

## The Enigmatic Return (Neera and Jean)

### Chapter 1251

"It's great that you feel this way," Adriana said with relief. "Seeing how close you two were, I always thought it was a shame. Now that you've reconciled, I can finally relax."

No sooner had she finished speaking than the triplets walking ahead suddenly turned around. Their eyes sparkled like stars, and their faces were filled with smiles brighter than sunshine.

"We can finally breathe easy! Mommy, you and Daddy have made up at last. From now on, we'll be a complete family!"

Watching their excited behavior, Neera couldn't help but laugh, finding it incredibly heartwarming.

For the next two days, Neera chose to stay at home to recover. It was a good opportunity to spend time with her aunt and the children by taking walks in the surroundings.

The triplets were overjoyed that their father had been forgiven. While Neera was taking a bath, they took the opportunity to call Jean.

"Daddy, Daddy! Great news! We heard that Mommy has forgiven you! You two can be together again! Are you happy to hear that?"

Listening to their voices chirping like larks, Jean couldn't help but chuckle.

"What do you mean, getting back together? Your mommy and I have never been apart. We just had a little disagreement, that's all."

He corrected them first, then said, "You're a step behind with the news. I already knew."

"Huh?" The triplets were surprised. "Did Mommy tell you?"

Jean responded with a hum, his tone carrying a hint of pride.

Sammy pursed his lips, letting out a sigh.

"Daddy, you're so mischievous! How could you not tell us about such an important matter? We worry about you every day!"

Jean couldn't help but laugh, indulging them, "Alright, alright, it's my fault. How about I make it up to you later, okay?"

With a snort, Sammy deliberately kept Jean in suspense.

"We actually have some good news to share with you, but now, well..."

Jean raised an eyebrow. "What's the good news?"

With a lift of his chin, Sammy coolly said, "I'm not telling you!"

Jean chuckled before calling out to Harvey.

However, Harvey could only give him a helpless look.

In the end, it was Penny who sided with him, snatching the phone with her chubby little hands. Her small face was practically glued to the screen, her beautiful big eyes sparkling. Search the Find\_Novel.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Daddy, Daddy, since they won't tell you, I will. It's about Mr. Cox!"

Upon hearing her mention Avery, a flicker flashed across Jean's eyes. "Alright, Penny, tell me about it."

Penny said with a smile, "It's not a big deal, we overheard Mommy and Auntie chatting about personal matters. When Mr. Cox was mentioned, Mommy made it clear that she doesn't like him at all and that she has no feelings for him. She's just very grateful for his protection and care. She even said that she doesn't want to lose you!"

Upon hearing these words, Jean was initially taken aback. His eyes widened as he grinned from ear to ear. The joy he felt came from the bottom of his heart.

Even though he was well aware of Neera's feelings, hearing them at this moment still brought him immense satisfaction.

After a moment, the crux of the matter dawned upon him.

"Aren't you guys on the island? How could you hear those words?"

Penny chuckled playfully while her eyes glistened.

"We came with Auntie and Uncle to see Mommy!"

Taken aback, Jean sat up straight.

"Are you in Phison now?"

"Yes, this place is so beautiful. The manor is massive, just like a castle! The best part is, we get to be with Mommy. Daddy, aren't you jealous? Ah, if only you could be here too, then our family would be reunited..."

A flicker of emotion ignited within Jean's heart. The thought of the children by Neera's side made him somewhat restless.

After hanging up the phone, he looked at the mountain of files in front of him and immediately called Tiago.

"Come to the study right away. Hurry up.'

Tiago thought something serious had happened. He drove at breakneck speed, burning rubber along the way. Upon arriving, he dashed into the study room in a flash.

"What's happened?" He panted, plopping down across the desk, and ran his fingers through his wind-tousled hair.

With an expressionless face, Jean pushed a stack of documents in front of him.

"Get it done within the day."

Tiago was rendered speechless.

He glanced at the documents, then at Jean before taking two deep breaths.

"You called me here just to deal with office work?"

Jean replied indifferently, "As the deputy lord, this is part of your duty."

Tiago was on the verge of losing his temper as he irritably ran his fingers through his hair.

"I'm not trying to complain, but you've kept me here for so long despite my playful nature. I've been eagerly waiting for your return, and now you won't even let me rest? This is inhumane! I object to it!"

Jean was going through some documents as he casually replied, "The latest Lotus supercar, a limited edition commemorative model where there's only one in the world, is already on its way here by ship.'

Whoosh!

Tiago nudged his chair forward. Without uttering another word, he dived straight into work.

After reviewing two reports, he glanced at the person across from him.

"You seem to be in a hurry. Is something going on? Do you need to leave?"

Jean elegantly signed his own name, flashing a light smile.

"I'm going to see my wife."

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## Chapter 1252

Despite Neera's indifference to the outside world, the gossip and rumors never ceased.

As the inauguration ceremony for the elders of the Bartitsu Guild approached, various speculations emerged.

"The head of the Gordon family has struck gold by obtaining the ninth elder's seat. This is something that was unimaginable in the past."

"However, it doesn't guarantee a smooth ascension to that position. It's too early to tell what might happen."

"Many families in the Bartitsu Guild are currently dissatisfied. Even the elders are unhappy with the head of the Gordon family."

"This decision was made by the president himself. Do they really dare to challenge him?"

"It's hard to say. If the opposition is strong enough, the guild's higher-ups would have to consider public opinion. They can't afford to offend the other elders just because of the Gordon family."

"Exactly, even though the Gordon family has gained some prestige this time, they are still far behind the experienced elders. Just wait and see, there will be drama..."

After finishing his work and removing his disguise, Jean finally appeared at the Gordon family's headquarters one evening.

At that moment, Neera was in the kitchen making pastries with the triplets, causing chaos.

When the servant came in to report Jean's arrival, Neera thought she was hearing things.

"You said... who has arrived?"

The servant repeated, "There's a man outside. He says his name is Jean, and he's here to see you."

Neera's eyes widened in disbelief.

Before her mind could process the information, her body had already reacted by swiftly walking outside.

The triplets were also filled with excitement, their faces flushed red. They clapped their hands and hurriedly ran out with their short little legs.

Soon, all four of them saw the man standing outside the door.

There stood a tall figure with a handsome face, exquisite features, and deep-set eyes.

"It's him. It's really him."

In an instant, Neera's anticipation turned into joy. Overwhelmed with emotions, she couldn't find the words to express herself.

Tears welled up silently in her eyes, shimmering in the light.

They hadn't seen each other in such a long time, it felt like an eternity.

Caught up in a whirlwind of emotions, standing there in awe, the triplets were the first to react. They ran towards the man, laughing heartily.

"Daddy, you're here! You've come to join us, haven't you?"

"We missed you so much!"

"I'm so happy! Our family is finally reunited!"

Thrilled to the point of ecstasy, the triplets clung to him, hopping and bouncing around as if they were on cloud nine.

With his children hugging him tightly, Jean felt his long-empty heart finally fill.

He scooped Penny up in his arms and affectionately ruffled Harvey and Sammy's hair.

"I missed all of you too."

The triplets cried out with even greater joy. Like a bunch of puppies, they ran around Jean excitedly.

After greeting the children, he put Penny down and walked towards Neera. With a gentle voice, he said, "I've come to see you."

Those few simple words inexplicably made Neera want to cry.

She took a deep breath and managed to respond with a trembling voice.

Jean raised an eyebrow, teasing her on purpose. "Are you being so cold to me because you think I arrived too late?"

Neera shook her head. "I'm glad you're here. It makes me really happy."

Then she asked, "How did you manage to enter Phison?"

Jean gave a slight smile. "I have my ways. If I said I would come to see you, I will definitely come."

He looked at her from head to toe with a smile as refreshing as a spring breeze.

"But what on earth are you guys doing? How did you end up like this?"

Neera was taken aback for a moment. Looking down, she realized she was still wearing an apron, covered in flour from head to toe. Even her hair had some on it. She figured her face must have some on it too.

Immediately, her face turned beet red out of embarrassment.

The children were in an even bigger mess, but they didn't mind as they cheerfully waved their flour-covered hands.

"We're making pastries with Mommy!"

Jean raised an eyebrow. "You've made such a mess just from making pastries? Aren't you good at cooking? Desserts should be a piece of cake for you."

Neera ruefully said, "It's all Sammy's fault. He suddenly felt playful and started messing around with the flour."

Sammy immediately pretended to be innocent. "It's not just me who played with it. Penny and Harvey were clearly playing too!"

Penny chuckled softly as she grabbed Jean's sleeve and nuzzled against it.

Even the usually calm and composed Harvey couldn't help but loosen up. He opened his little hands and asked Jean, "Since you're here, Daddy, do you want to play with us? It might be childish, but it's quite fun."

Sammy also chimed in, "Yes, yes, Daddy, come make pastries with us! You've already gotten flour on your clothes, so let's do it as a family!"

After being hugged and pawed at by them, Jean's black suit had quite a few white patches, making him look somewhat comical.

Amused by them, he glanced down at himself and immediately lost his composure, bursting into rare, hearty laughter.

The laughter attracted Adriana and Chad, while Shane also came out.

Upon seeing him, all three of them were taken aback.

"Jean, how did you get here?"

Jean straightened himself and greeted with a smile, "Aunt Adriana, Uncle Chad, I rushed over as soon as I finished my work."

Adriana nodded, her gaze shifting between him and Neera a couple of times before she covered her mouth and started to laugh.

"It's wonderful to see you two like this. It's important for a couple to have open and honest conversations, leaving no room for resentment. From now on, we will only have happy days."

Neera blushed, her eyelashes slightly lowered.

In the next moment, a warm, large hand held hers, gently squeezing it before gripping it tightly.

She paused for a moment, and when she looked up, she saw Jean's excited face, as if he had fulfilled an extraordinary wish.

"Indeed, Aunt Adriana, my initial start with Neera was not pleasant. Regardless of my reasons back then, I can't deny that I hurt Neera. I am grateful that she gave me a chance to start over. From now on, I will cherish her and make it up to her for the rest of my life." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

His words were solemn, as if they were a vow.

Adriana had no more worries. She smiled and said, "Yes, I trust you."

Beside him, Chad patted Jean's shoulder.

"Since she is Adriana's favorite, she naturally becomes mine as well. What's done is done and cannot be undone. But we can make up for it for the rest of our lives. I hope you remember what you've said today."

Jean nodded, "I will."

Chad laughed. "Alright, since you've come all this way, don't just stand outside. Come in quickly and let's have a joyful family reunion!"

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## Chapter 1253

The dinner was exceptionally lively.

The triplets, finally able to openly call him 'Daddy' without the need for secrecy, were beyond excited.

Adriana looked amused. "Why is it that you guys are the happiest when it's them who made up?"

Sammy's cheeks were puffed out like a little hamster.

"Of course. Keeping secrets can be quite burdensome. Wanting to get closer, yet not daring to express too much, is really difficult to bear."

Penny chuckled while eating. "Hehe, everything's fine now. Our family will never be separated again!"

The triplets' joyous response caused the whole family to burst into hearty laughter.

Jean and Neera exchanged glances, unable to suppress the smiles on their faces.

Shane, who also laughed, raised his glass to Jean.

"Jean, we meet for the first time. Your reputation precedes you."

Jean raised his eyebrows, glancing at Neera.

The latter gently smiled, her lips slightly pursed as she softly said, "Only a little bit."

Once he got her approval, Jean poured himself a drink and clinked glasses with Shane.



"Shane, you're being too formal. There's no need for such formalities among family."

Shane laughed heartily. "I never imagined that one day, the renowned CEO of Beauvort Group, would be part of my family. It seems my life is now complete, all thanks to my dear sister, Neera."

He tilted his head back, downing his drink in one gulp, then started to playfully tease Jean.

"I never expected that you're under the thumb of your wife. It seems like she has you wrapped around her little finger."

Neera felt a bit embarrassed. "That's not true. Why are you making me sound like a controlling wife..."

The triplets chimed in, joining in the fun.

"Not at all, where could you find such a beautiful wife?"

"Mommy is very gentle!"

"But Daddy really does listen to Mommy a lot!"

Jean chuckled lightly, echoing, "Indeed, I am quite obedient. If she says east, I dare not go west. At home, she's the boss. Everything is up to her."

Everyone burst into laughter.

Neera didn't know how to respond.

She gave him a shy, reproachful glance, then piled his plate high with a generous serving of food.

"Go ahead and eat. You should eat more and talk less!"

Jean's chest heaved with suppressed laughter as he hummed in agreement. "Your wish is my command."

Neera was rendered speechless again.

The meal continued in a boisterous manner.

Afterward, the rest of the group was very tactful and did not disturb Jean and Neera, lovers who were reunited after a long separation.

The two of them, hand in hand, took a leisurely stroll in the courtyard.

During this time, the conversation was dominated by Neera, who shared the recent events in detail. Jean simply listened quietly.

"Actually, some things are so dangerous that I dare not tell you for fear that you'll worry. For instance, the election of the district president. The guy, Darcel, that I mentioned to you, he was the one protecting me at Mount Cloud, and also..."

She spoke eagerly, wanting to share.

After hearing everything, Jean's eyebrows lifted slightly with a thoughtful expression.

"Why were you unwilling to tell me the truth before, but now you're spilling everything? Aren't you afraid I'll get angry?"

Neera stuck out her tongue. "Before, I didn't want you to worry or be anxious. But now, it's different, isn't it? You're by my side. Even if you get angry, I can pacify you until you're happy again."

Jean chuckled. "Am I that easy to pacify?"

"Of course." Neera nodded. "After all, I'm the boss. You have to listen to me. I've got you wrapped around my finger."

Hearing her say those words, Jean couldn't help but laugh. Holding her hand, they began to walk back.

"I heard from the kids that you got hurt. Let me take a look when we're back."

Neera's face turned red as she mumbled softly, "It's not that serious. It's already healing."

"Even so, I would still like to see it." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Okay."

Tsk, after saying that he would listen to me no matter what, he's still so domineering.

Upon reaching upstairs, Neera took a bath first.

Jean proceeded to the guest room.

By the time Neera came out and was drying her hair, Jean was already sitting on the edge of the bed in his bathrobe, waiting for her.

The scene inexplicably felt a little sensual.

Neera grumbled, "Why did you come out dressed like this?"

Jean chuckled. "My room is just next door. Why dress so formally? Besides, we're engaged and even have a child. No one would think anything of it."

That being said, Neera still blushed.

"Stop letting your imagination run wild. Come here." Jean beckoned her.

When Neera saw that he was calling out to her as if she was a pet, she muttered, "I'm not a puppy."

Nevertheless, she still went over.

Jean pulled her down to sit, and without uttering another word, he began to undress her.

Neera instinctively dodged. "What are you doing..."

Jean's eyes were deep and stern. "Checking the wound."

"I'll do it myself."

Neera was instantly overwhelmed with embarrassment and hurriedly stopped him. She then partially removed her clothes to reveal her injured shoulder.

Upon seeing the scabbed-over wound, Jean's pupils contracted slightly. It felt as if his heart was being tightly gripped by an unseen hand, causing a raw, piercing pain.

Before, when they were at Mount Cloud, he was extremely worried. He wanted to see her and apply medicine to her.

Only he knew how difficult it was to endure the feeling of not being able to do so at that time.

Fortunately, he can finally do everything within his power for her now.

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## **Chapter 1254**

"Does it hurt?" He gently applied the medicine to her, being cautious with every move, afraid of causing her pain.

Neera shook her head, "No, it doesn't. It's much better now. You don't have to be so careful."

With a slight lift of his ink-black eyes, Jean responded without hesitation, "But it pains me to see you like this. Always telling me you're not hurt, you little liar."

Neera acknowledged her mistake and chose to remain silent.

Her obedient demeanor only made Jean treasure her even more.

After dressing the wound, he could no longer restrain himself and leaned in to kiss her.

His uniquely masculine scent suddenly enveloped her, filling her senses.

She paused, her eyes wide and round, staring at the handsome face just inches away from her. A blush rose on her cheeks.

He lowered his eyes to look at her, gently sucking on her lips while murmuring softly, "I've wanted to kiss you for so long that it's driving me crazy."

He gently parted her lips, his tongue boldly exploring, passionately claiming every inch of her.

Neera blinked, then closed her eyes, her hands wrapped around his neck, surrendering to his desires.

He's not the only one who feels this way. I feel the same. Day and night, thoughts of this man consume me to the point of madness. Now, we are finally free from the constraints of time and space, able to snuggle closely together. There's nothing happier than this present moment.

The two of them held each other tightly, passionately kissing.

The temperature in the room continued to rise, a sensual atmosphere filling the air, causing their hearts to race.

As emotions ran deep, Jean felt a stirring between his legs.

Not wanting to hold back any longer, he dominantly pinned her beneath him. Pulling away from her lips, he propped himself above her, his gaze burning into her eyes.

"May I?" he asked, his voice hoarse and filled with desire.

Neera gazed into his eyes, where unmasked impulses intertwined with burning emotions and desires, causing her cheeks to flush.

Suddenly, she was flooded with panic about what was about to happen. Her slender fingers clenched tightly onto his clothes.

"Jean..."

"Hmm?" He lowered his head slightly, his hair falling over his brows, yet his eyes shone even brighter.

"I..." Neera bit her lip lightly, unsure of what to do.

Jean smiled slightly, his smile captivating. He gently held her hand, their fingers interlaced. He then placed their entwined hands on the pillow.

"Don't be nervous. Since you've already forgiven me, you're mine from now on, both your heart and your body. Will you give yourself to me?"

As he spoke, he narrowed his eyes, teasing her intentionally.

"Moreover, you've caused quite a stir in Phison recently. Regarding the matter with Avery, don't you think you should make it up to me?"

Whenever Avery's name was mentioned, Neera would feel a twinge of guilt.

However, the reason she nodded had nothing to do with the incident involving Avery.

Giving herself entirely to the man before her was something she had never thought of resisting.

Now, everything had fallen into place. The trauma from before had disappeared because of him, leaving no reservations.

She nodded, her shyness mingling with radiant charm. He was elated, his joy unrestrained and domineering.

However, out of tenderness for her, he tried his best to restrain himself, not daring to push too far, doing his utmost to avoid her wounds.

Even so, his overbearing nature left Neera utterly exhausted.

In the end, she unknowingly drifted off to sleep in his arms.

Jean carried her to the bathroom, cleaned her up, changed the bed sheets, and tidied everything before lying down with her in his arms.

Bathed in moonlight, he gazed at the little woman he cherished deeply in his arms. His smile was one of pure satisfaction. He gently placed a kiss on her forehead, devoid of any lust, and then fell asleep cuddling together.

The next day, thanks to his excellent biological clock, Jean woke up very early.

The little woman in his arms was still sound asleep.

He gazed at her for a while, gently pecked her lips, and then quietly got out of bed. He tucked the covers around her neatly before heading into the bathroom. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After freshening up, he went downstairs to find Chad already in the living room, enjoying his coffee.

"Up so early? Don't you want to sleep in a bit longer?" He greeted Jean when he saw him.

Jean shook his head, "No, Neera advised me to get some exercise. I'll go for a run around the courtyard."

Chad smiled faintly. "You really do listen to her."

Every time Neera was mentioned, the look in Jean's eyes softened.

"No choice. A wife's command is not to be defied. Isn't it the same for you, Chad?"

"Me?" Chad thought of Adriana and couldn't help but laugh.

After exchanging a few words, Jean left the mansion.

Before starting his jog, he saw Avery walking towards him, with Little Lolita trailing behind him.

Immediately, his gaze turned cold. He halted his steps, his expression frosty.

Avery didn't expect to see him there, his expression somewhat surprised. He furrowed his brows and asked, "Why are you here?"

An undercurrent of jealousy sparked when they met. The moment these two encountered each other, the atmosphere inexplicably became tense.

It seemed the tension affected the birds perched in the trees, as they fell silent.

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## Chapter 1255

Compared to Avery's astonishment, Jean remained much calmer, his face expressionless as he said, "Since Neera is here, naturally, I have to come and keep her company."

Avery's lips curled into a half-smile, carrying a hint of mockery.

"Neera has been here for a while. Yet, you come here now and say such things. Don't you think it's a bit too late?"

Jean was unfazed. "As long as our hearts are together, it doesn't matter whether I come early or late. What's important is that I'm here and she wants me to be here."

Avery was clearly annoyed.

"You certainly are bursting with confidence, but your timing is off. I suppose Neera has told you about the recent events. This is Phison. No matter how powerful you are outside, you're nothing here. Your status alone can't protect Neera, so you should have some self-awareness."

Jean not only didn't get angry, but instead, he laughed.

