes?!”

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Chapter 42

Chapter 42 Torching the Painting

“Brittany, if you can’t see what’s happening here, I suggest you get yourself a pair of glasses. I’m toasting, not burning the painting. Where do you get the idea that I’m trying to set it on fire?”

“Yes! You are toasting it with fire! But open your eyes and really look- it’s already charred and on the

verge of catching fire!” Brittany protested.

Nicholas was just as clueless, joking with befuddlement, “Daniel, I didn’t make any bet with you this time! I didn’t say I’d give you two hundred million if you turned this painting to ash!”

“Relax, I know what I’m doing. It won’t turn to ash!” Daniel said confidently.

No **sooner** had Daniel spoken than a small flame shot from the center of the scroll and ignited the entire

painting.

Brittany, pointing to the blazing painting, complained animatedly to Jessica, "Look Jessica, this loser has set the painting on fire. It's worth three or four million dollars, and he's just lit it up! In a little while, the painting will be nothing but a pile of ashes, completely destroyed and worthless!"

As the fiery blaze consumed the painting, Jessica's eyebrows knitted slightly, "Why would you burn the

painting?"

"Because it will be reborn from the flames!"

Daniel had barely spoken when Brittany quickly interrupted. "Nonsense! A painting's a painting on paper! How can it be reborn from fire?"

Just then, the flames suddenly extinguished.

The scroll was still in Daniel's hand but now charred and crackled. The painting hadn't turned to ash, and it still retained its original shape, but it was clearly scorched.

Brittany saw her chance and hurriedly pointed at the painting in Daniel's hand, urging Jessica, "Look, Jessica, the idiot destroyed Monet's painting, burned it to ash, you need to punish him!"

"The painting is still intact, isn't it?" Daniel countered.

"It's about to turn to ash! If you don't believe me, shake it! With just a light shake, it'll turn into a pile of paper ash!"

"Really? Then watch carefully as I shake the painting!"

Daniel walked over to Brittany **and** abruptly gave the scroll a vigorous shake. The black ash that had been burned onto the paper suddenly billowed **up**, covering Brittany's face.

Her fair and delicate cheeks instantly turned pitch black,

"Ah... Ahhhhh..."

Brittany screeched.

Chapter 42 Torching the Painting

“Jessica, look how he’s picking on me. Waaah...”

Jessica’s face darkened with anger as she sternly told Daniel, “Apologize right now!”

“I’m sorry, Brittany! It’s my fault. When I shook the painting, I didn’t watch for the wind direction, and all the ash from the paper ended up on your face.”

“I don’t accept your apology, you did it on purpose! You’re purposefully bullying me, you wanted to blacken my face! Bullying, according to TMO’s rules, you should be fired! Jessica, you must fire him!”

“Brittany, relax. Daniel has already apologized, and as a senior staff member, you should be more forgiving!”

Jessica’s response shocked Brittany. Daniel bullied **her** like this, and Jessica still defended that loser? Daniel’s apology had no sincerity at all! It was not an apology!

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Chapter 43

Chapter 43 Golden Paper

Brittany couldn’t defy Jessica but her resentment towards Daniel deepened. She vowed to get even and wipe away her humiliation. Daniel had made a fool of her and Jessica didn’t intervene. She plotted to turn the tables on him at next week’s staff meeting, right in front of the whole company. Jessica surely wouldn’t step in then. If she couldn’t get him fired, she’d humiliate him until he was too ashamed to stay at TMO and left on his own.

Brittany rushed to the restroom to wash the ash off her face. When she came back, Jessica was taken aback by her appearance.

“Your face...”

“What? Is there a problem?” Brittany quickly pulled out a compact mirror from her LV bag and examined her face.

To her shock, her skin looked radiant and youthful, as if she had turned back time to her eighteen-year-old self.

“The ash I shook onto your face

was actually a free face mask gift. But the effects will only last for a day,

your skin will return to normal tomorrow,” Daniel explained.