"Perhaps you're right. You have the right to be arrogant as the third elder of the Bartitsu Guild. However, even you, with your high status, couldn't protect Neera, could you, Mr. Cox? From what I understand, during the trip to Mount Cloud, you didn't seem to be of much help. In the end, it was the Lordsworth Estate that protected Neera, wasn't it?"

As soon as those words were uttered, Avery's face darkened considerably.

"Does it matter? At least I can have someone around to protect her at all times, but what about you? What can you do? You probably can't even enter Phison without someone else's help, right?"

Jean raised an eyebrow. "What? Are you getting angry out of embarrassment, Mr. Cox? That won't do. You must maintain your dignity even if my words hit where it hurts. Losing your temper like this is unbecoming of a family head, let alone a guild elder."

Avery's brows furrowed tightly, his expression becoming even stonier.

Under normal circumstances, he wouldn't reveal his emotions.

However, he had encountered one setback after another on Neera's side, and Jean's sudden appearance at such a critical juncture evoked a profound sense of threat in him.

That was why he momentarily lost control of himself.

The atmosphere was stifling with tension.

It was Chad who, upon hearing a report from a housekeeper, came out and finally broke the taut atmosphere.

"Avery, you're here! Don't just stand there. Come in and have some coffee."

Avery shifted his gaze and greeted, "Good morning, Mr. Gordon. I'm here to see Neera."

Chad smiled. "She's probably still sleeping. Stay and have breakfast with us."

He turned to Jean after that. "Jean, are you still going for a run? If not, go and wake Neera up. Breakfast is ready."

Jean nodded slightly and entered the mansion first.

Avery watched his retreating figure, his gaze thoughtful.

The ambiance during breakfast was quite strange.

Neera couldn't help but feel a bit awkward upon seeing Avery, recalling how Jean had spoken about him the night before, full of jealousy.

"Mr. Cox, thank you for taking the trouble to visit me. I'm feeling much better now."

She cautiously stole a glance at Jean as she spoke.

Avery caught the subtle movement, but his face was devoid of expression. He responded calmly, "I didn't have much to do anyway, so I thought I'd come and visit you."

At that moment, Jean responded lukewarmly, "I heard that the Bartitsu Guild is about to hold a Council of Elders. I'm sure you have plenty to prepare as one of the elders, Mr. Cox. You don't need to make this trip and waste precious time if you're busy. We wouldn't want to inconvenience you."

Avery glanced at him. Not wanting to waste words, he simply said, "Mr. Beauvort, you worry too much. I know how to manage my time."

Jean smiled. "I hope that is the case." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera didn't know how to interject herself into the conversation, so she kept silent.



She feigned ignorance of the underlying tension in their conversation, focusing intently on eating her oatmeal instead.

Sitting next to them, Chad and Adriana exchanged glances. Both felt somewhat resigned.

Jean acted as if nothing was wrong and affectionately served Neera food. He peeled eggs for her and cared for her in every possible way.

Neera couldn't help but feel perplexed, knowing full well that he was deliberately provoking Avery.

This guy, despite being cold-hearted, becomes incredibly petty when it comes to matters of the heart, getting jealous over the slightest things. Well, it's unexpectedly cute.

"Oh dear, don't just focus on me. You should eat too. Your food has gone cold," she said, glancing at his bowl.

Jean raised an eyebrow. "Then serve me something warm."

Amused by his rare display of boyishness, she gently said, "All right."

The triplets watched with amusement, their hearts filled with joy. They secretly gave their father a big thumbs up.

Avery, on the other hand, was becoming increasingly displeased. He barely touched his food and hastily left.

After he returned, Violet couldn't help but complain, "Satan, how many times have you been rejected? It's about time you give up. Don't you think so? I can see that Ms. Garcia doesn't care about you at all. You've been fussing over her, attending to her every need, but look at the result. She doesn't appreciate your kindness at all and only focuses on that Beauvort!"

Not getting a response from Avery, she pouted, feeling bad for him. With a lollipop in her mouth, her persuasion came out in a mumble.

"Why not just let it go? Stop pursuing her. With your status, you can have any woman you want. Why obsess over her? Especially when she's a tree that won't blossom for you. Hmmph! I don't see the need."

Avery took out a bottle of wine from the liquor cabinet, poured himself a glass, and sat by the bar, silently nursing his drink. He didn't speak a word, lost in his own thoughts.

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## Chapter 1256

In the days that followed, Avery did not visit the Gordon residence again.

Neera was unsure if he had given up. She felt relieved, yet troubled at the same time. Even if we don't meet now, the Bartitsu Guild will still hold the Council of Elders. We'll have to meet then. Will it be awkward?

A week later, the Bartitsu Guild convened its scheduled Council of Elders as planned.

The meeting took place in a branch of the Bartitsu Guild, which was a quaint old mansion.

Since it was a meeting of the elders, unrelated individuals were not allowed to attend. Therefore, Neera went alone with Avery.

On the way, the atmosphere was unbearably awkward.

Avery was not like before, engaging in conversation. He sat in silence.

He chose not to speak, and Neera naturally didn't pry. She quietly gazed out the window, trying to make her presence less noticeable.

The eerie atmosphere persisted until they reached their destination.

After getting out of the car, Avery finally regained his composure. He walked around the back of the car to Neera's side and gently advised her, "Once we go in, try not to speak first. Adapt to the situation as it unfolds. Let them reveal their intentions first so we can figure out how to counter them."

Neera nodded. "I understand."

Avery looked at her fair and radiant profile, his gaze profound. He fell silent for a moment before saying, "Don't be afraid. I will protect you. Rest assured."

Neera was taken aback for a moment, instantly feeling tremendous pressure. Her scalp tingled.

She was grateful for Avery's kindness, yet she couldn't fully accept it.

Therefore, the more he behaved that way, the more burdened she felt.

However, she couldn't express it outright, as it might make her seem ungrateful. In the end, all she could do was nod slightly. "Thank you."

Soon, they walked in.

In the spacious hall, an impressive round conference table was placed in the center, accommodating ten seats perfectly.

The vice president, the representatives of the eight elders, and Neera filled all the seats.

After quickly scanning her surroundings, Neera turned her gaze toward Matthew, nodding in acknowledgment. "Mr. Lozano."

Matthew hummed in agreement, pointing to the seat opposite him. "Have a seat."

Neera glanced at Avery, who subtly nodded back at her. He then walked over to a spot near Matthew and sat on the third intricately carved wooden chair available.

Seeing that, Neera also chose to sit down.

From the moment she entered, all eyes were on her. As she took her seat, they scrutinized her carefully, their gazes analytical and filled with scrutiny.

Then, Matthew began to speak, initiating the meeting. "Mr. Grey has been extremely busy lately and couldn't find the time to attend this meeting in person. Therefore, I will be standing in for him, presiding over this meeting."

He got straight to the point. "The reason I've called all the elders here is quite straightforward. I would like to discuss the matter of the ninth elder's seat. Does anyone have any objections to the Gordon family taking over this position?"

In fact, the position of the ninth elder had already been promised publicly by the Bartitsu Guild.

The Gordon family had secured the position of district president, so they should have been granted a seat directly.

However, Matthew asked that question on purpose, intending to put the Gordon family in their place.

That was because he knew that aside from the Cox family, the other seven families would surely oppose.

Sure enough, as soon as he finished speaking, the seven elders, excluding Avery, quickly reacted, expressing their opposition one after another.

"I disagree! What's so special about the Gordon family? They're nothing but a third-rate force. Whether in Phison or within our own guild, they barely make a contribution, let

alone have any presence. Why should they be exceptionally promoted to the elder's seat? This is absurd!"

"Exactly. The Gordon family is far inferior to us. If we let her sit on an equal footing with us, wouldn't we, the elders, become a laughingstock?" Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"The elder's seats of the Bartitsu Guild have always been occupied by the strong or those who have made significant contributions and achievements to the guild. The Gordon family? Ha! They should just give up!"

At that moment, Avery let out a cold laugh and spoke in a low voice.

"The Gordon family has just ascended to the position of district president, securing the power of five other regions for the guild. How can you all choose to ignore such a significant contribution? The Gordon family was indeed low-key before, keeping to themselves and not vying for power or resources, so they didn't have much of a presence. But now it's different. If you say the Gordon family hasn't made any contributions to the Bartitsu Guild, that would be a blatant lie. The current Gordon family, with its greatly increased power, is fully capable of taking on the role of an elder. Moreover, this matter was decided long ago by Mr. Grey and Mr. Lozano. It was made public

before the district presidential election, and everyone in Phison knows about it. Now you want to stop it. Are you trying to make Mr. Grey and Mr. Lozano lose their credibility and integrity? And what about the reputation of the guild?"

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## Chapter 1257

People had long suspected Avery would speak up for the Gordon family and immediately stood up to refute him, "Even though the guild made this decision early on, we must be flexible. Is it worse to let an incompetent person hold a high position, tarnishing our guild's reputation, or is the impact of this greater than the cost of cutting our losses in time?"

"Exactly, Mr. Cox. Even though your Cox family holds a high status and we trust you, when it comes to the Gordon family, we simply don't trust them at all!"

"If Chad were still in power, perhaps I could show some courtesy to the Gordon family. But if it's this young woman, there's no need for that. I firmly oppose it!"

Avery's face was stern. "So, you are determined to target the Gordon family?"

At that moment, the head of the Atkinson family and the senior elder, Bernard, spoke up. "We're all here for a reasoned discussion, expressing our own views. There's no need to make the atmosphere so tense. Mr. Cox, we understand that due to your marriage alliance with the Gordon family, you tend to favor them. However, no matter what, we should prioritize the overall situation of Bartitsu Guild. Allowing such an obscure, third-rate family like the Gordon family to enter the elder seats is indeed inappropriate. On the other hand, your words also make sense. After all, the guild had previously released information, and changing our minds now would indeed damage our credibility. We should balance both aspects."

Avery glanced at him, asking indifferently, "So, according to you, how can we achieve this?"

Bernard glanced at Matthew, then at Neera, appearing to be deep in thought. Then, seemingly with some difficulty, he began to speak.

"The head of the Gordon family has just taken her position. She probably doesn't even have time to manage her own family affairs. How about this? Let's return the position of the district president to the guild and choose someone else to take on the role. Ms. Garcia, you're still young, so you know very little about the guild. It would be better for you to spend more time managing the Gordon family and smoothing out internal affairs. You don't need to worry about the guild's matters. As for the ninth elder's seat, Mr. Lozano can select the best from the various family forces under his command to fill in this role. The district president can also be served by a family head with more qualifications and strength. Initially, you publicly stated that you would only add one elder seat without giving a specific explanation. As for the recent rumors about the Gordon family head entering the elder seat, you can treat them as hearsay and publicly deny them. In this way, it will not damage the reputation of our guild, and it can also maintain the overall situation of our guild." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

As if recalling something, he turned his head back to Neera and added, "Ms. Garcia, everyone has witnessed your accomplishments in this election. Rest assured. The guild will not treat the Gordon family unfairly. We will provide benefits as compensation and support."

As soon as these words were spoken, they immediately received the agreement of everyone present.

"This is a great idea! I agree!"

"With this, the selection for the positions of the district president and ninth elder's seat can be based on merit and strength. This would greatly benefit the guild!"

"I also agree!"

Neera remained silent, her hands resting on her lap gradually clenched into fists. She sneered inwardly. What's this about a balance of two, offering compensation and support? Ha! How despicable!

Before she could even utter a word, Avery couldn't sit still any longer and started arguing, "You all are aware of the achievements the Gordon family made at the district presidential election, and now you're turning your backs on them? You all are respected figures in Phison, yet you're conspiring to carve up the fruits of someone else's labor. Aren't you afraid that this will get out, and people will scorn you, looking down on you?"

"You're absurd!" Someone lost their temper, tearing away the peaceful pretense to confront him.

"Avery, you're so biased toward the Gordon family, supporting this young woman to rise to power. You wouldn't be trying to gain some benefits, would you?"

Avery sneered, "Reaping benefits? How could I possibly compete with you seniors? If others saw your demeanor just now, they'd probably mistake you for a bunch of thieves and robbers!"

"What nonsense are you talking about!"

"Am I the one spouting nonsense, or are you all living in a fantasy world? In Mount Cloud, it was the Gordon family who fought tooth and nail! And you? You think a few light words can sweep everything under the rug. How wonderful that must be! Also, Mr. Lozano clearly announced that a new elder seat would be added for the one who becomes the district president. How did it become so vague when it reached your lips? Who are you trying to fool? Do you really think everyone else is a fool? If this matter gets out, I'm afraid your reputation will be completely ruined. It's disgraceful!"

Someone stood up angrily, their face flushed and their neck thickened from being berated. That person pointed at Avery for a long time, unable to utter a word.

The tension was palpable.

At that moment, Neera stood up.

Her face was calm, showing neither joy nor anger, making it hard for anyone to discern her emotions.

Everyone's gaze fell on her, each one filled with confusion, wondering what she was up to.

And she, after looking around, asked in a calm and cool voice, "If I were to hand over the position of the district president, who do you think would be suitable to take over, fellow elders?" With a single sentence, the scene instantly fell into silence.

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## Chapter 1258

Everyone exchanged glances, their gazes gradually becoming cautious and mysterious.

No one spoke, each lost in their own silence, calculating their next move.

Clearly, no one wanted to give such a great opportunity to others. Everyone wanted to benefit from it.

As expected, Neera had anticipated this outcome.

When she was the district president, those people naturally united to oppose her.

However, once the position of the district president was left vacant and the opportunity presented itself, those people would immediately split apart, each looking out for their own interests.

Neera smirked. "It seems that all the seniors here have reservations and are unwilling to speak. What about you, Mr. Lozano? Who do you think is suitable to be the district president?"

Matthew's brow furrowed slightly. He remained silent.

He couldn't take a stand. As a part of the guild's upper echelon, he had to maintain an image of fairness and impartiality.

Showing favoritism would give other families ammunition against him, leading to a collective attack. Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Doing so would destabilize the guild. The losses would outweigh the gains.

His silence fell within Neera's expectations.

A soft chuckle escaped her lips as she leisurely settled back into her seat. Leaning against the chair back, she exuded an air of arrogance and confidence, all while maintaining a relaxed composure. "It seems that even if I step down as the district

president, you esteemed seniors still can't decide on the most suitable candidate. So, why all this fuss? Apart from embarrassing yourselves, what can you gain?"

"What are you trying to say?" Bernard asked, his face stern and his voice cold.

Neera wiped the smile off her face, and as she lifted her gaze, a layer of frost suddenly surfaced in her eyes, revealing a chilling coldness. "Is throwing one's weight around the way of Bartitsu Guild? Is this what you, who pride yourselves as prestigious and reputable families, do? It's simply laughable! Although the Gordon family may not hold a high position in the guild and may not be as powerful as your families with long histories, we are not to be trifled with! Why are all the seniors causing such a commotion today? Do you think the Gordon family is extinct? Although I am the newly appointed head of the family, young and inexperienced, I will not allow others to trample on our Gordon family! If you want to be tyrannical, come at us with all your might and have the Gordon family completely expelled from the guild. I assure you, I won't utter another word then!"

Those words left everyone present dumbfounded.

No one expected that such a young girl would dare to openly challenge them!

Avery was no different. His amber eyes were intensely fixed on Neera, filled with shock and admiration, unable to look away.

At that very moment, Neera appeared calm on the surface, but inside, her heart was pounding.

She knew that with the Gordon family's current strength, they were not yet capable of showing off in front of these people.

However, that was the only thing she could do. Otherwise, the Gordon family would become a laughingstock!

After a brief silence, she didn't give those people a chance to speak and pressed on relentlessly.

"The Gordon family participated in the district presidential election, and all the elders also participated. But what was the outcome? The one who seized the white flag was me, and according to the rules, the one who should take the position as the district president should be me! Indeed, our Gordon family may not be as powerful as you, but my team and I have climbed to the top of the mountain through hardships and dangers to get the white flag! Yet, now you want to erase everything the Gordon family has done and even covet the position of the district president. Is this what they call being domineering in one's own territory? During the trip to Mount Cloud, you were all submissive. But here, you started to strike hard against our Gordon family. Isn't your behavior a bit unsightly?"



"You! You scoundrel!" Someone slammed the table and stood up angrily, their face flushed with anger. "Don't think that just because you've become the district president, you can do whatever you want. In Bartitsu Guild, it's not your place to call the shots!"

Neera sneered, "Our Gordon family may not have the final say, but neither do you. It's Mr. Grey and Mr. Lozano who do. So, this matter should be decided by Mr. Lozano. He initially said that today's meeting was to discuss the Gordon family's ascension to the elder's seat. Why are you elders suddenly bringing up the matter of the district president? Mr. Lozano announced early on that whoever secures the district president position can secure a seat among the elders. But now you want to dismiss this with a single stroke. Who exactly has the final say in this guild, you or Mr. Grey and Mr. Lozano? Could it be that for your own selfish desires, you're willing to let the guild lose its credibility and become a laughingstock in the entire Phison?"

Next, her gaze moved past the round table, landing directly on Matthew across from her. She gave him a meaningful smile. "Mr. Lazano, this matter concerns the reputation of Bartitsu Guild, as well as your credibility and that of Mr. Grey. Please, think it over carefully."

As her words fell, pin-drop silence filled the room once again.

Avery's gaze was pensive, looking at Neera and seemingly in deep thought.

Everyone else's faces were grim, looking as if they had swallowed flies, extremely unsightly.

Someone wanted to retort, but even after opening their mouth, they didn't know what to say.

As for Matthew, he sat with a deep and solemn expression, as steady as a rock, his face revealing a complex emotion that was hard to discern.

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## Chapter 1259

After a considerable amount of time, he finally clarified his position.

"Mr. Cox is correct, and the head of the Gordon family also makes a valid point. Revoking control of the five districts from the Gordon family goes against the rules. The election for the district leader was open and transparent, and the results are already out. We cannot take it back for any reason. If word gets out, it will have a negative impact on our guild. Therefore, I reject this proposal. I advise the elders not to bring up this matter again, in order to protect the reputation of our guild and the elders themselves."

"Mr. Lozano!" someone urgently called out, attempting to persuade him.

Matthew shot that person a glance and said, "I told you not to bring it up again. Does my word as the vice president mean nothing?"

The scene fell into complete silence.

Thus, this matter was unveiled and left in the past.

At this moment, Avery asked, "What about the seat of the ninth elder? Mr. Lozano, how do you decide on this matter?"

As soon as these words were spoken, everyone's gaze was fixed intensely on Matthew, waiting for him to deliver the final verdict.

Matthew fell silent momentarily, then said, "According to the original agreement of the guild, whoever becomes a district president can join the elders. Since the head of the Gordon family has become a district president, the ninth elder seat naturally belongs to her. Not only that, I have another announcement to make. Thanks to both the Gordon family and the Cox family, the Bartitsu Guild now has control over District Twenty-One to District Twenty-Five. Therefore, the guild has decided to establish the ninth elder seat for the Gordon family and rearrange the seating of the elders. The elder of the Cox family will be promoted to the second elder seat, while the Gordon family, due to their shorter tenure, will remain in the ninth seat as planned."

As soon as these words were spoken, the expressions of the seven people, except for Avery and Neera, changed drastically.

However, Matthew had already made up his mind on this matter. Even if they were unwilling in their hearts, they could no longer criticize anything.

Neera quietly breathed a sigh of relief.

Fortunately, her earlier words had an effect, and no one raised any objections.

This time, the Gordon family had successfully secured a seat without drawing too much attention. They humbly stayed at the very end of the table, not being overly presumptuous.

As for Avery, when he heard this result, his expression subtly changed.

After the meeting, the two returned to the car. Only then did Neera manage to shake off that feeling of unease.

On the way back, Neera found it a bit odd that Avery remained silent the entire time.

"Mr. Cox, are you... okay? Did I do something inappropriate during the meeting just now?"

Avery seemed lost in thought. Hearing those words, he came back to reality and shook his head. "No, you did great." He chuckled lightly. "This is the first time I've seen you so assertive. Quite impressive, I must say. You've really caught my eye."

"Mr. Cox, please stop teasing me," Neera said, a bit embarrassed. "My heart is still racing. I was just putting on a brave face."

She sighed. "Actually, I know that to these people, the Gordon family doesn't mean much. The fact that we could retain control of the district leadership and the position of the ninth elder today is merely because they respect the lord. They have chosen to back off for now. If the Gordon family hadn't relied on the lord this time, it's daunting to imagine the number of times we might have faced peril. They are probably still unsure about the relationship between the lord and the Gordon family, which is why they are somewhat apprehensive."

Although she wasn't very clear about the various open and covert struggles within the guild, when it came to the crux of the matter, she analyzed it thoroughly.

Avery was somewhat surprised, his eyes filled with admiration.

"Indeed, the guild won't compromise so easily. Don't be fooled by Mr. Lozano's silence. What those people are saying essentially reflects his thoughts. He's just using others to voice them. After all, he can't contradict himself. It's surprising how you managed to silence them with just a few words. Mr. Cox is also wary of the lord, which is why he hasn't stripped the Gordon family of their power. After all, Colin has publicly challenged him. If the lord were to find out that your position was taken away by the guild before you could even establish yourself, he might not let it go so easily. That's why the Gordon family's position was preserved."

Neera nodded. "Luckily, that's the case."

During the rest of the journey, neither of them spoke again.

Avery had been lost in thought.

In fact, there was something he didn't mention. His promotion to the position of second elder by the guild wasn't exactly good news for him and the Cox family.

Apart from the first elder, also known as the grand elder, the remaining elders would harbor strong dissatisfaction and hostility toward him.

It appeared that the Cox family was receiving special attention from the guild. However, this was essentially a double-edged sword, as it was also creating enemies for the Cox family.

Moreover, it was just a promotion to a higher position. For the guild, even if it was the first elder, if he lost his value, he could be disposed of at any time. [SEARCH THE WEBSITE](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

The car stopped at the entrance of the Gordon residence.

Neera expressed her gratitude, saying, "Mr. Cox, thank you for speaking up for the Gordon family today. We are deeply grateful."

"It's nothing. You head inside now," Avery replied.

Neera nodded, bidding him farewell.

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## Chapter 1260

Upon returning home, both Chad and Adriana were present. Jean was helping the three little ones practice their writing, and Shane happened to come downstairs.

When she entered, everyone turned to look at her.

"How did it go? Did the guild give you any trouble?" Shane was the first to ask.

Neera nodded and walked over to sit down. Finally able to relax, she let out a deep sigh of relief. "I knew the guild wouldn't let me join the Council of Elders so easily. What I didn't expect was that they would even covet the position of district president."

Chad furrowed his brow upon hearing that. "What do you mean? Are they trying to seize control of the district leadership?"

"Well, Mr. Lozano didn't say anything, but the elders were all riled up. They think the Gordon family doesn't deserve to be a district president, let alone join the Council of Elders. They don't want me to join them, and they want me to obediently hand over control as the district president. They even mentioned something about compensating the Gordon family. Their behavior was extremely unseemly and unheard of."

Shane scoffed, "As expected, this is what they're trying to do. They don't have the ability to seize the white flag themselves, but they sure know how to use the Gordon family as their scapegoat."

Adriana was deeply worried. "So what was the outcome? They didn't do anything to you, did they?"

Neera smiled reassuringly, comforting her. "Aunt Adriana, don't worry. I'm doing just fine. After all, I am the head of the Gordon family, not someone who can be easily bullied. Even if they don't respect the Gordon family, they still have to respect the lord. Although I don't know who exactly the lord is, I did save his life. They probably didn't push too hard because of this. Besides, the guild has to show Mr. Cox some respect too."

"Avery spoke up for you?" Jean asked, raising an eyebrow.

Neera glanced at him sideways, stuck out her tongue, and quickly corrected herself. "He spoke for the Gordon family. In any case, the position of district president wasn't taken away, and we successfully joined the Council of Elders. I guess I've completed my task satisfactorily, right?"

Shane nodded. "In that case, the people on Granduncle Baxter's side should have no more objections."

Chad asked, "What is your position in the Council of Elders?"

"Ninth," Neera answered. "By the way, Mr. Cox has been promoted to the position of second elder."

Chad fell into deep thought.

"They are still somewhat sensible, wary of the power from Lordsworth Estate. They dared not bully you blatantly." Jean was the first to speak, deciphering the intentions of the guild.

Chad nodded in agreement. "After this district president election conference, many issues within the Bartitsu Guild have been exposed. At present, the balance of power has tilted too much toward the lord. Given the current situation of the Bartitsu Guild, they wouldn't dare to provoke the lord. However, the Cox family..."

Neera saw him deep in thought and asked curiously, "What about the Cox family?" [SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

"The guild suddenly promoted the Cox family. I wonder what their intention is."

Neera was puzzled. "The Cox family's status in the Bartitsu Guild has risen again. Isn't that a good thing?"

Chad shook his head. "Some matters are not as simple as they appear on the surface. Ostensibly, the guild is promoting the Cox family, but in reality, it's placing the Cox family in a perilous situation."

"You're right," Shane said, his expression slightly serious. "For a long time, there has been no change in the elder seats of the Bartitsu Guild. Everyone has been maintaining a superficial balance. But now, the Cox family has broken this balance. With Avery's rise in status, it means that the positions of the other six elders will decline. Those elders, who have long been accustomed to being high above, won't be able to accept such a change. Naturally, they will harbor resentment toward the Cox family."

Neera immediately understood.

"What is the purpose of the guild?" She didn't understand. "Are they creating enemies for the Cox family just because they favor the Gordon family?"

Chad was also confused. "I don't think it's because they favor the Gordon family. There might be other hidden reasons. But no matter what, Avery should be able to handle it, so there's no need to worry too much. If there comes a time when the Gordon family needs to help, we certainly won't shy away from our responsibility."

Neera felt the same way. "Mr. Cox has helped the Gordon family a lot in the past, and I have always been grateful for it. I've been thinking that if there comes a day when I can repay him, if there is really a need for the Gordon family's help, I will definitely do my best to assist. It would be a way to repay a fraction of his kindness."

The three little ones listened with only a vague understanding, but they still nodded their tiny heads, making gibbering noises.

Looking back, Neera suddenly burst into laughter.

These three little ones were so engrossed in listening that they didn't even notice the ink smeared on their faces.

"You all are turning into little dirty kittens. Go wash up quickly."

As soon as she said this, everyone turned to look at the children, immediately bursting into laughter. It was quite a lively scene.

Neera looked at her family happily with a smile in her eyes, feeling an immense sense of satisfaction in her heart.

No matter what happened next, as long as their family could continue to be this happy together, she wouldn't be afraid of anything anymore.

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## Chapter 1261

The matter of the ninth elder seat had been resolved, and news of it quickly spread throughout Phison.

This, in turn, ignited another wave of intense debate.

"The guild actually allowed the head of the Gordon family to take the ninth elder seat. I never thought those elders would agree. It seems the Gordon family has truly struck gold this time, gaining control of five districts and even joining the ranks of the elders."

"Well, this is a perfect example of rising to greatness. It's quite a turnaround for the underdog!"

"I'm curious about how those families who once looked down on the Gordon family are feeling now. I bet they're envious, jealous, and resentful."

"Exactly. Those who had previously crossed paths with the Gordon family on Mount Cloud must be regretting it so much."

"You know, the young head of the Gordon family really has some skills. Ever since she took over, the Gordon family's status has been steadily rising..."

Endless debates ensued, not only about the Gordon family but also about Neera, becoming a topic of conversation in Phison, discussed over cups of tea and meals.

Neera had heard about this and didn't mind.

What frustrated her even more was that, due to the rising status of the Gordon family, many powerful families had come to curry favor with them, bringing valuable gifts to their doorstep.

As the head of the Gordon family, Neera had to personally attend to the guests. She was so busy every day that she felt dizzy from all the running around, and her cheeks were stiff from the forced smiles.

The three little ones would occasionally hide at the corner of the stairs, sneakily peering down below, covering their mouths as they giggled.

"Mommy is a celebrity now, with so many people coming to compliment and flatter her. No one dares to underestimate her anymore!"

"Hehe, our mommy is the most, most, most formidable woman. Let's see who dares to underestimate her in the future!"

Seeing the proud expressions on his younger siblings' faces, Harvey patted their heads calmly.

"Don't be too arrogant. One should be humble in life."

Despite his words, his serious demeanor barely masked a trace of pride and self-satisfaction.

"What are you three doing hiding here?"

At that moment, Jean called out to them from the top of the stairs.

The three little ones jumped in surprise, simultaneously turning around and hurriedly gesturing for him to be quiet.

"Shh!"

Jean chuckled lightly, walking down toward the living room. With just one glance, he saw Neera sitting upright. Her face was adorned with a standard, courteous smile reserved for guests. She was quietly listening to the flattering words of the two visitors opposite her, responding politely from time to time. [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

Jean smiled, his eyes brimming with adoration and tenderness.

This little lady is becoming increasingly skilled at handling family matters.

"Daddy, Mommy is very impressive, right?"

The three little ones watched from the side, giggling.

Jean raised an eyebrow. "My woman is, of course, impressive. But what are you all doing here? You shouldn't disturb Mommy when she's busy."

The three little ones nodded in unison. "Yeah, we know. We're just bored. We thought that with you here, our family could enjoy some quality time together. But we didn't expect Mommy to be so busy..."

There was a gentle look in Jean's eyes when he said, "Mommy is working very hard. You need to understand her and not cause any trouble. If you're feeling bored, that's an easy fix. Let's head to the study. I'll join you in practicing writing."

When they heard that they had to practice writing again, their faces immediately fell.



"Practicing writing again? Lately, all we do is either practice writing or read books. We never get to relax. It's so boring..."

Jean couldn't help but laugh. "You three used to be so calm. How come you've become so restless now? It seems like going abroad has made you all a bit wild, hasn't it?"

Sammy and Penny played with their little fingers, giggling shyly. They looked playful and adorable.

"A little, Daddy. Why don't you join us in playing video games? Uncle Shane has specially prepared video games for us!"

Jean lightly tapped Sammy's little head. "All you ever think about is playing."

With a righteous tone, Sammy said, "We are just kids. It's natural for us to love playing."

Decisively, Penny used her ultimate weapon. She started whining while holding Jean's hand.

"Let's go, Daddy. Let's play together. I can never beat Harvey and Sammy. Will you help me, Daddy?"

Jean had always been at the triplets' mercy.

With a helpless smile, he picked up Penny in his arms.

"You guys really leave me no choice. Let's go. Daddy will accompany you."

As for the troublesome official duties mentioned by Tiago that had him scratching his head in frustration, he decided to let him worry about them himself.

Downstairs, Neera was engaged in a lively conversation with the person across from her, yet she couldn't help but keep an ear out for any sounds coming from upstairs.

It seems that those three little ones can't sit still. They're quite bored. But I just don't have the time to accompany them right now...

"Ms. Garcia?" The person across from her noticed her daydreaming and called out to her a couple of times.

Neera quickly regained her composure. Feeling somewhat embarrassed, she hastily apologized.

The other party waved their hand with a smile. "No worries, no worries. It's us who have been a bother. Speaking of which, we've disturbed you for quite a while now. It's about time we take our leave."

Neera was delighted inside but didn't show it on her face. She got up to see off her guest.

Just as she was about to breathe a sigh of relief, the doorbell rang again.

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## Chapter 1262

"Ms. Garcia, the Logans wish to see you."

Neera was taken aback. "Who?"

The servant repeated, "The Logans."

Neera was somewhat puzzled. "Why would the Logans come...?"

She vividly recalled the events on Mount Cloud, where the Logan and Jennings families had shamefully conspired and targeted the Gordon family at every turn.

Howard is so arrogant and overbearing. Compared to Stella, he's just as bad, if not worse. What's the sudden reason for their visit? Are they here to apologize?

She turned her head and asked, "Shane, shall we meet them?"

Shane was clearly surprised, but he remained composed.

"Guests are always welcome. Since they've taken the trouble to come to us, it would be impolite and unwelcoming of the Gordon family to turn them away. We should graciously invite them in to see what they're really up to. Besides, this is the Gordon residence. If they think they can run wild here, they're simply daydreaming."

Neera felt the same way. She composed herself and instructed the servant to invite the guests in.

Soon, the Logans walked in.

There was only one visitor, but it wasn't Howard. Instead, it was someone Neera had never met before.

This person appeared to be much older, probably in their forties.

He wore a smile, projecting an image of kindness and benevolence. Yet, who could guess the cunning scheme he might be concocting within?

Neera and Shane exchanged a glance and immediately understood what was going on.

Howard didn't want to come willingly. That was why he had sent someone to just go through the motions.

It seemed that the elders of the Logan family were assessing the situation, hoping to improve their relationship with the Gordon family.

Just as they had anticipated, the middle-aged man greeted them with a broad smile and a humble demeanor, "Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gordon, I am Stefan Logan, the third elder of the Logan family. I have come here to apologize." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera treated the Logan family differently, not like the previous families she dealt with. Instead, she adopted a slightly more dignified demeanor.

She looked at Stefan with an expressionless face. After a few seconds, she said in an apathetic tone, "Apologize? It seems there's no connection between the Logan family and the Gordon family. Where is this talk of an apology coming from?"

The middle-aged man immediately explained in a calm and polite manner,

"Ms. Garcia, please don't take it personally. Although I didn't go to Mount Cloud, I have a general understanding of what happened. At that time, the Logan family was deceived by the Jennings family. We thought that the Gordon family was a traitor who betrayed the Bartitsu Guild. The Logan family has always been loyal to the guild. Upon returning, our family head was filled with deep regret, feeling that he had misplaced his trust in the Jennings family. Not only did it almost cause you trouble, but it also dragged the entire Logan family into it." He sighed, his expression a mix of regret and apology. "However, we, the Logan family, acknowledge our mistakes and accept that punishment is deserved. We are fortunate not to have suffered the same fate as the Jennings family. We are willing to accept our punishment. This time, we came for two reasons. First, we wanted to see how Ms. Garcia's injuries were healing, and second, we wanted to apologize. We hope that you, Ms. Garcia, as a magnanimous person, can forgive our past mistakes. From now on, let our families be friends. The Logan family will be the Gordon family's most reliable ally and the closest partner in the guild."

Neera's fine eyebrows arched slightly in contemplation as she asked, "Does your family head know about this conversation?"

Stefan quickly said, "Yes. It is indeed my family head who sent me to apologize. We, the Logan family, are filled with regret and hope to somewhat make up for the mistakes we have made before."

After he finished speaking, he pushed a long, quant box he had brought with him toward Neera.

"Ms. Garcia, this is a small gift. I hope you can accept it."

Neera lowered her gaze to glance at the box and asked in a soft voice, "What is this?"

Stefan smiled. "Natural goldenhorn."

Neera was somewhat surprised. Upon opening it, he found that it was indeed a natural goldenhorn, and the quality was exceptional.

This was one of the rarest and most precious medicinal herbs in the world. Even a pound of it could sell for hundreds of thousands, and it was so scarce that it was practically priceless. Some even fetched up to a million.

Unexpectedly, the Logan family seemed to know how to cater to one's preferences.

Stefan had been paying attention to her expression and didn't miss the flash of delight in her eyes. He quickly added, "I've heard that your medical skills are quite impressive. You were very generous at the auction, and later, you went to the Medicina family to search for precious medicinal materials. Therefore, I brought this natural goldenhorn in hopes that you would like it."

Neera remained calm, revealing no hint of her emotions.

"Indeed, natural goldenhorn is a rare and valuable item, Mr. Logan. I appreciate your effort, but please take it back."

Stefan's confident expression slightly changed. "Ms. Garcia..."

"As the saying goes, one should not accept rewards without merit. The relationship between the Logan family and the Gordon family is rather distant, so I cannot accept such a valuable gift. As for your apology, rest assured, it has been acknowledged and appreciated."

Stefan's expression turned somewhat awkward.

"Ms. Garcia, could it be that you still can't forgive the Logan family? I came here this time truly representing the sincerity of our entire family. Since we are all under the Bartitsu Guild, why should we fight among ourselves? Why not let go of your grudges, Ms. Garcia? The Logan family will certainly assist the Gordon family in the future, becoming the most powerful aid to the Gordon family!"

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## Chapter 1263

Internally, Neera had already begun to scoff, yet she maintained a facade of respect, allowing him to finish his speech courteously.

However, from this point forward, she had no intention of showing him any more respect.

"I understand what you're saying, Mr. Logan, but for a member of the Logan family to talk about letting go of grudges, well, that seems a bit uncharacteristic, doesn't it?"

A polite smile graced her lips, yet on her beautiful and captivating face, there was not a trace of friendliness. Instead, it radiated authority.

"So the Logan family knew all along that both the Gordon and Logan families belong to the Bartitsu Guild. The Gordon family did not provoke the Logan family, nor did we ever do anything to wrong them. Yet, the Logan family still attacked us on Mount Cloud. They not only harmed the Gordon family but also showed no mercy to the Cox and Medicina families. Anyone associated with the Gordon family was targeted. They were so ruthless, and now they want to lightly brush it off with an excuse that they were deceived by the Jennings family? That doesn't seem quite right, does it? Besides, you claim to come with sincerity. However, for such a significant matter as harming the Gordon family and plotting against me, the head of the Gordon family, the Logan family has only sent you. The head of the Logan family is nowhere to be seen. What kind of sincerity is this? It seems more like a perfunctory gesture, doesn't it? Even though I'm young and haven't spent much time in the Phison, or as you would say, my roots aren't deep or stable, is that a reason for the Logan family to disrespect me?"

In a calm and gentle tone, she posed a series of questions, her aura intensifying with each question.

Stefan was instantly taken aback. He hadn't anticipated her sudden outburst. His mouth moved as if to speak, but he was so shocked that he couldn't manage to articulate a single word.

Seeing this, Neera chuckled lightly and continued speaking.

"Actually, I don't really want to use my status to suppress others, nor do I want to bully people with my power. However, today I have no choice but to show some authority. On a smaller scale, I am the head of the Gordon family, on par with the head of the Logan family. On a larger scale, I am the ninth elder of the Bartitsu Guild and the district president of the other five districts. My status should be above the head of the Logan family. Do I not merit a personal visit from him?"

Stefan rubbed his hands together. "Well..."

Neera gracefully lifted the coffee cup and took a leisurely sip, her demeanor exuding elegance.

Shane quietly watched at the side, a hint of playful amusement surfacing in his eyes.

He had planned to step in if she couldn't handle it.

Surprisingly, she was fearless in the face of any situation. No matter what came her way, she handled it with ease.

He was no longer of any use.

Indeed, it was crucial for Neera to assert her authority. Otherwise, others might perceive her as an easy target. As for him, he seemed perfectly content to sit back and enjoy the spectacle. SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Ms. Garcia, the Logan family truly has no intention of becoming enemies with the Gordon family..."

"Whether we bear a grudge or not, it's no longer up to the Logan family to decide, is it? And it shouldn't be you who suggests letting go of resentment. Mr. Logan, don't forget, we, the Gordon family, are the victims here. Where is it heard that the offender asks the victim to let go of their grudge and coexist peacefully? Everyone cares about their reputation. The way the Logan family is acting is indeed somewhat unprincipled."

What she was implying was that the Logan family had no shame.

Stefan understood that, of course, and his expression changed several times.

Neera observed it all, her lips curving in an indifferent smile.

"Mr. Logan, our families aren't typically ones to sit down and have a chat. But since you're here, there's no need for pretense. Let's cut to the chase and speak frankly. I understand the Logan family's concerns. You're worried that the Gordon family, now in a position of power, will settle old scores when the time comes. Rest assured that I don't have the leisure to nitpick with petty individuals. Since the neutral party has already given the punishment, let's consider this matter settled."

Upon listening to these words, Stefan didn't know whether to feel joy or anger. Cold sweat layered on his forehead, and large beads of perspiration trickled down from his temples.

His intuition told him that the woman would not relent.

Sure enough, before long, Neera swiftly changed the topic.

"However, just because I choose to let bygones be bygones, it doesn't mean that the Gordon family and the Logan family can live in harmony. The actions of the Logan

family have indeed caused harm to the Gordon family first, which has understandably resulted in a chill in our familial relations. Therefore, I must say, I will not accept this gift today. If I accept your gift, how will others perceive the Gordon family? If I accept your gift today, should I also accept the gifts from other families who have once harmed the Gordon family tomorrow? What would become of the Gordon family then?"

Stefan was at a loss for words. In the end, he could only respond awkwardly before he walked away in dejection.

Upon leaving the Gordon residence, he wiped the sweat from his forehead, his face contorted as if he had swallowed a fly.

I've really underestimated that woman. I initially dismissed her as eye candy. Despite Chad's strong endorsement, I assumed she was merely maintaining appearances with the backing of other Gordon family members. To my surprise, she proved to be quite eloquent, skillfully deflecting all my statements.

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## Chapter 1264

Back at the Logan residence, Howard asked him, "How did it go?"

He huffed in annoyance, "You were supposed to go, but you refused to. Instead, you let me go alone. They didn't appreciate it at all. They didn't even accept the gift and chased me out!"

Howard had anticipated this situation. Although he wasn't surprised, his face darkened significantly. "That woman from the Gordon family has the audacity to do that?"