Jessica believed him and seized the moment to softly tell Brittany.

“You misunderstood Daniel earlier. He wasn’t teasing you but gifted you a miraculous face mask. You’ve seen the effect yourself. I’ve used countless face masks, and none compare to this!

So, you should thank Daniel and get along with him. And don’t you pick on him anymore.”

“Me? Thank him? And quit picking on him?”

Did I s

something wrong?”

Jessica’s words left Brittany speechless. But these were Jessica’s orders, and she dared not ignore them. Reluctantly and with a professional smile, Brittany spoke to Daniel.

“Thank you! I promise I won’t pick on you ever again!”

Though her last words were uttered through clenched teeth! How could she let Daniel off the hook? Not only did she plan on picking on him, she intended to make him so miserable that he’d resign from TMO himself.

Daniel poured the remaining vodka over the once charred scroll. The moment the liquid hit, the blackened paper sparkled golden and exuded the scent of alcohol.

Nicholas was flabbergasted at the sight of the scroll, his face registering complete disbelief.

“Is... is this a Golden Paper painting?”

“You’ve got it, Smiley Nick!” Daniel confirmed with a smile.

Brittany, overcome with curiosity, asked, “What’s a Golden Paper painting?”

Chapter 43 Golden Paper

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“Golden Paper paintings are created on Golden Paper, Golden Paper is extremely rare and scarce because its production process is incredibly complex. It’s so rare that not many have even heard of it,”

Daniel explained.

Nicholas picked up a magnifying glass and inspected the scroll meticulously. After examining it, he shook.

his head in regret.

“What a pity! Such fine Golden Paper, wasted like this!”

Brittany immediately perked up, excited.

“Smiley Nick, what do you mean ‘wasted’?”

“Literally what I said! Golden Paper of such high quality is only worthy of the most elite artists. Look at how crude the painting on this Golden Paper is now.

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Chapter 44

Chapter **44** The Secret of the Painting

As Nicholas shook his head in regret, he handed the magnifying glass over to Brittany, urging her **to** take a look for herself. When she peered through it, an amused smile spread across her face. The paint depicted a hen pecking at corn, its neck bent askew, its wings broken. The amateurish artwork was worse than a grade-schooler’s. Indeed, it was a waste to have such a creation on the high-quality Golden Paper.

“So with this corn-eating hen painted on it, how much is this Golden Paper worth now?”
Brittany asked

curiously.

“Without this painting, the Golden **Paper** would be worth fifty million. But with **this** hen and corn painting on it, it’s barely worth thirty million,” replied Nicholas as he turned to Jessica with a chuckle, offering a deal. “Jessica, the land on Windows Street has tripled in value. If you sell it to me at the price from three years ago, you’d be at a loss. How about this: I’ll buy this Golden Paper painting, that’s **only** worth thirty million, for fifty million. The extra twenty million can be considered the interest you’ve earned for holding onto the land on Window’s Street for so **long**.”

“Smiley Nick, you really need to look closer! I’ve revealed half the true face of this painting, and **you** still don’t understand,” Daniel commented.

“What are you saying? You’re saying I misunderstood?” Nicholas picked up the painting again and examined it closely. After confirming his initial assessment, he said, “This time, I’m absolutely certain I’m not mistaken! This painting is by a nobody, just some careless doodle on Golden Paper. It has no artistic value and is a waste of fine Golden Paper! However, judging by the quality and sheen of this Golden Paper, it must be from the 18th century. If even a lesser-known artist from that century had randomly scribbled a few strokes on it, it’d be worth at least a hundred million. Golden Paper paintings are exceedingly rare, and if the artwork has some artistic value, this piece could fetch a nine-**figure** sum at

auction.”