Stefan sneered, "Do you think the Gordon family is still the same as before? Do you think the Logan family can still bounce back? You created this mess, yet you expect me to clean up after you! The Gordon family is now in its prime, their status far surpasses the Logan family. If they want to deal with the Logan family, they have plenty of ways, and the Logan family will have no room to resist!"

Howard's expression grew increasingly sour.

"Well, I'd like to see what tricks she has up her sleeve."

Stefan frowned. "Are you still living in a dream? Wake up. The Logan family, as it stands now, can't compete with the Gordon family. I originally planned to take the initiative to make peace, apologize, and hopefully smooth things over. That way, the Logan family could have an easier time in the future. But I didn't expect that woman to be so difficult

to deal with. She's even worse than Chad, not giving us any room to maneuver! The fact that I've visited the Gordon family will probably spread soon. When that happens, the Logan family will once again become the butt of people's jokes. As for the other forces, they'll see which way the wind is blowing and will likely show even more respect to the Gordon family in the future. They might even trample on the Logan family! You should really focus and think about how to navigate the future of the Logan family. The first and second elders are watching you like hawks. Whether you can maintain your position is uncertain. Even I can't help you much anymore." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After saying that, Stefan turned around and left.

Howard's face was cold and stern, and he nearly crushed the cup in his hand.

Ah, well done. Well done, Neera!

He was indeed curious to see how long that woman could bask in her glory.

Everything Stefan predicted was spot on.

News of his visit to the Gordon family spread like wildfire, sparking all sorts of discussions and debates.

"The Logan family, once so formidable and impressive, has fallen to this state now?"

"They really lack self-awareness. The Logan family is on the decline now. After being punished by the neutral party, their power has significantly diminished, and they've suffered major asset losses. They're on the brink of financial ruin, yet they still dream of leveraging the Gordon family's influence to rise again. They should stop daydreaming."

"Having the audacity to approach the Gordon family is indeed audacious! The Gordon family is quite remarkable to still welcome them. If I were in their shoes, I'd definitely put these people in their place! Such nonsense! They used to wield their power to oppress others, but now that they see others rising in prominence, they scramble to ingratiate themselves! It's repugnant!"

"Who isn't trying to curry favor with the Gordon family these days? But one must also consider if they're worthy to do so."

"The Gordon family has truly impressed me. Despite being humiliated in the past, they've now gained power. Yet, they're not flaunting it or seeking revenge. They really know how to keep their cool."

"They probably just don't care. With the Gordon family's status so high now, they surely don't bother with those insignificant people..."



As the Gordon family's influence and reputation continued to grow, those families who once opposed them were now filled with regret.

They thought that while so many forces were trying to curry favor with the Gordon family, they could also take this opportunity to apologize and seek reconciliation.

Seeing the outcome for the Logan family, these people no longer dared to go.

Because of this, Neera managed to save herself a lot of trouble.

At dinner, Shane showered Neera with so many compliments that she became embarrassed.

"Shane, please stop exaggerating. I'm not as impressive as you make me out to be. I just know a few tricks, nothing more than for show." Neera's face turned red, and she quickly served him some food. "You should eat more. You've been entertaining guests all day. You must be tired."

Shane laughed heartily. "Why are you embarrassed? I'm just telling the truth. Honestly, Uncle Chad, I didn't expect Neera to be so eloquent. She spoke with such finesse, maintaining the dignity of the family head perfectly. She was neither impolite nor did she lose her authority. Now, those snobs in the Bartitsu Guild won't dare to underestimate her anymore."

Chad nodded, his face full of admiration.

He had heard about the events of the past two days from Shane, and he strongly agreed with Neera's approach.

"Neera, I've deliberately stayed out of sight these past few days to let you establish your authority. You've done an excellent job, even better than I had imagined, especially in dealing with the Logan family."

Neera gave a bitter smile. "At first, I was a bit at a loss too. After all, they came to make peace, and if I went too far, I risked deepening the animosity. However, upon reflection, I realized that showing even a hint of vulnerability could lead to the Gordon family being subjected to mockery."

"Indeed, you're absolutely right in your thinking." Chad nodded. "If the Gordon family were to accept the Logan family's apology, it could lead others to perceive the Gordon family as being easily placated. We could be seen as a family that can be oppressed, and a simple apology or gift can erase all transgressions. This would result in the Gordon family losing all dignity and respect, making us a target for anyone to trample upon."

Jean was listening by the side, a faint smile playing on his lips. He felt a sense of pride and satisfaction.

Neera is really getting the hang of things...

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## Chapter 1265

After dinner, Neera finally had some free time. She strolled around the courtyard with Jean and the children.

Gazing at the bright moon hanging in the sky, Neera let out a long sigh of relief.

"Finally, I have some time to myself. I can finally rest. Meeting all those people for two days has made my head spin. Now, I can't even remember a single face. It's all a mess. I didn't realize being the head of the family would be so troublesome..."

Jean held her hand, gently caressing the back of her hand with his fingertips, showing utmost tenderness.

"You seem busier than me now. Looks like I won't need to work in the future. I can just rely on you to support the family."

Neera felt guilty and apologized, "You've come all this way, and I haven't been able to spend time with you these past few days. I'm sorry for neglecting you and the kids."

Jean lightly pinched her cheek.

"Why apologize? Being able to stay by your side is enough for me. It's normal for you to be busy given your high position and responsibilities. You don't need to worry about me."

Neera let go of his hand. "I overheard everything today. You were whispering with the kids on the stairs. They must be bored, right? They can only cling to you. Did they interrupt your work?"

"No. I took care of everything before I came. The rest will be handled by my subordinates, so I don't need to worry. It's been such a long time since I've seen the kids. I'd love nothing more than to spend more time with them."

Neera sighed, thought for a moment, and said, "I'll talk to Shane later. For the next few days, I won't entertain those people and I'll leave it to them. I'll take you guys around instead."

"Is that okay?"

"No worries. I've already made my presence known, and that's all that matters. I'll leave the rest to Shane. I'll also ask him if there are any interesting places around that we could visit. We can bring the kids with us."

Jean gave a faint smile. "All right."

At that moment, the triplets suddenly popped out from behind, laughing excitedly without end.

"Yay! We can go out and have fun now!"

Neera was startled. "When did you guys get behind us? Weren't you walking in front?"

Penny chuckled, pointing behind her. "There were little bugs over there just now. Harvey and Sammy took me to see them."

Sammy's eyes twinkled as he teased Neera, "Mommy, you were so busy talking to Daddy, only thinking about Daddy. You were not paying attention to us."

Neera was so amused that she didn't know whether to laugh or cry, and she playfully poked Sammy on the forehead.

"You quirky little boy."

With a playful grin, Sammy took her hand, his eyes filled with anticipation as he asked, "Mommy, can we go to the restaurant we visited last time tomorrow? The crabs there are so delicious!"

Penny hopped around excitedly, suggesting, "Mommy, is there an amusement park here? I really want to go..."

Neera had no choice but to agree to their requests one by one.

The next day, she kept her promise. After informing Shane, she happily set out with Jean and the three children for a day of fun.

The little ones were having the time of their lives, their excitement through the roof. They played while eating and drinking, not missing out on anything.

They even ran into Caleb at the restaurant. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Mr. Medicina, what a coincidence," Neera greeted.

Caleb looked at the man beside her, his eyebrows slightly raised, yet he remained composed. He turned to Neera and smiled gracefully.

"Yes, indeed. I just happened to be at the Bartitsu Guild for some business, and I didn't expect to run into you here. Ms. Garcia, I trust you've been well recently. How is your injury?" "Appreciate your concern. I'm already better."

"I heard you've been quite famous recently, becoming a person of great renown. Congratulations."

"Nah, to be honest, I owe it all to you. If you hadn't given me the white flag, I wouldn't have become a district president, and the Gordon family wouldn't be where it is today."

Caleb was not overly concerned. "It doesn't matter what the process is. What matters is the result. In the end, you are the one who has taken the seat as a district president. You are also the one who has become the ninth elder of the Bartitsu Guild. The honor belongs to you and the Gordon family. Everything else is insignificant."

Neera could tell that he truly didn't care. She thought that saying anything more would only make her seem overly sentimental, so she decided to drop the subject.

"By the way, Jean, let me introduce you. This is Mr. Medicina I mentioned, who has been of great help to me on Mount Cloud."

Jean nodded lightly. "Hello. Thank you for taking care of my fiancée."

The corner of Caleb's mouth twitched almost imperceptibly.

Neera did not notice anything amiss. She turned her head and said, "Mr. Medicina, where is Darcel? Didn't he come with you?"

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## Chapter 1266

Caleb had been holding his breath for quite a while. Upon hearing these words, he almost choked on his own spit. He clenched his fist and held it to his lips, coughing lightly twice before he managed to suppress the tickle in his throat.

"Well, Darcel is not from the Medicina family. After leaving Mount Cloud, he returned."

"I see..." Neera expressed a hint of regret. "I was hoping to properly thank him. I owe him a lot for taking care of me and saving my life. It's because of him that I'm able to stand here safe and sound."

"Actually, you don't have to worry so much. But if you really want to thank him, then... then say it the next time you see him. If I run into him, I'll pass on your message."

As he spoke, his gaze darted toward Jean.

Neera did not notice that. She smiled and nodded. "All right. Thank you very much, then."

Jean stood at the side with an unchanged expression, revealing nothing. He was so composed as if it had nothing to do with him at all.

At the same time, an unexpected guest had arrived at the Cox residence.

Avery sat on the grand sofa, looking at the man across from him with a calm expression, and asked in a steady voice, "Did you make a special trip here for something, Mr. Torres?"

The several elders of the Cox family were also present, all of them attentively waiting for what was to come, their expressions inexplicably tense.

The visitor was Matthew's assistant, a person of great importance.

The atmosphere was somewhat solemn.

Darren Torres put on a very professional demeanor, his face stern, his expression extremely indifferent, much like a robot.

"I'm here to deliver a directive from the guild, to assign a task to you, Mr. Cox. It involves the Jagger family, and we need you to reclaim them."

Avery's pupils slightly contracted, while the expressions of the others changed.

The Jagger family of Phison was a unique entity.

Unlike families that divide districts, this family exclusively occupies an isolated island.

Despite being formally affiliated with the Bartitsu Guild, the Jagger family's advantageous geographical position often led them to behave as if they were beyond the reach of the law.

Repeatedly clashing with the guild was one thing, but they also refused to participate in any guild activities. They didn't attend any meetings, big or small, almost indicating their intention to sever ties with the guild.

The guild had been angered time and again, and now, they could no longer tolerate them.

"Mr. Torres, isn't it somewhat unfair to assign this task solely to the Cox family?"

Darren didn't even bat an eyelid. "This task was agreed upon by the president and the vice president. I am merely responsible for conveying the intentions of my superiors. As for whether it's fair or not, it's not within my job scope. Mr. Cox, upon receiving the task, you only need to consider how to solve it. Whether it's fair or not is also not something you need to worry about." With that, he stood up. "Your promotion as the second elder is authorized by the guild. Therefore, you should also lead the Cox family and set an example for the other families within the guild. I have conveyed the task, so I will take my leave now. Goodbye, Mr. Cox."

Avery didn't get up. He had his servant show the visitor out.

Once Darren left the Cox residence, several elders of the Cox family could no longer sit still, each having something to say.

"Mr. Cox, isn't it obvious that the guild is trying to make things difficult for the Cox family by assigning such a task?"

"Exactly! The Jagger family has been on the island for so many years, how can it be resolved just by saying so? The guild couldn't even reclaim them, yet they insist on us, the Cox family, to do it. What kind of game are they playing!"

"Just as I thought, there's no such thing as a free lunch! That cunning Matthew, abruptly altering the seating arrangement of the elders and elevating the Cox family's status, surely harbors ulterior motives!" [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

Rio, the first elder, was deeply worried. "Mr. Cox, how should we handle this matter? How about we find an excuse to decline?"

Ronald, the second elder, had the same thought.

"Yeah, this mission is quite tricky. After all, the Jagger family, residing on Adieu Island, is recognized as a leading power in Phison. Although they haven't been involved in any conflicts over the years, they've been quietly accumulating strength. Their power has grown even stronger than before, making them a tough nut to crack."

"The Jagger family has long been fortifying their defenses on the isolated island. It's a place that's easy to defend but hard to attack. The guild has been thinking of countless strategies over the years, but none have succeeded in capturing it. Depending solely on the Cox family's power is increasingly challenging and fraught with peril..."

The other elders also felt the same way. They didn't want to take any risks.

After a long silence, Avery finally began to speak slowly.

"But right now, aside from accepting this task, there's no other choice." His face was cold and stern. "Do you really think there's a chance to evade this? Such a significant matter, yet Matthew only sent his assistant instead of showing up himself. It's his way of telling me there's no room for refusal. The Cox family can't avoid this."

Rio furrowed his brows, his complexion not looking too good.

"What on earth is Matthew up to? Does he really trust the Cox family that much, thinking we can definitely take down the Jagger family? Isn't he worried about the fall of the Cox family? After all, the Cox family is a top-tier family in the guild!"

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## Chapter 1267

Avery sneered, "The Cox family is a powerful ally to the guild. Matthew is too shrewd to let the Cox family fall. He just wants to use the Cox family as a spear, with me leading the charge. Besides, for such a big matter, he knows the Cox family will definitely seek help."

Speaking of assistance, everyone naturally thought of the Gordon family.

Ronald slapped his thigh. "Right! We can ask the Gordon family for help! The Gordon family and the Cox family have always had a good relationship, and there's even a marriage agreement between us. They surely won't stand by and do nothing."

No sooner had he finished speaking than Albert Cox, the third elder, scoffed, "You may still have hopes for the Gordon family, but I fear they've long since distanced themselves from the Cox family, showing no interest in any interaction, let alone offering assistance!"

Ronald was puzzled. "What do you mean by this?" Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Neera is likely reveling in joy at this moment. She's deeply immersed in her relationship with her official fiancé, while you remain oblivious!"

Ronald's eyebrows furrowed.

The Cox family had been closely monitoring Neera's actions for the past few days.

Many people were quite dissatisfied with Neera's behavior.

"Mr. Cox has been so protective of that woman, never once despising her status. He even acknowledged the marriage agreement between the two families and repeatedly defended her. But now, look at her, she has a fiancé out of nowhere. Where does that leave Mr. Cox?"

"What fiancé? Mr. Cox is her true fiancé! She's so ignorant, gallivanting around with other men. What a disgrace!"

"Without the support of the Cox family, could she have ascended to the position of district president so smoothly? Everyone else was against her joining the Council of Elders. Only Mr. Cox spoke for her, strongly supporting her rise to power. Yet, we've never seen her express any gratitude. These days, she's busy dealing with those who are trying to curry favor with her. In my opinion, she's been flattered to the point where she's lost touch with reality..."

"Enough!" A stern rebuke interrupted these people's complaints.

Seeing that Avery's complexion wasn't looking good, a few people felt a sense of frustration building up inside them, a feeling that wouldn't subside until they vented it out.

"Mr. Cox, it's clear that the head of the Gordon family doesn't take the Cox family seriously. Why are you still defending her?"

"You are kind and virtuous, but she may not necessarily be the type to repay kindness..."

Rio and Ronald exchanged glances. Noticing the worsening atmosphere, they quickly tried to smooth things over.

"All right, all right, what do you all know? Don't just believe in rumors. Ms. Garcia is not that kind of person."

They had interacted with Neera more frequently and had long known that she had someone she liked and that Jean was her true fiancé.

The marriage agreement between the Gordon and Cox families, along with the widespread rumors circulating in Phison, were all merely a result of Avery's affection for Neera and his hopeful attempts to build a reputation for her.

The expression on Avery's face grew increasingly rigid.

"Regardless of the time or situation, no one in the Cox family is allowed to discuss the head of the Gordon family. Do you understand?" he ordered sternly.

Everyone gritted their teeth, and no one said anything more.



The living room immediately fell silent.

After a brief pause, Avery spoke again with a cool tone.

"Regarding the matter of reclaiming the Jagger family, I have no intention of involving the Gordon family. So, don't go looking for the Gordon family, and don't even mention this matter."

Ronald hesitated. "But... Mr. Cox, the Gordon family has many skilled individuals. The more people we have, the more help we can get. Besides, I believe Ms. Garcia will definitely lend a hand given her temperament."

Avery had never doubted this.

Precisely for this reason, he was even more reluctant to let Neera find out.

"The Gordon family's status is different now than it was before. Being in a high position, they are inevitably under the scrutiny of many eyes. Although it seems that the Gordon family is currently admired by all powers and no one dares to provoke them, there might be those who harbor resentment or jealousy. If the Gordon family gets involved in this matter, it can potentially provide an opportunity for those with ill intentions to deliberately cause trouble for the Gordon family."

At that, everyone had no choice but to abandon the idea.

However, walls have ears.

Given the significance of this matter, whispers had been circulating for some time, and it wasn't long before it became an open secret within the Bartitsu Guild.

The news naturally found its way into Neera's ears.

"Is the Jagger family a powerful clan? How come I've never heard of them before, nor seen them participate in the district president election conference?"

She knew nothing about the Jagger family, so she went to ask Shane.

Shane was also pondering over the same matter. He nodded, then began to explain the background of the Jagger family to her.

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## **Chapter 1268**

"The Jagger family has had a presence in Phison for over a hundred years, maintaining a steady, albeit unremarkable, status. Initially, they were compliant with the guild, never having any conflicts. However, there was a time when the guild assigned the Jagger family a mission. The task was so significant that many members were mobilized, including the head of the Jagger family at that time. Unexpectedly, the mission proved to be extremely challenging. They encountered an accident, and even the head of the Jagger family was seriously injured. Although the mission was ultimately accomplished, the head of the Jagger family missed the best opportunity for treatment. After returning home, he passed away without receiving any medical attention. The guild, however, showed no concern for this matter. They didn't even offer a word of condolence. This indifference led to the Jagger family holding a grudge against the guild. Subsequently, without informing the guild, the Jagger family moved to an isolated island. There, they set up camp and began to govern themselves. From that point on, they no longer obeyed the guild's orders."

Neera exclaimed, "I never knew about this part of the past. Speaking of it, the guild really did act unscrupulously, disappointing the Jagger family."

"Indeed, the Jagger family had fought tooth and nail for the guild. Even the head of the family was sacrificed. But in the end, the guild doesn't care at all. The only thing they value is the immediate benefits. How could the Jagger family possibly tolerate this? Cutting ties with the guild was inevitable." Shane narrowed his eyes, his tone carrying a subtle nuance. "However, the Jagger family did some questionable things later on. The deceased head of the family, who was the father of the current head, Stanley, engaged in some questionable activities. After Stanley inherited his father's position, he proved to be quite shrewd. Despite his young age, he managed to elevate the Jagger family to a higher level. He even fortified the island so tightly that it was impervious to any attack. He often clashed with the guild and even arrested some of their members. It could be seen as a form of retaliation against the guild."

Neera felt that there was nothing wrong with the Jagger family acting this way. "It's not that the Jagger family's actions are commendable, of course. Hurting others is always wrong. However, it was the guild that betrayed them first. If the Jagger family were to retaliate, frankly, their actions could hardly be deemed as extreme."

Shane nodded. "That's true. However, dealing with the current Jagger family is extremely difficult. To reach the island, we must first pass through the sea. Whether there will be ambushes or unexpected incidents, no one can be certain. Moreover, whether we can successfully land on the island after approaching the coast is also an unknown factor. Considering the widespread rumors about this matter, the Jagger family must have received the news by now and will soon be prepared to respond. The security on the island will undoubtedly be tightened, making it even more difficult for the Cox family."

Neera's brows furrowed slightly. She was worried.

"Will this journey of the Cox family be dangerous? When it comes to strength, how does the Jagger family compare to the Cox family? Who is superior?"

Shane replied, "It's not as simple as comparing who's superior or inferior. If we talk about sheer power, the Cox family seems to have the upper hand at the moment. However, the difficulty lies in the fact that the Jagger family holds a geographical advantage. The island they occupy is easy to defend but hard to attack, and one has to cross a sea filled with dangers. It's hard to say who has the advantage. The guild has tried to reclaim the Jagger family before, but all attempts have been unsuccessful. Now, they've specifically sent the Cox family. Well, I must say, they're really cunning. They don't even want to try anymore and want to sit back and reap the benefits."

Neera vaguely felt a sense of familiarity.

"Isn't the current Cox family just like the Jagger family of the past? The Jagger family also accepted a difficult task from the guild, which led to the family head's misfortune. Now, the guild has assigned a challenging task to the Cox family. If something unexpected happens to the Cox family, won't they become the next Jagger family? Isn't this just the guild repeating their old tricks!"

Shane took a sip of coffee, then poured a cup for her, signaling her not to rush. [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Indeed, you can put it that way. The guild has planned this from the very beginning. They accurately predicted that the Cox family would support the Gordon family and that the Cox family would speak for you at the elder's meeting. They smoothly facilitated your ascension to the ninth elder seat, which then gave them an excuse to promote Avery. Now that Avery has become the second elder, the guild can naturally use this as a pretext, asking him to reciprocate the guild's attention, to set an example for the guild, and to make contributions."

Neera did not think that these maneuvers of the guild would have such deep implications.

"The Bartitsu Guild is really acting quite unfairly and unethically, don't you think? The forces under their command are all their helpers. It's clearly a mutually beneficial group, so why are they still so calculating?" Upon hearing this, Shane let out a cold chuckle.

"The Bartitsu Guild has always been like this. Nothing matters more than their own interests. Any power that can bring prosperity and benefits to the guild becomes their pawn. As for those third-rate powers, they are merely disposable pieces to the guild, useless if they can't serve a purpose. Isn't the Jennings family a perfect example? Once they lost their value, the guild didn't care about their fate. Even when a large number of people from Lordsworth Estate stormed into the guild's territory and took away an entire family, the guild turned a blind eye. They ignored such a major incident. Is there anything the guild wouldn't do?"

Neera was growing more and more worried now, her face full of concern.

"Can't Mr. Cox refuse this task? This journey is too dangerous. Who knows what might happen."

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## Chapter 1269

Shane shook his head. "It's impossible. The guild has clearly planned this out. They insist that the Cox family must complete it. The Cox family can't refuse. They have no choice but to accept. This matter is already set in stone. No

one can change it."

Neera furrowed her brows, filled with deep concern.

Jean had been quietly listening by her side. Seeing that she didn't look well, he gently stroked her brow with his hand.

"Don't worry for now. If you're concerned, just go and check on the Cox family."

Neera was taken aback. She pulled his hand down, her eyes lighting up. "You... are you willing to let me go?"

Jean chuckled lightly. "Why not? I'm just asking you to visit the Cox family, nothing else. You want to help, don't you?"

Neera hesitated for a moment, then nodded. "Yes. I can't just sit back and ignore this matter."

Ever since she arrived in Phison, Avery had consistently helped her.

Although she felt a bit awkward and even somewhat resentful about their engagement, she was still very grateful to Avery.

"Mr. Cox has helped me so much. I consider him a benefactor, a friend, and even like a brother to Shane. I always remembered how well he took care of me and thought I should repay him no matter what. Now that he's in trouble, I... I can't just pretend I don't know and let it go. Even if this mission is more difficult and dangerous, I still want to lend a hand to the Cox family."

As she spoke, her eyes sparkled with determination, clearly showing that she had made up her mind.

Jean smiled, patting her on the head.

"If that's the case, then go ahead and do as you wish. Seek him out and discuss it with him. I believe you can handle it well."

Neera looked into his eyes, feeling reassured in her heart, and finally revealed a hint of a smile.

"Alright. You and the kids wait for me at home. I'll be back shortly."

After she finished speaking, she turned to Shane and said, "Shane, I'm going now. Once I learn more about the Cox family's situation, I'll let you know."

Shane stood up. "Should I go with you?"

Neera had already reached the entrance. Without looking back, she replied, "No worries. I'll just take Zephyr with me."

Then, she left the house.

Shane and Jean followed her out, watching the car disappear at the gate.

"Are you really not worried or angry?" Shane asked curiously at that moment.

Jean glanced at him, asking indifferently, "Why should I be worried, and why should I get angry?" [Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

"You can't possibly be unaware of Avery's feelings for Neera, right? All these years, I've never seen him so infatuated with any woman. Now that you're letting Neera see him, you don't seem jealous at all."

With his hands casually tucked into his trouser pockets, Jean stood tall and handsome, exuding an extraordinary aura.

"She's my partner. No one can take her away. I trust her more than I trust myself. I will support her in whatever she does. As long as she feels happy, satisfied, and comfortable, anything goes."

Shane raised an eyebrow. "Such confidence. It seems you two are very close. That puts my mind at ease. She will be very happy with you in the future."

A hint of amusement flashed in Jean's eyes as he suddenly said, half-jokingly, half-seriously, "It's me who will be happy with her."

Upon hearing this, Shane burst out laughing heartily.

Meanwhile, Neera had arrived at the Cox residence with Zephyr, but she did not see Avery.

As soon as she walked into the living room, she noticed a few unfamiliar faces sitting inside.

Those people were quite surprised when they saw her.

One of them, a young woman, suddenly stood up. She strode toward Neera and stood haughtily in front of her, radiating an unmistakable air of hostility.

"You're the head of the Gordon family, Neera?"

With a calm expression, Neera looked at her and asked, "Yes, I am. May I ask if Mr. Avery is in?"

The woman suddenly let out a cold laugh, her words extremely impolite. "You want to meet my cousin? Who do you think you are, thinking you can meet him just because you want to? I'm warning you, go back to the Gordon family! Stop hanging around my cousin. Your presence annoys me!"

Given her attitude, not a single person from the Cox family tried to stop her. They all sat quietly on the couch, watching the drama unfold.

Neera chose to indifferently survey her surroundings, ignoring the woman. She turned her head and called out to a servant not far away.

"Is the head of your household home? If so, could you please let him know I'm here? If not, I'll come back later."

The servant wanted to respond, but as she looked at the woman across from her, she found herself in a quandary, her words hanging on the brink of utterance.

The woman, feeling ignored by Neera, shouted, "Can't you understand when I tell you to get lost and go back to the Gordon family? This is the Cox residence. Stop acting superior in front of us. Everyone knows what kind of person you really are!"

A hint of coldness flashed through Neera's eyes, and Zephyr's face darkened even more. He was ready to step forward and deal with the woman.

Neera stopped him and looked indifferently at the woman in front of her.

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## Chapter 1270

"Are you Mr. Cox's cousin?" Neera asked.

The woman lifted her chin arrogantly, as if she were looking down on everyone. "Yes, what about it?"

She was Phoebe Cox, the adopted daughter of the third elder of the Cox family.

Neera observed her domineering manner and a mysterious smile played at the corner of her lips.

"Mr. Cox is such a polite gentleman. It's surprising that his cousin lacks manners. She yells at guests and speaks rudely, yet no one in the Cox family reprimands her. The conduct of the Cox family is truly eye-opening."

Phoebe's sarcasm instantly infuriated her.

"Who are you calling ill-mannered? Do you even have the right to say such things? My cousin has been so helpful to you before, but what about you? How did you repay my cousin? The Cox family is now facing such a big issue

Before she could finish her sentence, Albert interrupted her, "Pheebs, watch your mouth."

Phoebe quickly changed the subject, remembering Avery's instructions not to mention the matter of reclaiming the Jagger family.

"My cousin has helped you and the Gordon family time and again, and what did you do in return? You're off cozying up with other men, leaving my cousin out in the cold! What do you take my cousin for? Someone you can use and then discard? Now that you hold such great power, you don't even consider my cousin anymore. I never expected you to be so fickle, hopping from one man to another without any shame. My cousin must have been blind to have fallen for a shameless woman like you!"

She had heard about Neera's affair with Avery a long time ago, and it made her very angry.

The thought of their impending marriage, bound by an engagement, filled her with jealousy, causing her many sleepless nights.

Later, upon learning that Neera had another man by her side, she felt both elated and angry. She thought it was a waste for Avery, yet she also sensed a potential opportunity for herself.

Seeing Avery's indifference towards her, she realized that she was delusional.

All her disappointments transformed into hatred for Neera, which was why she couldn't wait to humiliate her.

However, Neera was not someone who could be easily bullied.

Zephyr had been holding back for a while now. Seeing that Neera was no longer stopping him, he didn't waste any more time. With a darkened face, he rushed forward and grabbed Phoebe by the throat.

A wave of overwhelming urgency washed over Phoebe, her face twisting in agony. She thrashed wildly against Zephyr's grip, scratching and clawing.

"You... You... Let go. Let go... of me..."

Phoebe's face turned a mixture of red and purple as she struggled to utter a few incoherent words.

Yet, Zephyr remained completely still, his expression stern and cold.

"Not many have fared well after speaking ill of Ms. Garcia. If you're so eager to court death, I'd be more than happy to assist!"

His hand tightened its grip even more, like an eagle's claw.

In the blink of an eye, Phoebe's face turned ashen. She was on the verge of suffocation, unable to utter a single word.

Albert really didn't want to get involved. He had hoped that Phoebe would give Neera a hard time.

However, seeing that, he couldn't sit still anymore. With a serious expression, he stood up. [search the Find\\_Novel.net website](http://www.find-novel.net) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Enough! You're causing such a commotion in the Cox residence. Do you really want to take someone's life, Ms. Garcia? Don't forget that the Cox family and the Gordon family have been allies for generations and have repeatedly helped the Gordon family. Your current position and your success today are partly due to the Cox family's contributions. Are you planning to repay kindness with ingratitude now?"

With a slight lift of her eyebrows, Neera called out, "Zephyr!"

Understanding the situation, he quickly let go of Phoebe.



A rush of fresh air filled Phoebe's lungs, burning like fire, causing her to cough uncontrollably. She coughed so hard that tears streamed down her face.

Neera looked at her with a calm and composed demeanor, her eyes devoid of any sympathy or fear. They were utterly tranquil, only filled with indifference.

"Of course, I would never repay kindness with ingratitude. I deeply appreciate Mr. Cox's assistance and will do my utmost to help the Cox family in return. However, this does not mean that just anyone from the Cox family can walk all over me. Since Ms. Cox doesn't know how to behave and can't hold her tongue, as an outsider, of course, I won't indulge her. If the Cox family can't educate their own, then let me teach her a lesson. Is that not acceptable?"

Albert furrowed his brows, surprised by her assertive manner of speaking. His expression turned somewhat sour.

"You sure talk big, Ms. Garcia. When is it the turn of an outsider to teach the Cox family a lesson? Could it be that your ascension to the position of district president and becoming the ninth elder of the Bartitsu Guild has led you to believe you're invincible? It would be wise not to overstep your bounds."

"Is it overstepping to discipline someone who is flaunting their power and causing a scene in front of me? Sir, do you think I'm idly showing off my authority? If I let her continue her tirade, the Gordon family would become a laughingstock! To be honest, if it weren't for Mr. Cox, I wouldn't even set foot here, let alone meddle in the Cox family's affairs. People should first respect themselves to earn respect from others. Instead of wasting time talking about me, you'd better educate Ms. Cox properly. Don't let her embarrass herself and tarnish the reputation of the Cox family."

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## Chapter 1271

"You" Albert had never been challenged like this before. His face instantly turned pale.

"Neera! When I address you as Ms. Garcia, it's out of courtesy. Don't take it for granted! Without the Cox family, let alone being a district president or the ninth elder, you wouldn't even be able to hold the position of the head of the Gordon family! Dreaming of putting on airs in front of the Cox family? Not a chance!"

No sooner had his words fallen than the sound of footsteps echoed from the staircase.

Immediately after, a stern and harsh voice rang out.

"Are my words as the head of the Cox family no longer effective?"

Albert's face instantly stiffened. He looked up to see Avery striding over with a cold expression.

Clearly, the earlier commotion had disturbed him.

At this moment, his handsome face was stern, and a thin layer of frost formed in his amber eyes.

He was quite upset. Suppressing his anger, he asked coldly, "Mr. Albert, are you implying that you have objections to my leadership? I've made it clear that no one in the Cox family is allowed to question or disrespect the head of the Gordon family under any circumstances. Are you disregarding my words simply because you are older? If you're so opinionated, perhaps I should let you take over as the head of the family. What do you think?"

These words were spoken quite harshly, almost without any consideration for feelings. He was clearly showing strong support for Neera.

Albert and the others present were first taken aback, and then their expressions quickly changed.

Phoebe, in particular, was consumed by jealousy to the point of insanity.

Why is he taking the side of a stranger?

He has only known this woman for a short while. How could he have fallen for her to such an extent?

Just who the hell is she?

Jealousy and resentment intertwined in her heart. She gritted her teeth, walked over to Avery, and explained, "Avery, we're indignant on your behalf. This woman doesn't respect you at all. She's promiscuous and shameless, flirting with other men. You helped her secure her position in the Gordon family by arranging a marriage alliance, making it known to everyone. But now that her status has changed and she has gained power, she no longer cares about you or the Cox family. How do you think people outside will view you? The Cox family might even become a laughingstock because of her! How is someone like that deserving of you?"

Listening to her rant, Neera felt somewhat frustrated.

"Ms. Cox, words should not be spoken recklessly. Firstly, Mr. Cox and I are not officially married. Secondly, the other man you mentioned is my legitimate fiancé. Lastly, if I

didn't care about the affairs of the Cox family, I wouldn't be here today, listening to your incessant chatter."

"You-"

"Shut up!" Avery, enduring the pain in his heart, shouted.

"When did I ever ask for your sympathy? Who gave you the right to speak here? Apologize to Ms. Garcia right now, then get out of here. Don't embarrass yourself any further!"

Seeing him defend Neera and even ask Phoebe to apologize, Phoebe was completely stunned.

"Avery..."

"1

"Apologize!"

Phoebe realized he was truly angry. Fear welled up in her heart, and she dared not retort any further.

In the end, she gritted her teeth, swallowed her pride, and apologized to Neera, "I'm sorry." Her voice was as soft as a mosquito's.

With a slight raise of her eyebrows, Neera reluctantly replied, "There's no need for that. Ms. Cox, please think carefully before you speak in the future."

Feeling extreme hatred in her heart, Phoebe turned her head and stormed off.

Having dismissed her, Avery turned to look at the remaining few.

"Mr. Albert, when you have the time, please educate your daughter more. She's a woman in her early twenties, yet she's so uncultured. The Cox family can't afford such disgrace."

With a mere offhand comment, he caused Albert's face to cycle through shades of red and pale, then red again. The latter was at a loss for where to conceal his embarrassment.

In the end, he didn't say a word, leaving with a rigid expression on his face.

As soon as he left, it became awkward for the others to remain. So, they too started to leave one after another.

Soon, only Neera, Avery, and Zephyr were left in the vast living room.

Avery thought about what the woman had just said, and no matter what, he couldn't lift his spirits. He felt utterly miserable.

But when he faced her, he couldn't bear to show a cold face and treated her with tenderness almost instinctively.

"What are you doing here? You should have told me in advance so I could have welcomed you properly. I was just dealing with some business in the study, and I didn't expect you to be targeted. Don't take it to heart. Come and take a seat."

Neera nodded slightly, following him to sit down next to the couch. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"I'm fine. I'm just worried about you. I heard that the Bartitsu Guild has sent the Cox family alone to reclaim the Jagger family. Why didn't you tell me? I only found out when others mentioned it. I came over today specifically to discuss this with you, to see if there's any way I can help."

Avery had been so busy these past few days that he hadn't even left his house, so he was unaware of the rumors that had spread outside.

Seeing that she came for this matter, he was slightly taken aback.

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## Chapter 1272

"I really didn't want you to know about this. It's not a big deal, but it's not a small one either. However, there's no need to be overly anxious. I don't want to involve the Gordon family in this. You've just secured your position in the Gordon family, and you haven't fully established yourself in the guild yet. I don't want my issues to cause you any unnecessary trouble, so don't worry about it."

Neera disagreed, "How can I not worry? You've helped me so much in the past. Without you, my family and I wouldn't be where we are today. Now that you're in trouble, I can't just stand by and do nothing. As for any complications, don't worry about them. If I can't help you, I won't be able to sleep or eat in peace. The more help we have, the better our chances. I hope you bring more people. Don't be a stranger to me. After all, I didn't refuse the help from the Cox family."

Before, it was Avery who had told her not to be a stranger. Now, the situation had changed.

Avery knew how stubborn she was and that she was determined to repay this favor. He couldn't help but feel a bit helpless. Sighing in resignation, he finally agreed, "All right then, I'll have to ask for the Gordon family's assistance, perhaps some manpower. Don't worry. I'll bring your people back safe and sound. I won't let anything happen to them."

Neera chuckled. "Yes, I'm not worried. But the journey is fraught with danger, and you don't know what you might encounter. You must be very careful."

Looking at her beautiful and fair face, Avery had a thousand words to say, yet they were stuck in his throat.

He knew the concern she had for him was not that of a boyfriend and girlfriend, but such polite concern also brought him pleasure.

As long as she thought of him, even just a little, he would feel very satisfied and happy.

He knew he had completely fallen for her.

The two of them chatted a bit more about this matter, after which Neera stood up to take her leave.

Avery saw her off at the door, watching from a distance until the car drove away.

Meanwhile, in a room on the second floor, Phoebe stood by the window, observing everything that was happening below.

Watching Avery's hesitant figure, she was consumed by jealousy to the point where it felt as though her heart was bleeding.

Her admiration for this man was a sentiment she found too difficult to express in her entire lifetime.

She had been an orphan since childhood. Albert had taken her in because she bore a striking resemblance to his deceased daughter.

Later on, she became the beloved daughter of the Cox family, living a life of luxury and splendor.

She had always been particularly fond of this cousin.

Despite her cousin's numerous displays of indifference and aloofness, she would innocently attempt to bridge the gap, only to be repeatedly rejected.

Over time, she gradually understood what this emotion was, and thus, a demon was born in her heart.

She was aware that her relationship with Avery was merely nominal cousinhood, forever confined within the unbreakable cage of kinship.

Yet, she couldn't help but hope that there might be another possibility between the two of them.

What made her happiest was that over the years, there hadn't been a single woman by Avery's side, apart from Violet who posed no threat at all.

She could tell that Avery treated Violet as if she were his own sister, with absolutely no romantic feelings involved.

This eased her mind but also sparked jealousy within her.

Despite Violet's lower status, she received affection from her cousin in a way that she herself did not.

Avery disregarded her and even disliked her.

She didn't want it to be this way, but she didn't know why. No matter what she did, she couldn't win Avery's affection.

All she could do was wait for Avery to realize her feelings, to realize that she was the one truly worthy of him.

Just like that, she had been waiting for so many years.

During this time, she had also employed quite a few tricks.

She would discreetly deal with those women who once harbored affection for Avery and attempted to approach him.

Given her status as the daughter of the Cox family, those women, despite their anger and hatred, dared not lay a finger on her. They could only swallow their grievances in silence.

Even so, when she heard about the Cox family's intention to form a marital alliance with the Gordon family, she didn't take it to heart, dismissing it as mere idle gossip.

How many women could possibly catch his high and mighty cousin's eye?

Moreover, she had heard that the head of the Gordon family was an outsider who was forcibly pushed into the position, knowing nothing at all. This made her even more unbothered.

How could such a loser even compare to her?

However, all her confidence crumbled when she saw Avery repeatedly helping that woman.

She had never seen him like this before, so obsessed with a woman.

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## Chapter 1273

These days, she could hardly eat or sleep, consumed with thoughts of what kind of woman Neera really was.

During the last guild conference for the district president election, she had wanted to attend, but Avery didn't allow her to go.

Later on, she heard that the woman had become a district president. She was even promoted to the position of ninth elder by Avery despite all opposition.

Listening to all the gossip about that woman in Phison, she was about to be driven mad with anger.

How could someone without any roots or background, an outsider, become a prominent figure in Phison?

She had stolen all the limelight and her cousin away from her.

It's all because of that despicable Neera. She's the reason I've lost even the slightest hope. I won't just let her go like this...

Not long after Avery returned to his study, there was a knock at the door.

He thought it was Irwin. Without even lifting his head, he said, "Come in."

The door swung open. As footsteps gradually drew nearer, a blend of coffee aroma and a potent perfume scent permeated the air.

Avery sensed something was amiss. Looking up, he saw Phoebe standing in front of the desk, holding a cup of coffee.

With a gentle smile gracing her lips, she placed the coffee cup next to his hand. Leaning forward, she paused deliberately in her movement, the shocking bruise on her neck catching his eye.

Avery then looked away, his gaze devoid of any emotions.

"Is there something you need? Otherwise, get out."

Phoebe's smile wavered momentarily but swiftly regained its composure.

"Avery, you've been busy these past few days. You should take a break, or else your body won't be able to handle it."

Avery was getting somewhat impatient. "Get out."

His indifference, even rejection, left Phoebe feeling extremely unsettled. Yet, she didn't want to give up just like that.

"Avery..." Her smile faded from the corners of her mouth, replaced by a look of grievance. She gently bit her lip, a sight that aroused pity.

"Are you still mad at me? I was just upset earlier, thinking about how hard you've been working for Neera without getting anything in return. I lost my temper and said too much. Please forgive me, considering that I did it all out of concern for you."