Nicholas felt increasingly disheartened as he spoke. His family line dealt in antiques and fine arts for generations. To find an item, **an** art treasure, only to realize that its value was squandered, was painful to witness. If this Golden Paper painting were truly the work of a master, it could be featured as a top treasure by Auctiq, garnering significant promotion. And if he could associate the Golden Paper painting with Auctiq, it would solidify their status as the premier auction house in New York!

“Smiley Nick, watch this,” Daniel said as he picked up the painting and began to rub it.

Brittany was shocked. She hurried to stop Daniel’s actions, scolding, “What are you doing? Who gave you permission to do that? If you ruin this painting, there goes fifty million.”

Brittany’s attempt to intervene didn’t deter Daniel, who continued until he finally stopped a few minutes later. The painting was now crumpled and wrinkled.

Brittany was frantic. She pointed at Daniel’s nose, accusing. “Look! I told you to stop; why did you do this? Now the painting, the Golden Paper valued at fifty million, is destroyed *by you*.”

Brittany turned to Nicholas and asked, “Smiley Nick, how **much** is this Golden Paper painting worth now?”

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Chapter 45

Chapter 45 The Golden Paper is Damaged

Nicholas didn't respond immediately; Instead, he took a closer look at the painting with his magnifying glass. After a thorough evaluation, he finally offered his conclusion.

“This painting has been crumpled into this state; it looks very unlikely to be restored. Furthermore, I've noticed that some of the golden threads within have been snapped. That means this Golden Paper has been destroyed. Before the damage, it could have been valued at thirty million. Now, its value has plummeted, and even at a price of three million, you might find it hard to locate a buyer.”

Nicholas turned to Daniel with a puzzled expression. “Daniel, based on your earlier actions, you seem to understand what one should not do. Since you were able to bring out this Golden Paper painting, you should also know that if the golden threads are damaged, its value plummets. So why do this? Is your intent to destroy it?”

Brittany chimed in with disdain, “He was just lucky before. He thinks doing this will increase its value. But not only did it not appreciate; the most valuable Golden Paper was ruined!”

Daniel laid the Golden Paper painting flat on the table and said with a chuckle, “Brittany, would you mind running another errand for me?”

“You... You jerk! You still want me to do things for you?”

“Brittany, if he asks you to go, then go.”

“Jessica, he's just bullying me.”

“And what about when you bully others?”

“I... Hmph!”

Brittany stomped her high heel and glared at Daniel irritably, “What do you want to buy?”

“Another bottle of vodka, this time over thirty years old.”

“Vodka aged over thirty years? That could cost hundreds of thousands!”

“If you don’t get the thirty-year-old vodka, this Golden Paper painting will be worthless. You might not even get three million for it from Smiley Nick. But if you manage to **find a** thirty-year bottle, the value of this Golden Paper painting could instantly soar to over two hundred million.”

At the mention of two hundred million, Jessica’s eyes gleamed, and she commanded Brittany, “Go buy it;

we’re not short on cash!”

“This loser’s just spouting nonsense. He’s just making fun of me. Jessica, you need to see through his

trickery!”

“He can’t fool me. If I tell you **to** go buy, then just go. If the hundreds of thousands we **spend** don’t **turn** this Golden Paper into a two hundred million dollar piece, I will definitely punish him.”

‘Fine, I’ll go and buy the alcohol. I don’t believe a mere bottle will make any difference!

Chapter 45 The Golden Paper is Damaged

Of course, Brittany didn’t believe Daniel; she thought he was simply teasing her on purpose. **So, with** resentful eyes, she finally left to **find** the booze.

Thirty-year-old vodka wasn’t easy to come by. After inquiring at numerous stores and a frustrating hour she finally secured a bottle at the astronomical price of five hundred thousand dollars.

Brittany placed the thirty-year-old vodka on the table, reminding Jessica, “This bottle cost me half a million, not three thousand like the regular one we got earlier. If he wastefully messes this up, it would be

such a waste.”