Avery lifted his head, his tone indifferent as he said, "Are you sure it's for me? There's no need to play those petty tricks in front of me, Phoebe."

This single sentence instantly made Phoebe's heart tighten.

Does he... already know? Did I shoot myself in the foot?

For a moment, her mind was in a bit of turmoil.

"I... Avery, you've misunderstood me. I truly believe that Neera is being very unfair to—"

"I've said it before, no one is allowed to talk about Neera. If you utter one more word, you'll be thrown out of the Cox family immediately," Avery cut her off. He was thoroughly fed up.

Phoebe's face stiffened. She gritted her teeth, barely managing to suppress the jealousy welling up inside her.

Looks like it's impossible to tarnish that woman's reputation in front of Avery. But that's okay. I have plenty of ideas.

She swiftly made up her mind and changed the topic.

"Avery, please don't be angry. I'm not trying to criticize Ms. Garcia. I admit, I did have prejudices against her before. At that time, I didn't understand her and thought she was



just using the Cox family. But today, she came to see you. It must be about reclaiming the Jagger family's affairs, right?"

Avery furrowed his brows, his expression still unfriendly, but he refrained from uttering harsh words. With a stern face, he asked, "What else do you want to say?"

Phoebe smiled. "It seems I was right. Ms. Garcia is indeed here for this matter, isn't she? She wants to help the Cox family, doesn't she?"

As she spoke, she let out a sigh, her face showing a hint of self-reproach.

"It seems I was really too impulsive and went over the line just now. She came all the way to help, and I said such harsh words. Avery, next time you see Ms. Garcia, please help me apologize to her properly. It's my fault. I hope she won't be upset with the entire Cox family because of me."

Avery stared at her for a couple of seconds before he finally said, "She won't. Neera is not that petty."

Phoebe was delighted. "That's great. When I get a chance, I'll invite her for a meal as an apology."

Avery asked, "Is there anything else?"

"Um..." Phoebe hesitated for a moment. "Yes, I was thinking, if the Gordon family is willing to lend a hand to help our family, please don't refuse them. This mission is too dangerous. I'd be relieved if there were more experts to accompany you..."

"You don't need to worry about this. Now, get out."

"Avery..."

Avery said impatiently, "I've already agreed. Get out."

"Okay."

Having achieved her goal, Phoebe no longer disturbed him.

Upon reaching the corridor, she closed the door to the study. Her expression changed in an instant, a triumphant gleam flashing in her eyes.

It would be best if that woman sends out all the experts by her side. When the time comes, it'll be easier for me to make a move.

"What are you doing here?" Suddenly, a soft and cute voice rang out, but its tone was anything but soft, carrying a harsh undertone. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

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## Chapter 1274

Phoebe turned around and was startled to see Violet standing behind her.

"What are you doing here?" she asked, stepping back with a furrowed brow.

Violet, with a candy in her mouth, glanced at the closed door and raised an eyebrow at Phoebe.

"You're bothering Satan again, huh? He's been in a bad mood lately and has a lot on his plate. I advise you not to cause any trouble. If you push Satan too far, he won't care if you have Albert protecting you. He'll have you thrown out directly."

Phoebe was furious. "What gives you the right to act superior in front of me? And to disrespect my father! Just because Avery is protecting you doesn't mean you can do whatever you want!"

Violet remained unfazed. "You said it yourself. With Satan watching over me, of course, I can do whatever I want. But what about you? Instead of going back to your own home, you're shamelessly staying at headquarters. What are you plotting?"

Phoebe's face stiffened. She was so angry she felt like she would explode, but she couldn't vent her frustration, which made her feel incredibly stifled.

"It's none of your business! I am the daughter of the Cox family. What's wrong with me living in the headquarters? Just mind your own business. Don't think that just because you have Avery as your backer, you're truly a member of the Cox family and can meddle in everything!"

After saying that, she turned around and stormed off in a huff.

Violet watched her leave, crunching her candy into pieces with two loud cracks. Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

When Neera returned to the Gordon residence, Jean was in the courtyard playing with the triplets.

Upon seeing her, the triplets ran towards her and gave her a warm embrace.

"Mommy, you're back!"

Neera pinched their cheeks with a smile. "Yes. Go and play on your own. I have some things to take care of."

"Okay." The triplets understood and went off to play on their own.

Jean walked towards Neera and held her hand out of habit. Together, they headed towards the mansion.

"Did you meet Avery?" he asked.

Neera nodded. "Yes."

"What did he say? Did he accept your help?" Jean raised an eyebrow. "I doubt it."

The two entered the living room and sat down hand in hand.

Neera gently swung his hand and said softly, "You're right. He didn't want to involve the Gordon family and planned to go to Adieu Island alone. But I couldn't just stand by and do nothing. Fortunately, he finally agreed to let the Gordon family help. I plan to send more people to support him. More help means better chances."

Jean raised an eyebrow. "It seems you've thought it through. You've become quite skilled at handling matters here."

Neera smiled. "It's better than before, at least."

Seeing her satisfied expression, Jean was amused and gently pinched her fingertips.

"No matter what you decide, I'll support you. Avery has helped you many times before, so it's only fair to repay him. Consider it returning a favor."

He knew that she disliked owing someone a favor.

Neera nodded. "I'll discuss this with Aunt Adriana and Uncle Chad."

As if on cue, Adriana and Chad descended the stairs.

"What do you want to tell us?" Adriana asked curiously.

Chad had a hunch. "Does it have to do with the Cox family?"

Neera stood up, linked arms with her aunt, and moved to sit on the other side.

"Yes, it does. The task assigned to the Cox family by the Bartitsu Guild is dangerous. I'm worried. Mr. Cox has helped me several times, so I felt I should offer a helping hand. I went to see him, and he agreed to let the Gordon family accompany him. I thought of sending more people. If possible, I could also go with them."

Upon hearing her last sentence, Jean furrowed his brows but remained silent.

He didn't mind her sending people to help Avery, but he didn't want her to go in person.

It wasn't out of jealousy but out of concern.

Chad shared his thoughts and immediately rejected her idea.

"It's best if you don't go. The Jagger family is not easy to deal with. You're unfamiliar with Adieu Island and its surroundings. If you go, you might end up needing others to protect you. If anything unexpected happens, your aunt, Jean, and I will be worried sick."

Neera had only suggested it casually. She knew her limitations and playfully stuck out her tongue.

"I was just thinking out loud and didn't take it seriously. Even though I'd love to lend a hand personally, I'd probably end up being a burden with my amateur combat skills."

Adriana patted her hand. "Having the intention is enough. Send some experts to handle it and stay at home. Speaking of which, I still feel frightened thinking about the time you went to Mount Cloud personally. You mustn't get involved in such dangerous actions in the future."

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## Chapter 1275

"I know that," Neera sighed helplessly. "I wonder when I'll finally master this. I can't let Mr. Weaver teach me in vain."

As she mentioned Finnley, something suddenly came to her mind and she slapped her forehead.

"Oh no, oh no! I've been so busy during the past few days that I completely forgot what Mr. Weaver said! He also mentioned that he wanted me to continue practicing at the fighting arts center!" Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Adriana and Chad were unaware of this. They looked at her curiously. "What are you practicing?"

Neera made a gesture and said, "I'm practicing throwing darts. Previously, I was almost injured by Stella's people at the Medicina family's clinic. It was Mr. Medicina who saved me with his throwing darts. Shane noticed my interest and took me to Mr. Weaver to learn the art of throwing darts. However, Mr. Weaver said we should proceed step by step and let me start with throwing darts. During my trip to Mount Cloud, I made some progress, and it proved to be somewhat useful."

Upon hearing this, Chad couldn't help but laugh. "I wasn't aware of this. Mr. Weaver hasn't taken on a student in a long time. If he's willing to teach you, it seems he thinks highly of you."

Neera chuckled. "I wasn't too bad. At least I didn't embarrass him."

As she spoke, something occurred to her, and she suddenly had an idea.

"By the way, Uncle Chad, can we send Mr. Weaver there? Although he's getting older, he's still strong and agile. Back on Mount Cloud, he was very skilled in fighting! If he could go, he would surely be of great help."

After considering it, Chad said, "That could work, but whether he'd be willing to do it is another matter. Although Mr. Weaver has some connections with the Gordon family, he doesn't have much to do with the Cox family. He's always been independent. The reason he was willing to follow you to Mount Cloud previously was because you are the head of the Gordon family. But this time, he might not be willing to go."

Neera agreed. "I'll ask him then."

Chad chuckled. "That depends on how much influence you have."

On the way to the fighting arts center, Neera shared her training experiences with Finnley with Jean.

The triplets insisted on coming along. They perked up their ears, listening with great interest.

In no time, they arrived at the fighting arts center.

Neera still felt somewhat anxious when she got out of the car.

"I haven't been here for a few days. I wonder if he's upset with me..."

Jean gently ruffled her hair. "If he's upset, just try to appease him."

Neera rubbed her nose and muttered, "You think everyone is as easy to please as you are."

Jean chuckled. "Seems like you know I'm easy to please..."

While the two were engrossed in their conversation, they entered the fighting arts center.

At that moment, Finnley was lying on the rocking chair, his face covered with a large palm-leaf fan, leisurely rocking back and forth. He seemed to have fallen asleep.

While Neera debated whether or not to wake Finnley, the straw fan suddenly slipped down, and the old man looked over with narrowed eyes.

Seeing her approach, his expression darkened. He grunted and covered his face with the large straw fan again, clearly showing that he had no interest in engaging with her. Neera was speechless.

She gave Jean a pitiful glance as if to say, "See? He's definitely angry."

Resignedly, she walked over and put on a pleasing smile. "Mr. Weaver, I've come to see you."

A cold snort echoed from beneath the straw fan. Yet, Finnley remained motionless.

Neera, realizing her mistake, softened her tone and said sweetly, "Mr. Weaver, please don't be angry. I've been so busy these past few days that I forgot. I didn't intentionally avoid coming."

Finnley had been holding in his anger for a while. Upon hearing those words, he couldn't contain himself any longer.

With a swift flick of his straw fan, he sat up with a rustle.

"You have the audacity to say you're busy? I heard you've been out gallivanting with some young man, eating, drinking, and having fun. Trying to deceive me? Ha!"

Only while speaking did he notice that Jean was also present. He pointed at the latter with his straw fan while grumpily venting his frustration at Neera.

"So it's this young man! And you even brought him here. Tell me! Have you deliberately come to upset me?"

Neera was both amused and exasperated. "No way! I've truly been busy. I've been dealing with people from the various family factions for the past few days. It was only

when I finally had some free time that I came out to relax. The moment I thought of you, I hurried over. Look! I even specially made fish stew for you to try."

As she spoke, she held up the thermos, opening the lid for him to smell, her actions filled with the intention to please.

Finnley was initially full of anger, but his expression changed several times upon smelling the aroma of the fish stew.

"You... You better stop trying to deceive me with these tricks!" He maintained a serious face and pretended not to care, but he couldn't help but sneak glances in her direction.

Neera almost laughed at his childlike behavior, but she feared it might upset the old man even more, so she had no choice but to hold it in.

"I wouldn't dare to deceive you, Mr. Weaver. This is something I've carefully prepared just for you. No one else has it. Even if you're angry with me and wish to reprimand me, can we at least wait until after you've had the fish stew? Otherwise, if the fish stew cools down, it won't be as fragrant as it is now. Is that okay?"

Finnley simply harrumphed loudly.

Raising his chin haughtily, he pushed himself up from the rocking chair and strolled toward the inner room while fanning himself with the straw fan.

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## Chapter 1276

Neera, who still couldn't quite figure out what was on his mind, watched his retreating figure intently.

Eventually, Finnley shouted irritably as he could no longer hold it back. "Hurry up and serve me a bowl of oatmeal!" Only then did she break into a delighted smile and quickly followed him.

Inside the restaurant, Neera carefully prepared a bowl of oatmeal and presented it to Finnley like a treasured offering. "Finnley, try it while it's hot. I guarantee you'll be satisfied with my cooking skills!"

Finnley, still looking rather unhappy, picked up his bowl. After taking a sip, his eyes instantly lit up.

"Did you make this?" he asked after taking another two sips.

Neera smiled. "Of course." search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Finnley regarded her with suspicion before falling into silence. He picked up his bowl and started to eat his oatmeal with deep, concentrated focus.

Even though he wasn't content after finishing the meal, he felt the need to uphold an air of authority.

He wiped his mouth, maintained a stern face, and began to reprimand her.

"Don't get carried away just because you've grasped some basics. Don't you dare start acting all high and mighty and disregard my advice. I asked you to come over and continue practicing, but you didn't even bother to pay me a visit. It's almost as if you've forgotten that I'm your mentor." He let out a cold snort and added, "I've never encountered a disciple who behaved the way you have!"

Neera could only humbly accept his reprimand and play to his tune. "You're absolutely right. It's all my fault. I promise I won't make the same mistake again, and I'll definitely heed your words."

Feeling the sincerity in her apology, Finnley chose not to dwell on it any longer. After saying a few more words, he pointed at the empty bowl and requested, "Is there more of this? Get me another bowl."

Delighted, Neera quickly did as instructed.

Finnley contentedly sipped another bowl of oatmeal before scrutinizing the man in front of him.

"Who are you?" he asked. "What's your relationship with my disciple?"

With a slight smirk playing on his lips, Jean responded in a soft voice, "Hi, nice to meet you for the first time. My name is Jean Beauvort, Neera's fiancé."

Finnley murmured, "Oh, so you're her real fiancé. What brings you here?"

Jean smiled faintly. "I came to see Neera, of course. We've been apart for a long time, and I've missed her dearly."

"Why are you young people always behaving so affectionately? I can't stand it." With a pout, Finnley muttered under his breath, then swept his gaze around, pointing at the three children next to him.

He then continued asking Neera, "And where did these three come from?"



His question rendered Neera speechless for a moment. What does he mean where did they come from? They're not fruits!

"They are my children, and Jean is their father. This is Harvey, Sammy, and our little daughter, Penny." She introduced each one to Finnley, then turned to the three little ones. "This is Mr. Weaver, who taught me combat arts. You can also call him Mr. Weaver."

The well-behaved children greeted Finnley in their soft and cute voices, "Hello, Mr. Weaver."

Finnley blinked, glancing at Neera before turning his attention to Jean. "They really are your children. The boys resemble their father, and the girl takes after you. So the whole family is here in Phison, huh? Neera, don't let success go to your head. You've only just begun to make a name for yourself, and you're already in the limelight. It's a bit much."

As soon as he finished speaking, the children immediately stood up for Neera. "Mommy didn't bring us here. We pleaded with Grand aunt and Grand uncle to take us here. Daddy also came without notice just to give Mommy a surprise, so he could stay by Mommy's side!"

Finnley's eyes widened with childlike curiosity as he honed in on the main point and asked, "Grand uncle? Is Chad here as well?"

Neera nodded in response. "Yes, Uncle Chad brought them here."

Finnley was delighted. "Great! That young man has finally returned. It's been quite a while since I last saw him. Tell him to come and see me when he's available!"

Neera had a sudden realization that Finnley's connection with Chad was certainly out of the ordinary. She offered a faint smile in agreement.

Amid all the commotion, Finnley simply put aside the issue of her absence from training.

Patting his belly contentedly, he finally got down to business. "All right, tell me. What brings you here all of a sudden today?"

Caught off guard by his blunt question, Neera felt a bit embarrassed to answer. Clearing her throat, she responded vaguely, "It's nothing really..."

The elderly man glared at her, refusing to believe. "You've been gone for quite some time, not showing up for practice, and now you remember me all of a sudden. What's going on? Since you're here, don't waste time. Tell me what's on your mind. I dislike people who beat around the bush."

Neera had no choice but to come clean. She let out an awkward chuckle before explaining the reason for her visit. "Mr. Weaver, I have a favor to ask. The union has assigned the Cox family a task, and you're aware of that, aren't you?"

With his eyes half-closed, Finnley casually responded while stroking his favorite beard. "Yeah, I've heard about it. The Cox family is supposed to reclaim the Jagger family's Adieu Island. It's quite a big deal, and it has become the talk of the town. The young lads who came to my fighting arts center were all distracted, completely engrossed in this matter. I had to give them a good scolding before they started behaving."

Whenever the topic of combat arts came up, Finnley always had plenty to share.

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## Chapter 1277

Curious, Neera asked, "So, people still come to your fighting arts center, huh?"

Upon hearing these words, Finnley immediately felt offended. He widened his eyes and glared at her fiercely. "Hey, are you doubting me? Do you realize how many people in Phison want to learn from my fighting arts center, hoping for my guidance? If I were to accept them all, the fighting arts center wouldn't have enough room, even if they came in shifts twenty hours a day!"

Neera hummed as she gently rubbed her nose and murmured, "I figured not many people would come here, especially since the fighting arts center seems a bit worn down."

The triplets and Jean, who were listening on the sides, almost burst out laughing as they struggled to hold it in.

Feeling somewhat embarrassed, Finnley huffed and quickly changed the subject. "Just tell me why you're here! Quick!"

"Oh." Neera decided to get straight to the point. "Here's the thing, I have a favor to ask. This mission is fraught with danger, and I'm worried about any unforeseen incidents befalling the Cox family. So, I would like to ask you to join us to ensure their safety."

"Ah, so this is why you came over!" It all clicked for Finnley. He straightened up, his eyes narrowing into slits. "I knew it. You'd never think of me when it comes to good things, but when you need my help, you'll always come to me. You're doing this for the head of the Cox family, aren't you?"

While speaking, he cast a glance at Jean.

"Neera, I thought you said you had no interest in Avery? Why are you seeking my help on his behalf? Aren't you afraid your fiancé will be jealous?" Finnley questioned.

Neera chuckled. "It's not because of Avery. The Cox family has helped me many times before, and now that they're in trouble, I can't sit idly and do nothing. I just want to lend a hand where I can to repay their kindness. That's all."

Finnley pouted. "You want to return their kindness, so you're seeking my assistance. Does that mean I'll have a favor to call in later?"

Neera blinked. "Come on, Mr. Weaver. The Coxes are outsiders, but you're not. Furthermore, I can always find a way to repay the favor I owe you. But I don't often get the opportunity to return such kindness to others. It would weigh on me if I didn't do something for them. If I don't repay it, I'll always feel indebted to them."

Wearing a smug expression, Finnley continued to resist her request. "Why do I get the feeling I've become your caretaker? It was one thing to protect you in Mount Cloud, but now you want me to head to Adieu Island to safeguard someone who's not even connected to me. Are you not concerned that something might happen to an old man like me? Are you really putting me through this?"

Neera immediately corrected him. "No harm will befall you, Mr. Weaver, that's for certain! You shouldn't curse yourself like that. You're destined for a long and healthy life, and I have complete faith in your skills. Dealing with the Jagger family should be a walk in the park for you. Besides, you won't be going alone, so there's no need to worry. I'll arrange for a group of experts from the Gordon family to accompany you. They'll ensure your safe return!"

Finnley inquired again, "So tell me, how do you plan to repay me? I need to weigh whether it's worth it before I can make a decision."

After some contemplation, Neera quickly devised a plan. "How about this? When you return, I'll prepare delicious meals for you every day, and I guarantee a variety of dishes for each meal. Does that sound appealing to you?"

Finnley puffed out his beard and shot her a stern look. "You believe you can win me over with food alone? Do you think I can be swayed so effortlessly?"

Neera decided to pull out all the stops. "I noticed you really enjoyed the oatmeal, didn't you? I'm confident I can win you over with my culinary skills."

Her remark left Finnley speechless.

Hearing the stifled giggles of the triplets, Finnley turned his head and glared at them. After pondering for a long while, he finally agreed, albeit reluctantly. "Okay, fine. I'll do it for you, but let me be clear. I don't owe anything to the Cox family, and I might not put

my life on the line if things take an unexpected turn. If that does happen, the Coxes will have to hope for the best. I want you to understand that you can't just count on me."

He did not have a close relationship with the Cox family in the first place. If it were not for Neera's visit today, he would never have agreed to assist them.

Neera comprehended his message and didn't press the matter further. She expressed her gratitude, saying, "I'm very thankful that you're willing to make this journey for me. Give it your best, and please prioritize your safety."

Finnley's agreement to help lifted a significant weight from Neera's heart.

Despite Finnley's apparent reluctance on the surface, he was not entirely displeased with the task.

After all, it was Neera who requested the favor, and he saw it as an opportunity to put his combat skills to the test.

The prospect of savoring delicious meals every day swiftly lifted his childlike spirits. From that moment on, he began to closely observe the young man in front of him.

The more he examined Jean, the stronger he experienced a peculiar sense of recognition.