“Don’t worry; I know what I’m doing. If he squanders this half a million dollars worth of vodka and fails to make the Golden Paper painting worth two hundred million, I’ll take care of him,” Jessica assured her, watching Daniel with gritted teeth. 1

“Punish him severely!” she emphasized.

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Chapter 46

Play

Chapter 46 The True Painting

Jessica could overlook Daniel teasing Brittany, but she **couldn't** ignore the bold claim he made. Daniel had stated that with just that thirty-year-old vodka, he could turn the Golden Paper painting's value to two hundred million dollars. If he failed to deliver, he would be deceiving her, and Jessica would not tolerate such behavior from him. She was ready to punish him severely if it came to that.

Daniel opened the vodka bottle and poured the thirty-year-aged spirit over the **scroll**. His face remained calm, treating the expensive vodka as if it were mere water. The whole room filled with the fragrance of the alcohol, the rich aroma delighting everyone, leaving the two women feeling slightly tipsy just from the

scent.

Gently, with his palms, Daniel smoothed out the crinkles on the once wrinkled painting until the paper was as flat as a mirror. Then, he lit the painting with a lighter. With the addition of the vodka, the scroll quickly

caught fire, sending up beautiful blue flames.

Brittany gasped in horror at the scene. “You... you've set the painting on **fire** again? You used the fifty-thousand-dollar vodka as fuel? Do you think Jessica's money grows on trees? How can you waste it like this? I tell you, the cost of that thirty-year vodka equals your salary for the next ten years. For the next ten years, don't even think about getting a dime out of TMO. If you want to get paid, just resign and hit the

road!”

Brittany was determined to drive Daniel away, she couldn't stand the idea of him remaining at TMO. Before her, Jessica went through several secretaries, but after she

started, Jessica had never hired another secretary, let alone a personal assistant. Daniel looked like a fool and acted like a thug—why should he be Jessica’s personal assistant and even serve as her driver? It was clear that before he arrived, Jessica didn’t need any stinking men around. If Jessica were to hire an assistant or a driver, the first job description would specify the candidate be female. Brittany couldn’t fathom why such a loser like Daniel was so lucky.

Brittany grew more troubled the more she thought about it. From every angle, Daniel did not seem like a good person. He seemed to have appeared out of nowhere to serve as Jessica’s assistant, and Brittany suspected this loser was pursuing Ma’am Jessica under the guise of his position. Countless in New York wished to pursue Jessica, yet not a single one had managed to take her out for dinner. Even Andrew from The Armstrongs, despite his lengthy pursuit, had never managed to take Ma’am Jessica out for a single meal. The thought of Jessica being attracted to a no-good man like Daniel was unthinkable. Brittany was determined to drive him away, whatever the cost.

While Brittany was contemplating how to rid TMO of Daniel, the light blue flames on the painting flickered

out.

“All done! I have accomplished what I needed to, and the secret of the painting is about to be revealed,” Daniel announced confidently.

He carefully picked at the bottom right corner of the painting with his nail, slowly peeling away a layer of paper. All eyes were fixed upon the scroll as the top layer of the Golden Paper painting began to come away, bit by bit.

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Chapter 47

Chapter 47 Kneel and Apologize

Nicholas was astonished!

A Golden Paper painting with two layers?

If this was true, then the painting was a legendary layered painting—and layered paintings were only known to exist in myths and tales. Nicholas looked at the scroll with anticipation; he was willing to spend two hundred million to own such a rarity. He would even apologize to Daniel, kneeling if necessary, to witness this legend come to life.

With a swift motion and the sound of tearing air, Daniel peeled the painting completely open. The Golden Paper painting split into two: one was silver, and the other was gold. The silver one was a Silver Paper painting, and the golden one, sure enough, a Golden Paper painting. While Silver Paper paintings weren't

could still fetch a high price.

as valuable as Golden Paper ones, they

Nicholas quickly grabbed his magnifying glass to examine the two paintings. His hands trembled as he peered at the Silver Paper painting—his magnifying glass shaking in his grasp.

“Gauguin! This Silver Paper painting was painted by Gauguin!” he exclaimed. Then, turning to the Golden Paper painting, “Monet? It's actually Monet! This Golden Paper painting is by Monet!”

After his inspection, Nicholas knelt before Daniel with a thud.

“Daniel, can you sell me these two paintings? I'm willing to pay five hundred million for both!”

“Five h

undred million? That's a fair price,” Daniel reacted quickly, helping Nicholas to his feet. “Stand up. your apology is sufficient.”

Thud! Nicholas knelt down again.

“Master, please accept me as your disciple!”

“Why a

re you kneeling again? Get up! I don't take disciples.”

“Master, if you don't accept me, I will stay kneeling here.”

“Alright, alright! I'll take you as a disciple, but don't call me 'Master. You're what, 407 50? Calling me

Master' would imply I'm 70 or even 80! So, from now on, just call me Daniel, okay?”

“Yes! Master!”

“I told you, don’t call me ‘Master’

“Yes, Master! In the presence of others, I will call you Daniel. If it’s just **us**, I will call you ‘Master.’”

Leaving Auctiq, something clicked for Jessica, and she looked at Daniel with a grin. “Master Joshua calls you ‘Master Daniel. Don’t tell me he, like Smiley Nick, became your disciple?”

“Uh...” Daniel scratched his head, admitting, “Yes, that’s correct.”

“I knew it! If you were just friends, why was Master Joshua so excited that day? It turns out he became

Chapter 47 Kneel and Apologize

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your disciple, too. You scoundrel, do you know who Master Joshua is to dare take him as your disciple? Master Joshua is said to be the most skilled doctor in Estella and the head of The Grants family. How dare you! And Smiley Nick, did you really think he just smiles all the time? If we want to break into the antiques industry, we need his consent. You have no idea who you’re dealing with!”

“I’m just their master; I’m not marrying them, right, Jessica?” Daniel retorted with a light-hearted comment which immediately earned him a sharp look from Jessica.

“You’re married?”

“Uh...” Daniel quickly shook his head, denying, “No!”

Jessica had forbidden him from going public with their marriage. With Brittany there, he had to deny it.

Brittany thought to herself: Master Joshua became this loser’s disciple? And Smiley Nick too? Even if it was due to losing a bet, why was this loser so fortunate? I must drive him away! Otherwise, Jessica will only rely on him more and more.

Brittany’s eyes darted around as she suddenly thought of a plan.

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Chapter 48

Chapter 48 Windows Street

“Loser, since you’re so capable and Master Joshua as well as Smiley Nick are your disciples, you should be able to easily handle the situation with Windows Street, right?” Brittany sarcastically jabbed at Daniel.

At the mention of Windows Street, Jessica immediately glared at Brittany and scolded, “Shut your mouth.

Don’t start trouble!”

Jessica’s reaction sparked Daniel’s curiosity, he felt there must be a significant issue with Windows. Street. He decided to ask about it and, if possible, resolve the matter. After all, his wife Jessica’s

concerns were his concerns as well.

“Windows Street? Is that the same piece of land Smiley Nick mentioned? The one TMO has been holding for three years without development? Is something amiss there?”

“There’s no need for you to inquire about Windows Street. You don’t need to be **involved**; you can’t solve **that** problem,” Jessica dismissed the question with a single sentence. She then turned to Brittany, “your are never to speak of Windows Street again! Our group’s primary task right now is the collaboration project with Healthy Land. We can set Windows Street aside for the time being. When the time is right, I

will take care of it.”

“But Jessica, we invested fifty billion to secure that prime spot on Windows Street in Delvin Hub. Fifty billion has been sitting there for three years without a single return. If we don’t address the Windows Street issue, the group will remain at a disadvantage. Our dealings with Healthy Land are still in the early

stages, which wont significantly enhance our group’s operational situation. The crisis facing TMO will not

be resolved until we kickstart the Windows Street project. All those big corporations and prominent

families collaborating with us from other places now assume The Matthews lack influence in Delvin Hub.