Having trained in combat arts for numerous years, he didn't typically concentrate on people's faces but rather on their body shapes when observing them. This made him particularly attentive to their physique. "Why do I feel like I've met him before? But somehow, I don't recall his face. This is weird."

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## Chapter 1278

"What are you looking at?" Neera asked, noticing him squinting his eyes and closely observing Jean, lost in thought.

The old man mumbled incoherently, then stared at Jean for a moment before suddenly asking, "Young man, have I seen you somewhere before?"

Jean raised his eyebrows slightly and replied calmly, "You must have mistaken me for someone else. This is my first time in Phison, and I have never met you before."

Finnley looked skeptical and said, "Is that so? But why do I find you so familiar..."

Neera also found it impossible. "You must have mistaken him for someone else. He's not from Phison, just like me. It's our first time here. How could he possibly have met you before?"

Hearing everyone's denial, Finnley still felt something was off, but he didn't dwell on it.

Meanwhile, the triplets had already rushed into the fighting arts center, exploring everything in sight with curiosity.

Confidently, Finnley walked over with his hands clasped behind his back and looked at the three kids. "Are you interested in combat arts?"

The triplets nodded in unison. "Yes, Mr. Weaver. Mommy told us you're really skilled. Could you teach us a few moves?"

Finnley stroked his beard. "Teach you? You're just kids. What could you possibly learn? Instead of wasting time here, you'd be better off going out and having fun." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Sammy, the first to express his displeasure, retorted, "Mr. Weaver, you shouldn't underestimate us just because we're young. We've had some lessons, you know!"

Neera felt a headache coming on and quickly intervened. "You guys, stop causing trouble for Mr. Weaver."

Intrigued, Finnley asked them, "Have you learned this before? Can you do a squat? Show me one."

The triplets, determined not to be outdone, immediately complied.

Although they appeared soft and cuddly, their movements were surprisingly well-coordinated and graceful.

Finnley circled around them, lightly tapping their shins with his foot.

Apart from Penny, who swayed slightly, the other two triplets remained as steady as a rock.

Finnley was pleased. "I didn't expect you guys to be telling the truth. You've got the basics down. Who taught you?"

The triplets chuckled. "So many people! Our great-granddad once taught us exercise, and our dad and the uncles around him have also taught us. Although, they just taught us the basics."

"Oh?" Finnley raised his eyebrows in surprise and turned to Jean. "You know combat arts too?"

Jean's expression remained unchanged. "I know a little."

The triplets chimed in, "That's not true at all. Daddy is really good! Super, super great!"

Finnley narrowed his eyes, struck by a sudden thought, and attacked Jean.

Sensing the fierce palm wind rushing towards him, Jean slightly narrowed his eyes and swiftly evaded the attack with a sidestep.

Despite being well-prepared, Finnley relentlessly changed his strategy and continued his assault, forcing Jean to fight back. "Hey lad, stop hiding all the time. Fight back when you need to. Show me how skilled you really are!"

Jean skillfully used his arm to parry and neutralize Finnley's attacks, constantly changing his footwork, but he refused to make a move.

Neera watched the scene, feeling somewhat puzzled. What's going on here? How did it escalate to physical action while we were just talking? Could this be the habit of a combat arts fanatic?

She was immediately unsure whether she should step forward to intervene.

The triplets, on the other hand, were thoroughly entertained by the spectacle. They even started clapping, cheering on their father with great enthusiasm.

Finnley and Jean continued their heated exchange of blows.

Although it seemed like a back-and-forth, upon closer observation, Finnley was always on the offensive, with Jean on the defensive.

What was even more surprising was that, despite being on the defensive, Jean did not show the slightest sign of weakness. On the contrary, he handled the situation with ease and composure.

Naturally, Finnley noticed this and was quite surprised. This youngster, no matter how much he's pressured, refuses to make a move. Even under my strong offensive, he can flawlessly defend without making a single mistake! Although I can't fully gauge his true strength, it's clear that his skills are superior to all the top experts in Phison! I haven't encountered such an enigmatic person in a long time.

After exchanging two more blows, Finnley suddenly stopped and stood still as if he had lost interest. "That's enough. You won't make move. What's the point if you're only defending and I'm attacking!"

Jean also stood still, straightening his slightly disheveled clothes. With a calm expression, he said, "I'm simply not as skilled. It's better not to show off and avoid making a fool of myself."

Not as skilled? Hmph, who are you trying to fool! Finnley waved his hand, too lazy to expose Jean's lies.

However, after he and Neera had left with the triplets for a while, an unexpected thought suddenly crossed his mind. Right from the start, I've had a feeling that the young man seems to be deliberately concealing his skills. Even though he could hide it well, some of his defensive moves inevitably gave him away. Not to mention, he gave me an inexplicable sense of familiarity, as if I'd seen his figure somewhere before. The reason he didn't make a move was to prevent himself from being recognized.

Considering that possibility, he furrowed his wrinkled forehead, his gaze becoming somewhat profound. Ah, it seems Neera's fiancé is no ordinary man. Perhaps he has another identity...

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## Chapter 1279

Two days later, everything was prepared.

Avery, leading a large group of people, made their way towards the dock.

The sun was shining brightly that day, its rays particularly dazzling.

Neera kept that date in mind and arrived early to see them off.

Finnley had already arrived, leisurely strolling on the deck with his hands clasped behind his back, taking in his surroundings.

The way he carried himself didn't suggest that he was embarking on a dangerous mission, but rather that he was off to enjoy a day at sea.

Upon spotting her, he waved her over and immediately started giving her advice. "Neera, don't think you can slack off just because I'm not around. If you want to reach the level of the flying needle, you must practice diligently. When I return, I will definitely assess your progress during this period. If you don't pass... Hmph! You'll have to live in the fighting arts center, where I can keep an eye on you twenty-four hours a day!"

Neera was taken aback.

She initially learned the skill just to survive in the ruthless Phison. Unexpectedly, Finnley took quite a liking to her. [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

However, even though her current situation wasn't as perilous anymore, she didn't want to give up halfway. Who knows when it might come in handy again in the future?

With that thought in mind, she obediently agreed. "Mr. Weaver, rest assured. I will practice diligently. When you return, I will show you my progress."

Only then was Finnley satisfied.

As the two conversed, a convoy of cars pulled up at the dock. Avery stepped out, followed by a large crowd of people. They boarded the ship in a grand, imposing manner, exuding an air of impressive force.

First, he glanced at the annoying presence beside Neera before indifferently shifting his gaze. When he looked at Neera, the look in his eyes became gentle. "You're here, Neera."

Neera nodded with a smile. "Yes. I'll leave Finnley in your care. These few people are among the top experts in the Gordon family. I hope they can be of help to you."

"

As she spoke, she gestured for the people standing behind her to step forward. Raising her voice, she commanded, "On this journey, you will represent the Gordon family. Do your utmost to assist the Cox family. No matter what happens, you must ensure the safety of the head of the Cox family."

The group of people nodded in agreement. "Yes!"

First, Avery expressed his gratitude to Finnley. Then he turned to Neera and said, "I'm sorry for making you worry about me. Actually, you didn't have to come today. You could've asked them to come."

Neera shook her head. "I had to come here myself to feel at ease. Take care on your journey. I'll wait for your safe return."

Even though he knew very well that her feelings for him were not romantic but merely friendly, Avery couldn't help but feel a sense of satisfaction when he heard her say she would wait for his return.

He smiled gently. "All right. I'll return safely."

His words sounded like a promise, solemn and meaningful.



Since it was about time, Neera didn't want to hold them up.

"Go ahead and set sail. Jean and I will take our leave first."

After she finished speaking, she reiterated, "Safe journey."

Avery kept his gaze on her, his eyes deep and intense. He watched until her figure disappeared at the stern of the ship. Only after her figure became an indistinct dot on the dock did he reluctantly look away.

It wasn't until Irwin reminded him it was time to leave that he finally looked deeply at that figure. It was as if he wanted to etch the image of Neera into the depths of his heart. Finally, he withdrew his gaze.

"Set sail." He faced the vast and serene sea, his gaze reaching into the distance, his words clear and resonant.

Before long, the massive ship, propelled by the turbines, changed its course and glided gently across the surface of the sea.

Avery had more matters to attend to, so he turned around to enter the cabin.

A beam of light caught his attention.

He lowered his gaze, only to find a pearl earring, quietly forgotten. Its smooth, delicate surface reflected the brilliant sunlight.

He recognized it as Neera's earring that had accidentally fallen there.

His dark eyes seemed to light up with that dazzling light, revealing a hint of color. He picked up the earring and held it tightly in his palm. Let's consider this as the lucky charm she gave me.

Down at the pier, Neera and Jean hadn't left yet, watching as the ship sailed away.

Watching the massive object recede further and further from the shoreline, becoming a diminishing dot on the horizon, Neera finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"All right. Let's head back," she said, giving Jean's hand a gentle shake.

The latter raised an eyebrow, walking side by side with her, and said with a smirk, "Waiting for your safe return?"

Neera was taken aback for a moment, not catching his main point. "What's the matter?"

Jean hummed lightly. "If it weren't for the fact that you need to repay a favor, I might have lost my temper on the spot."

Seeing his sullen expression, Neera finally came to a belated realization. "Hmm... Are you jealous?"

Jean's expression was somber. "The way he looks at you is so passionate, it's impossible to ignore. His intentions are clear as day from the way he wears his heart on his sleeve."

He spoke through gritted teeth, showing just how much he detested Avery.

Neera gently touched his nose, pulled out her trump card, and coaxed him in a soft and gentle voice, "No matter what he thinks, my heart will always be with you. Apart from you, no one else can have a place in my heart. Isn't that enough?"

Sure enough, her simple sentence swept away the gloom in Jean's heart.

He felt a surge of invigoration throughout his entire body.

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## Chapter 1280

However...

"Even so, you mustn't speak in such an ambiguous manner in the future. Even if you don't mean anything by it, there's no guarantee others won't misunderstand."

Whenever it involved Neera, Jean couldn't tolerate even the slightest misunderstanding.

Jean gently pinched Neera's chin, lifting it slightly to meet his squinted eyes. Her heart pounded in her chest.

Even after being together for so long, whenever she saw his eyes filled with possessiveness and heard his domineering words, she couldn't help but be moved.

The thought of this man, who only showed this side of himself in her presence, expressing all his love and care for her without any reservation, filled her with even more satisfaction and joy. In truth, he's not the only one with a strong desire for exclusivity. I feel the same way too.

At that thought, she smiled charmingly, her eyes sparkling, radiating a captivating glow. "Okay. I'll listen to you."

That phrase sounded familiar. Jean remembered that he often used to say the same thing to coax her and couldn't help but laugh.

He gently pinched her soft cheek, his hand sliding down to hold hers once again as he deftly changed the subject. "What's your plan now?"

After some thought, Neera said, "I guess there's nothing else. For now, Shane is taking care of those five districts for me. Uncle Chad is helping me get a feel for the situation. As for the guild, they're probably focused on the Jagger family's affairs right now, so there's no need for me to do anything."

Jean's eyebrows lifted slightly. "So, can you spare some time for me now?"

Neera smiled. "Absolutely." SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Jean was quite satisfied. "What do you want to do? Phison is vast. Do you want to go somewhere else?"

Neera chuckled. "You sound like a tour guide, as if you're very familiar with this place."

Jean paused for a moment, then casually said, "I heard a few things on my way here."

Neera didn't dwell on that. She nodded, then suddenly turned her head to look at the sea, an idea forming in her mind. "How about we take the three little beasts and set out to sea together?"

Naturally, Jean would agree to anything she asked for. He agreed without a second thought.

He was just about to suggest making the arrangements himself when he heard Neera say, "All right, then, I'll have someone prepare the yacht when we get back. We'll set off first thing tomorrow morning."

Only then did Jean remember his current status. He arched his brow, curled his lips, and said, "Okay."

Just as Jean and Neera got into the car and left the dock, another vehicle emerged from around the corner of the dock warehouse.

Phoebe sat in the driver's seat, her beautiful eyes shrouded in gloom, losing their charm and revealing a hint of ruthlessness.

That day was the day Avery set off, and she was fraught with worry.

She had intended to accompany Avery there, to bid him farewell, but he ruthlessly rejected her, not even sparing her a glance before he left.

That feeling of being completely overlooked brought her both pain and resentment.

She quietly followed him out, just for the sake of stealing a distant glance at him. In a deserted corner, she watched him leave, her eyes lingering on him with reluctance.

When she saw that Neera had also arrived, her resentment intensified. Seeing Avery's gentle demeanor toward Neera, Phoebe was almost driven to madness by jealousy. Why has Avery never treated me this way? Where do I fall short compared to her? Is it because I am his nominal cousin, and because of this constraint, he refuses to acknowledge my feelings for him? If that's the case, I won't mind ending this relationship! We aren't related by blood, so why can't we be together?

A myriad of thoughts swirled in her mind. All her emotions, upon seeing the man beside Neera, initially simmered down. However, after a two-second pause, they transformed into deep-seated anger.

Just by looking at that man's appearance and the aura he exuded, Phoebe could guess that he was no ordinary individual. How on earth does Neera have such incredible luck to be surrounded by so many outstanding men? She has the love of someone like Avery, but she doesn't know how to cherish it. Instead, she's choosing to be with another man? I've been yearning to be with Avery for so many years, yet my wish could never be fulfilled! Neera Garcia! I'll never let her get away with this!

The car sped along the road, and as soon as she returned to the Cox residence, she immediately made a phone call. "Find out for me the background of the man accompanying the head of the Gordon family, and do it as soon as possible!"

A deep and hoarse voice sounded on the other end of the line. "Understood, Ms. Cox."

In less than half an hour, she received a phone call. "The man's name is Jean Beauvort, the current head of the Beauvort family in Kingsview and the CEO of Beauvort Group."

"Beauvort Group? Are you sure he's from the Beauvort family in Kingsview? Are you certain there's no mistake?"

"Absolutely, without a doubt."

Kingsview's Beauvort family was a renowned and prestigious household, well-known even in Phison.

The prestigious reputation of Beauvort Group went without saying. Even the top-tier families of Phison held it in high regard.

Phoebe had anticipated that the man was of no ordinary status, but she didn't expect him to be that formidable. Neera is indeed lucky. She managed to be with such an exceptional man and even became acquainted with the Gordon family. She underwent a complete transformation and became the head of the Gordon family. Not only does she have a marriage arrangement with the Cox family, but Avery is also thoroughly captivated by her.

For a moment, Phoebe couldn't articulate her inner feelings.

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## Chapter 1281

Jealousy, anger, discontent, and resentment surged within her.

A multitude of emotions overwhelmed her, and her heart ached immensely.

But after a brief moment, she managed to suppress her emotions again. So what if Jean is incredibly influential? His influence is limited to Kingsview. In the isolated entity that is Phison, he holds no power. No matter how popular he is in Kingsview, he is insignificant here. In terms of influence, he doesn't even compare to a minor member of a lesser-known family. After all, he is in a foreign land. Once here, even he must conform. If he faces bullying here, all he can do is swallow his pride and yield.

With that in mind, she felt somewhat more at peace.

"What about Neera? I heard she's the abandoned daughter of the Garcia family. The Garcia family is nothing more than a minor and insignificant household, and now they've fallen on hard times. I heard they have nothing left," Phoebe said.

"Yes. The Garcia family has gone bankrupt, and now there's no trace of them in Kingsview. I've heard she's an excellent doctor, rumored to be the miracle doctor, Nancy. I haven't fully investigated the specifics yet. Should I delve deeper into this?"

Phoebe sneered, "No need. Even if she knows a bit of medical skills, she's just a mediocre practitioner. Saving that person from Lordsworth Estate was probably just a stroke of luck. She succeeded by accident. How could she possibly be the renowned medical genius, Nancy?"

Back then, when she heard about Neera, she had already sent someone to investigate Neera's identity.

However, at that time, since Neera was in Essley, she only investigated Neera's background in Essley and also learned about some matters concerning the Garcia family.

Beyond that, Phoebe was as clueless as most people in Phison about the sensation caused in Kingsview.

Therefore, she felt that Neera was simply not worthy of her esteemed cousin, Avery. This was the reason for her inner turmoil and discontent.

On the other end of the call, the man took the initiative to ask, "So, Ms. Cox, what would you like me to do next?"

Phoebe was ensnared in the softness of the large bed, a spark of brilliance bursting from her eyes as she stared intently at the ceiling, clearly up to some mischief.

"There aren't many experts left in the Gordon family now, are there?"

Upon hearing her question, the other party immediately responded, "Yes, this mission is of great importance to Mr. Cox. The head of the Gordon family has dispatched most of the family's elite to assist. Now, at the Gordon family's headquarters, apart from her personal bodyguard, there are only a few skilled individuals left. The rest, although they are also quite capable, are not particularly formidable opponents."

"Ha!"

Phoebe let out a scornful laugh.

"Unexpectedly, she seems quite naive. As the head of the Gordon family, holding significant power, she only keeps a handful of elite guards by her side. Is it a lack of awareness of potential threats, or is she so confident that she believes no one would dare to touch her?" She was talking to herself and quickly added, "But no matter what she thinks, it doesn't matter. For me, the current situation is actually a good thing. Without those people getting in the way, it's much easier to deal with her..."

As for Jean, since he has traveled a long distance to come here, looking as if he's deeply in love, then let him accompany that wretch and see this game through to the end. Soon, Phoebe shared with the other person what she wanted to do.

The person's name was Nicolas Lehman, who she had bought as a trusted aide from Freo Market.

The so-called Freo Market was somewhat similar to the black market abroad, involving illegal transactions.

Previously, in order to deal with those women who were after Avery, and not wanting to dirty her own hands or tarnish her public image, she had disguised herself and gone to that place to purchase Nicolas.

After that, Nicolas did quite a few things for her. She orchestrated all those underhanded schemes while he did the dirty work.

This time around, she wanted to use her old tricks again, but with a slight difference.

"Listen carefully. I want that b\*tch dead. As for the man, if he gets in the way, kill him too and be done with it," she ordered. [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

However, Nicolas hesitated for a moment. "Ms. Cox, Jean's status is quite extraordinary. If we kill him, I'm afraid it will bring considerable trouble."

"What's there to fear?" Phoebe dismissed nonchalantly. "No matter how formidable he is, or how great his background, he can't do much in Phison. The entry and exit requirements here are extremely strict. He must have been brought in by the Gordon family. He didn't bring many people with him, did he?"

Nicolas recalled the information he had gathered. "He probably didn't bring his confidants with him."

Phoebe sneered contemptuously and said, "I knew it. No matter how noble his status, once he's in Phison, he has to abide by its rules! Even if he dies here, no one will care. His people shouldn't even think about causing any trouble in Phison. If there's anyone to blame, it's him for being blind and falling for that b\*tch, Neera. If you're still worried, you can hire some people from Freo Market for extra security. In any case, I don't want to see that b\*tch ever again!"

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## **Read Chapter 1282**

### **Chapter 1282**

The next day was sunny and beautiful, making it the perfect day for an outing.

The triplets were thrilled when they heard about the sea outing. They were so excited that they could hardly contain themselves. They stayed up late into the night and woke up before dawn to pack their things.

After Neera finished washing up, she entered their room. She was completely stunned to see the three suitcases lined up side by side. "Are you planning on living on the boat?" she asked.

Sammy poked his head out of the bathroom, his electric toothbrush buzzing in his mouth. His speech was muffled as he said, "Sure thing! Let's go out and explore!" Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Harvey stepped out and advised him, "Don't talk with something in your mouth. Go brush your teeth first."

As the eldest brother, Harvey's words carried weight and his younger siblings greatly respected him.

Sammy blinked and cheerfully continued to brush his teeth, his little bottom wiggling as he went.

Neera couldn't help but laugh and asked Harvey, "Why did you bring so much stuff? We're just going out to sea for fun, not for an adventure."

"Mommy, wait a moment," Harvey responded. He went to the head of the bed and picked up the tablet. "Mommy, look," he said as he lit up the screen. "This is Wind Chime Island. It's very close to the dock on the west side of Phison. It would probably take just over an hour to get there."

Neera finally understood. "So, you guys want to go play on this Wind Chime Island?"

Harvey nodded and swiped twice on the screen. "These pictures are of Wing Chime Island that we found. It's beautiful. There's also a holiday mansion there. I've already inquired about it. We can move in as soon as we arrive. Mommy, let's go together and stay on the island for a few more days."

Despite his young age, Harvey handled things as orderly and maturely as an adult.

Neera chuckled and poked his little head. "So, you guys stayed up until midnight last night just to plan this out, huh? You've already arranged everything. Were you planning to act first and report later?"