Otherwise, why haven't we sorted out Windows Street yet?"

"I told you to stop talking!"

"I want to speak! Isn't this loser the master of Master Joshua? Isn't he Smiley Nick's master too? Master Joshua leads Washington's The Grants family, and Smiley Nick is a key figure in Delvin Hub as well. If

Daniel just tells them to help us out, the problem with Windows Street could immediately be resolved. Of

course, if his so-called 'disciples' only accepted him as their master because of a lost bet, then I doubt

they will help us. In that case, indeed, the issue with Windows Street will remain unsolvable!"

Brittany was convinced that neither Joshua nor Nicholas would assist TMO with Windows Street. The

problem there was too significant—even if they wanted to help, it would come at a considerable cost.

"If you say another word, will you be happy to move back into that dormitory with rats and cockroaches

scurrying around?" Jessica threatened Brittany with a stern face before turning to Daniel. "Daniel, you performed well today. Windows Street doesn't concern you; I'll handle it. Don't seek help from Master Joshua and Smiley Nick; they cannot do much about it."

"It's just Windows Street. It's not like you're asking me to buy Wall Street. I don't need to ask for help. I can handle it myself!" Daniel retorted confidently.

"Heh!" Brittany let out a cold, mocking laugh. "You're quite the blowhard. Do you think you can just talk

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Chapter 49

Chapter 49 Underworld

“Do I not know? Then why don’t you tell me what’s the deal with Windows Street? How complicated could it possibly be that I can’t resolve it?” Daniel was not just boasting; he genuinely believed he had the capability to deal with the matter. A mere Windows Street couldn’t be that dangerous, and if the issue involved fighting, Daniel felt confident—after all, he wasn’t afraid to throw a punch.

“The issue with Windows Street is tied to the underworld,” Brittany disclosed.

“The underworld?”

“Yes, the underworld! Mafias, gangsters, and the like. You can’t solve these problems with your **mediocre** medical skills or just luck. Even if we wanted to settle the matter with money or seek government

intervention, we haven’t been able to sort it out. The underworld has its own unique set of rules, and we

can only address it with their methods. To put it bluntly, it means we might need to resort to force!”

Brittany gave Daniel a disdainful look. “With your malnourished body, looking as thin as a monkey, you probably can’t even take down a guard dog. If you can’t beat a dog, you’d better not set foot near Windows Street. If you go there, there’s no way you’ll make it out alive!”

“Force? I think I’m quite strong; I’ve even trained in free-fighting some time ago. How about you take me

to Windows Street to see what this underworld is like?”

“Don’t you dare go! Neither of you!” Jessica quickly interjected, preventing them from taking any **action**. Brittany and Daniel were the people she trusted most, and she would not allow anything to happen to

them.

“Why can’t we o

can’t we go? Just because there’s a mafia presence near Windows Street? Estella is the land of the

free, and we can call 911!”

*911? Sure you can! If that could solve the problem, why do you think we’ve left that plot of land idle for three years? Didn’t Brittany just tell you? Matters involving the underworld can only be resolved by their ways, and the police won’t intervene!”

“The underworld’s way, which I guess you mean is fighting, right? I mentioned earlier that I’ve trained in free–fighting for a few months, so you don’t have to worry about me.”

Daniel’s confidence made Brittany laugh.

“Heh,” she scoffed before asking, “Do you even know what trouble we’re dealing with at Windows Street?”

Free–fighting? Do you think this is WWE? If you go to Windows Street, you won’t even enter the Black

Panther Club before they throw you out!”

“Black Panther Club? What’s that?”

“The owner of the Black Panther Club is Justin Mills, one of the top ten experts in the Delvin Hub Martial Club United. Black Panther Club is not only one of the earliest clubs to join, but it’s also one of the largest out of the eight major clubs in Delvin Hub, Every member there is a professional fighter!

After TMO acquired the land on Windows Street, we paid Justin the agreed compensation. According to

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the agreement, Black Panther Club was supposed to relocate Immediately. However, Justin **took** the **money** and refused to move. He demanded another ten billion in compensation if we wanted him to leave. Justin’s connections in Delvin Hub Martial Club United **and** the underworld mean he isn’t **afraid of** us. Even if we paid him ten billion, he’d still ask for more.”

“Delvin Hub Martial Club United?”

“You, a loser, probably have no clue about Delvin Hub Martial Club United, right? It is an alliance of all the martial clubs in Delvin Hub. If one club is in trouble, the rest will send reinforcements. Rumor has it that these so–called ‘clubs’ are operated by gang members. And it’s precisely because of these connections that Justin can act with impunity. Anyone who dares cross Justin is effectively challenging the entire Delvin Hub Martial Club United!”

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Chapter 50 Killing Two Birds with One Stone

After hearing Brittany's explanation, Daniel laughed. "I thought this Justin was formidable? So he's just connected to the Delvin Hub Martial Club United? This is simple; I'll handle it."

"Heh," Brittany let out a cold laugh, full of sarcasm. "Simple? You'll handle it? Do you have any idea how powerful Delvin Hub Martial Club United is? Do you know what it represents?"

"I don't know!"

"You don't know? Well, let me tell you now. Delvin Hub Martial Club United **consists** of thousands of martial clubs with memberships numbering in the hundreds of thousands. Anyone who provokes them is signing their own death warrant."

Jessica's face darkened, and she warned Brittany, "You are not to take Daniel to Windows Street, and you're definitely not to take him to the Black Panther Club. In short, both of you are to stay out of the Windows Street affair!"

Elsewhere, Andrew walked into the office of Healthy Land.

"Mr. Anthony, have you received any news from Master Joshua's side?"

"Andrew, don't rush me. I have made inquiries. At first, I thought it was just a few days before he would forget about that loser Daniel. However, from what I've heard, that guy holds a high position in our master's heart. It seems somewhat difficult for us to make him forget. We need a plan."

"A plan? You say that so easily, Anthony. ArmCorp has invested a full one hundred billion for the strategic partnership with Healthy Land. We've put all that money in, but the collaboration project is still with TMO. If this continues, ArmCorp is on the verge of bankruptcy."

“Come on, Andrew, there’s no need to tell me this. We’re in the same boat; I won’t deceive you. That one hundred billion you’re talking about is just talk. Even if you were to truly invest, it would only be after the strategic agreement is signed and actual investment begins.”

“Anthony, cut to the chase. Is there still a possibility for ArmCorp to collaborate with Healthy Land? If not, I’ll immediately look for other partnerships.”

“Don’t worry, Andrew. I’ve come up with a plan, a plan that kills two birds with one stone.”

“Two birds with one stone?” Eager anticipation washed over Andrew’s face as he urged, “Quickly tell me what your plan is!”

“According to my sources, TMO bought a piece of land **three** years ago, known as Windows Street. After purchasing it, they’ve done nothing with it. Not because they don’t want to but because there’s someone at Windows Street that The Matthews family can’t handle.”

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“Yes, I’ve heard about this! There’s a Black Panther Club at Windows Street. The club’s owner, Justin, is one of the top ten underworld figures in Delvin Hub. TMO already paid the compensation to Justin as per their agreement. Black Panther Club should have vacated immediately, but Justin wants ten more billion

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from TMO, so the club stayed put. As long as Black Panther Club doesn’t move, TMO can’t start construction. That’s how the land TMO spent fifty billion on ended up hanging dry and high.”

Andrew suddenly realized something. “Anthony, does your ‘two birds with one stone’ plan involve Justin?”

“You’re correct, and he is key to the plan!”

“Key?”

“Yes, he’s the key! We need to get Justin to kill Daniel!”

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