Harvey was always a well-behaved child who followed the rules. Whatever he did, whatever thoughts he had, he always discussed them with Neera in advance, seeking her approval. That was his first time making decisions on his own without discussing it with her.

Neera was quite surprised, but she didn't mean to reprimand him. Instead, she was just teasing him playfully.



The little one blinked and said softly, "Mommy, you've been so busy lately. We've noticed that you haven't had any pressing matters these past few days, so we thought it would be good for you to relax a bit. Also, you and daddy had a disagreement before, and it's been a long time since our family has spent some happy time together. We're all really looking forward to this trip. Could we go ahead with the plan?"

His eyes were filled with unmistakable anticipation.

Neera's heart melted. "How can I possibly bear to refuse him? Indeed, for a long time, I've been neglecting the children's emotions and feelings. Now that I'm free, why not spend time with them and let them enjoy themselves for a few days? In Phison, every time I step out, I feel all sorts of gazes falling on me, always making me feel uncomfortable. It seems the triplets must feel the same way."

"Okay," she said, pinching Harvey's cheek. "I'm fine with the plan. Let's go ask your daddy later to see if he has time for it."

Before she could finish her words, Jean's deep, mellow voice came from behind. "I have the time, and since the kids want to go, we'll just accompany them."

When Neera turned around, she saw Jean leaning against the door with his arms crossed. He exuded casual elegance, a blend of nobility and nonchalance.

"You're awake," she said, a smile appearing in her eyes.

Jean raised an eyebrow. "The moment I woke up, there was no one in sight," he complained with a hint of indulgence.

Neera rubbed her nose and said, "I woke up early and saw you were still sleeping, so I didn't disturb you. I went downstairs and prepared some packed meals, thinking we could eat them on the boat."

At that moment, the other two little ones who had been eavesdropping behind the bathroom door excitedly appeared, instantly throwing themselves into Jean's arms. "Wow! Daddy's the best! Our whole family is going on a trip! We're going to have fun on an island!"

The usually reserved and composed Harvey couldn't help but break into a smile, his face full of excitement.

Jean bent down, giving Sammy and Penny a kiss. Then, he beckoned Harvey over and planted a kiss on his cheek as well. "Good morning, little ones. Let's head downstairs for breakfast first. We'll be setting off soon."

"Yes!" The children were overjoyed, dancing and prancing around as they excitedly bounded down the stairs.

Upon hearing that they were planning to go to Wind Chime Island, both Chad and Adriana expressed their full support.

"Go on. Take a good break. You don't need to worry about things here. Shane and I are keeping an eye on everything. If any issues arise, we'll handle them."

"That's right. Enjoy a few more days. Just be safe. We'll be waiting for you at home."

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## Chapter 1283

Neera nodded in agreement, exchanged a few words with her aunt, and then went upstairs to pack her things.

The moment she got in the car and saw the triplets sitting in the back seat, she was completely surprised. "Why are you guys wearing sunglasses in the car? And where did you get these sunglasses from?"

The triplets, each wearing a large pair of sunglasses, had their faces mostly covered by the glasses.

They looked quite silly.

In response to her surprise, the triplets acted nonchalantly.

Adjusting his sunglasses, Sammy calmly said, "Uncle Edward gave these to us. The sunlight at the beach is too strong, so we wear them to protect our eyes."

Harvey remained still and simply hummed, indicating his agreement.

Penny lowered her head slightly, pushing her sunglasses down to reveal her sparkling eyes. "Mommy, don't we look cool? We look cool, right?"

Neera was speechless. What is happening? When did my adorable little ones become so peculiar? They're so unique! Isn't Edward busy running his company? How did he find the time to send the triplets gifts all the way across the ocean?

She rubbed her forehead, feeling frustrated. "Have you been in contact with Uncle Edward? How did he end up buying such large sunglasses for you?"

Penny grinned and replied, "Uncle Edward went to Essley to visit our great-grandparents, as well as Grand aunt Nadine and Granduncle Jeremiah."

Sammy chimed in, "Uncle Edward took us out to play, bought us many gifts, and treated us to lots of delicious food. We thought he looked really cool with his big sunglasses on, so we wanted to be just like him!" Harvey hummed.

Neera didn't know how to react. It seems the triplets are good at imitating others. With so many people around them spoiling and pampering them, they seem to be getting naughtier every day.

She sighed helplessly, taking off Penny's oversized sunglasses. "Alright. If you like wearing them, you can put them on when we get to the beach. Wearing sunglasses in the car is just too strange."

The triplets were still excited, but they obediently took off the sunglasses. They immediately started chatting about something else.

Neera turned her head and looked at the man in the driver's seat with a hint of helplessness. "These little rascals are so cunning. In the past, it was just Aunt Adriana and me, so they always behaved. Now, with no worries and so many people indulging them, I'm afraid they might become uncontrollable soon."

Jean held the steering wheel and laughed indulgently. "So what? As long as they're happy, they should do whatever they want."

Neera was speechless. "You're their father. How can you spoil them like this? Aren't you afraid they'll develop bad habits? It will be difficult to manage them then."

Jean didn't mind. His handsome face was filled with tenderness and indulgence. "They're still children, being mischievous is part of their nature. It's the age to have fun, so they should enjoy it. Besides, they are sensible and have a wonderful mother like you to educate and set an example for them. The elders around them are all outstanding individuals. How could they possibly go astray? There's no need to worry unnecessarily, and furthermore..."

He paused for a moment, then continued in a gentle voice, "Before, they were so well-behaved that they restrained themselves. I wasn't there with them, and I missed those five years. Now, I have a chance to make up for it. How could I bear to let them restrain themselves again? From now on, with you, with me, with a complete family, they can be as willful and mischievous as they want. My children should be the happiest and most joyful children in the world."

After hearing that, Neera was deeply moved yet somewhat surprised. "I thought you wanted them to stand out, to be as exceptional as you are."

Jean smiled. "All those things never mattered to me, including the so-called family business inheritance. It's not important. What matters most is the children's own desires. If they enjoy doing business, then I will personally guide them and help them

reach great heights in that field. If they have no interest in business and have other passions and paths they wish to pursue, then I will wholeheartedly support them and assist them as much as I can. My expectations are not high, as long as they can live without worries, follow their hearts, and lead a joyful life, that's enough for me."

That was his vision and also what Neera hoped for.

For a moment, Neera was deeply moved. "Who would have thought you would be such a loving father?"

Jean chuckled. "What's the matter? Have I always seemed mean?"

"Well, that's not the case." As she spoke, a sudden thought crossed her mind. After a moment of hesitation, she decided to ask, "Hey... Actually, I've always had a question. If it were six years ago, and the man that night wasn't you, and the triplets weren't your own children, would you still feel the same way?"

The triplets behind listened intently, their ears perked up in anticipation. Everyone was waiting for his answer.

Jean slightly turned the steering wheel and glanced at her. "Are you doubting me? Don't you trust me?" [Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

Neera quickly shook her head. "That's not it. I'm just curious. After all, people often care a lot about their family and bloodline..."

"I do care, but not to such an extent. Blood ties are indeed a bond, but they can't determine everything," Jean replied.

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## Chapter 1284

Right then, he thought of the Garcia family. "You are the biological daughter of the Garcia family, but has Alfonso, your biological father, treated you well? Apart from your aunt, the rest of your blood relatives are no better than strangers. Therefore, what truly connects people is not blood but emotions, sincere and unchanging emotions. I cherish you and everything related to you, including the children. Before I knew the truth, I truly treated them as my own, loving them dearly. I never cared about whose blood runs in their veins. Moreover, my affection for them is not solely because of you. They are genuinely lovable. I've thought about this a long time ago, that once we get married, I'll have them under my name. Regardless, I am their real father."

Neera didn't know he had thought so far ahead. Her heart was a mix of emotions, and she was deeply touched.

Behind them, the triplets' eyes were slightly moist.

Before, they had always hoped to gain their father's approval. Even if they couldn't reveal their true identity to him, they were doing their best to make him like them. They were afraid that if they weren't good enough, he would dislike them.

They never thought they had been accepted all along.

On the journey that followed, the family relaxed, chatting and laughing. The atmosphere was incredibly lively.

Neera had been so engrossed in listening to Jean's speech that she only just realized something afterward. "Hey, why aren't you using the GPS? Do you know how to get to the pier?"

With a calm demeanor, Jean responded leisurely, "I checked before we set off. I know the route."

In fact, he not only knew the route, but he also knew Wind Chime Island very well. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

There, what appeared to be an open island was, in fact, his private territory.

There was a time when he was recuperating on the island, living a secluded life. Apart from Tiago and Ian, no one else knew about it.

Upon reaching the dock, the family of five boarded a well-prepared ship. They set sail for Wind Chime Island.

The view over the sea was expansive, with shimmering waves. The gentle sea breeze brushed softly against their cheeks, bringing a sense of peace and tranquility.

The triplets were frolicking on the deck, chattering away like songbirds. Their laughter echoed with the rhythm of the sea waves, creating a symphony of joy. Neera listened, feeling relaxed and content.

Over an hour later, the boat docked on the shores of Wind Chime Island.

The triplets seemed to have boundless energy. After disembarking the ship and settling their luggage into the vacation mansion, they dashed out to explore every inch of Wind Chime Island.

Neera was both amused and helpless, but she patiently accompanied Jean, also immersing herself in this hard-earned, joyous journey.

However, the good times always seemed to be fleeting.

All the joy came to an abrupt halt with a surprise attack in the middle of the second night.

That night, Neera nearly fainted from the relentless demands of the man. She pleaded tearfully for mercy. Only then was she able to catch her breath in his arms.

Jean held the petite woman as if he had just pulled her out of the water. His hot palm gently stroked her back, and his breath, equally hot, sprayed on the woman's graceful neck, causing a shiver to ripple through her.

Neera, feeling weak and numb, pleaded pitifully, "I'm so tired. I really want to sleep now..."

Her soft, tender voice, coupled with her coquettish tone, could simply charm the soul out of any man.

With a sigh, Jean whispered in her ear, "I'll let you rest for now."

After he finished speaking, he stood up, picked her up, and strode toward the bathroom.

While taking a bath, Neera was so tired that she could barely keep her eyes open. She nestled in his arms, letting him take control, and in no time, she drifted off to sleep in a daze.

After cleaning both her and himself up, Jean carried her back to the bedroom. He changed the bed sheets before finally settling down to cuddle and sleep with her.

However, before he could fall into a deep sleep, he was awakened by a rustling noise.

Listening to the sound, it seemed to come from the doorway.

At that moment, it was already past three in the morning.

He knew the triplets couldn't be the ones outside the room.

A glint of cold light flashed in his eyes. Jean gently released his hold on Neera's hand, stood up lightly, walked over, and pulled open the door.

"What's going on?" He looked at the person standing outside the door, not surprised in the slightest. He asked in a cold voice, a hint of displeasure in his tone.

Standing at the door, astonishingly, was Ian, who hadn't shown his face for a long time.

His expression was serious. Disregarding his surroundings, he lowered his voice to report, "Mr. Beauvort, we are surrounded!"

Jean's expression slightly darkened when he heard that. With his eyes narrowed, he asked, "Do you know who they are?"

Ian shook his head. "It's still unclear. I can't tell which faction they belong to. However, they probably aren't targeting you. Currently, in the whole of Phison, aside from us, no one knows your true identity. So, these people are likely targeting Mrs. Beauvort."

When Ian was speaking, Jean casually closed the door behind him. He walked to the end of the corridor and looked down through the window.

Just as Ian said, the perimeter of the mansion had been surrounded by people. All in all, there were around thirty to forty of them.

A cold smirk tugged at the corner of Jean's lips. "Quite a crowd has gathered. Their intentions seem pretty clear..."

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## Chapter 1285

Ian nodded in agreement. "That seems accurate. These individuals appear unfamiliar. They are likely not from the families in Phison. They seem more like traders from Freo Market."

The so-called traders resembled mercenaries. They were extremely wicked and would do anything for money.

These people had no loyalty to any power. They pledged their allegiance to whoever paid them. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

The mastermind behind that operation, who managed to bribe so many people at once and track them down to Wind Chime Island, launching a midnight attack, had to be influential.

"They are probably targeting Mrs. Beauvort's life," Ian speculated.

A sharp glint flashed through Jean's eyes, emanating a menacing aura.

"Are they even worthy of going after Neera?" A bone-chilling voice echoed. Jean then glanced at Ian. "Have Storm and Cloud arrived yet?"

"Everyone is here, waiting downstairs for your orders."

Ian's face showed concern as he continued, "Mr. Beauvort, once we take action, your identity might be questioned, perhaps even exposed..."

Those people dared to chase all the way to Wind Chime Island because they had already deduced Neera's situation, knowing that she didn't bring anyone with her.

That was also what Neera strongly insisted on before the trip.

She felt that since she was out to relax, she shouldn't always have someone following her around.

Zephyr naturally was reluctant, and Charles also felt that he should stay close. "Ms. Garcia, you are currently under the watchful eyes of many, both openly and covertly. Who knows if someone harbors ill intentions, waiting for a chance to strike? How can you not have someone by your side for protection?"

Shane also advised, "Yes. Thinking back to the dangers we faced on Mount Cloud, I still feel a lingering fear. I'm always worried when you don't have someone by your side to protect you."

Neera was at her wits' end, feeling utterly helpless. "I know you're worried about me, but there's really no need this time. I just want to relax a bit, and nothing will happen. Those people can't possibly watch me around the clock, can they? Zephyr, Charles, you've been with me all this time. It must have been hard. Take these few days to rest well and do your own things."

"But..." Zephyr and Charles exchanged glances, both clearly uneasy.

Suddenly, Chad, hand in hand with Adriana, descended from upstairs. "Forget about it. Let's go with what Ms. Garcia suggests."

Zephyr and Charles simultaneously turned around, respectfully calling out, "Mr. Gordon!" They then added, "Those forces are—"

Chad waved his hand. "No need to be overly cautious. In the eyes of outsiders, Neera is now an important figure of the union, and she has the backing of Lordsworth Estate. Colin has even openly supported Neera in public. Even if there are family forces that are green with envy, these two safeguards should keep them in check. I don't think anyone would be foolish enough to act rashly during this time."



After speaking, he nodded slightly at Jean. "Besides, Neera isn't alone, right? Jean is with her. Even if something were to happen, Jean would protect her, wouldn't he?"

For some reason, his gaze was inexplicably filled with profound meaning.

Meeting his gaze, Jean nodded calmly. "Yes. If Neera prefers not to have someone accompany her, let's respect her wishes. After all, she's going out to relax. Having someone with her might make her feel uncomfortable. Aunt Adriana, Uncle Chad, rest assured, I will do my best to ensure Neera's safety."

Chad raised an eyebrow, chuckling lightly. "With your words, I have nothing to worry about."

Beside him, Adriana felt as if there was a hidden meaning in his words, but she couldn't quite figure it out.

Once they had seen the guests out, she turned to him, puzzled, and asked, "Why do I get the feeling that you trust Jean more than usual?"

Chad walked alongside her toward the mansion, chuckling. "What's the matter? Don't you trust him?"

"No. It's not that I don't trust him. Of course, I do. But this is Phison, not Essley, nor Kingsview. Although the reputation of the Beauvort Group is well-established, it doesn't hold much value here in Phison. He has no foundation here, nor does he have manpower. I'm afraid he might be overwhelmed..." Adriana replied.

Chad's eyes sparkled slightly, and he uttered ambiguously, "Who do you think he is? Why would he be overwhelmed?"

Adriana looked at him suspiciously. "Why do I feel like you're speaking strangely today, as if you're hiding something? Is there something going on?"

Chad brushed the hair from her temples, smiling gently, his eyes filled with warmth. "It's just some suspicions, nothing more. Once I've figured it out, I'll let you know. As for Jean, you don't need to worry about him. Even if we're in Phison, it won't affect him. He's always been a person who is decisive and sharp, always thinking ten steps ahead. How could he be careless enough to put himself in danger?"

"True, but..." Adriana expressed with a heavy heart, "Neither he nor Neera have anyone to protect them. That's rather careless."

"No one's protecting them?" Chad raised his brows. "That might not necessarily be the case. What kind of person is Jean? How could someone like him not have people secretly protecting him?"

"Well, he came to Phison alone, didn't he? Moreover, Phison is heavily guarded, outsiders are not allowed to come and go freely. He was able to enter because of the Gordon family, but his people, they surely wouldn't be allowed to come along, right?" Adriana asked.

Chad squinted his eyes when he heard those words. "Because of the Gordon family? Perhaps..."

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## Chapter 1286

Alas, Adriana couldn't quite grasp the man's point. "Why are you speaking so ambiguously? Oh, forget it... As long as they're safe and sound, nothing else matters."

With that, she glanced at the time and hastily headed upstairs.

"I have a video conference coming up shortly. You'll have to entertain yourself for a while."

Chad looked up to see her disappear around the stairwell corner before smiling and walking to the balcony. The next second, his smile faded, and he suddenly spoke up. "Come out."

In an instant, Charles and Zephyr appeared beside him, completely silent and stealthy like phantoms.

"Mr. Gordon, are you sure you don't need us to follow Ms. Garcia?" Zephyr asked worriedly.

Chad glanced at him. "I know you're worried about her, but there's really no need. She has someone else protecting her."

"Mr. Beauvort is alone and has limited strength, though," Zephyr replied with furrowed brows. "If he encounters a large group of people, it will be difficult to ensure Ms. Garcia's safety."

A faint smile tugged at Chad's lips. "He's not the only one."

Zephyr, however, was still confused. "What?"

Instead of answering, Chad turned to Charles. "Have you found anything out? How did Jean get into Phison?"

Charles, who had long been waiting to share his report, instantly replied, "Yes, I've looked into it. Mr. Beauvort didn't just arrive in Phison recently. In fact, he had already left Kingsview more than half a month ago. It was said that he took a private plane, but his destination was unknown. At the same time, a private plane landed at an airport on the west coast of Phison, except it wasn't registered in the system, and there were no records of anyone entering or leaving, either. As for Mr. Beauvort's claim that he took advantage of the Gordon family's power and influence, I couldn't find any evidence to substantiate it. I've carefully investigated all entrances and exits, including the small docks, but there's no record of Mr. Beauvort's movements anywhere."

Upon hearing that, Zephyr froze.

"How is that possible... Phison has stringent security measures, so no matter who it is, their movements will be recorded in the state's system. How can he possibly be an exception?"

Charles nodded. "It's absolutely true."

"Well, this is interesting..." Chad murmured, his mind whirring with ideas. "There's no way he can appear out of thin air, nor can he come and go like a ghost. The only plausible explanation is that someone is covering his tracks for him."

"Someone, huh?" Zephyr replied while giving it some thought. "Are you suggesting that Mr. Beauvort has connections with the people of Phison?"

"I suppose so. If he truly has connections here, then his status in Phison is definitely beyond the reach of the common folk. After all, there aren't many people in Phison who can reach into the system controlled by the neutral faction."

Zephyr finally understood the situation and widened his eyes in astonishment.

"So, are you saying that someone from Phison has been secretly protecting Mr. Beauvort? Who could that person be, though? And why hasn't Mr. Beauvort ever mentioned this?" he asked, keenly grasping the crux of what Charles said. "Moreover, if we speculate that Mr. Beauvort left Kingsview by private jet and came here, wouldn't that mean he arrived just two days after Ms. Garcia? In that case, why didn't he go to her directly? Why did he choose to hid for such a long time before appearing? This doesn't make sense."

"This isn't the only thing that doesn't make sense," Chad quipped before sitting on the lounge chair and leaning against the backrest. [SEARCH THE Find\\_Novel.net](http://www.Find_Novel.net) website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

As he casually rested his arms on the armrest, his fingers tapped away rhythmically from time to time, and it was clear to see he was deep in thought.

"The relationship between Lordsworth Estate and Bartitsu Guild has always been tense, with both sides seeing each other as adversaries. Neera's appearance, however, managed to stir up trouble between these two powers that had never interacted with each other before. Judging by how the Gordon family also benefited from this, it's evident that this is what Lordsworth Estate's lord had intended," Chad reasoned. "That said, there's something I can't quite wrap my mind around. Even if Neera had saved Jean's life, is there a need for him to go to such lengths? He was willing to destroy barriers, abandon his principles, and assist a force under Bartitsu Guild just for her... Let's not forget that District 21 to District 25 have always been hotly contested. Lordsworth Estate has been coveting them for many years and has never given up on their pursuit. This time, they marched into the mountains with great fanfare, and all the prominent families were there to protect Neera. They even willingly handed the most crucial white flag to her. Even if it's to repay a favor, don't you think the price is overly steep? Can you believe someone would go to such extreme lengths for another person they've hardly ever interacted with?"

Unable to fully understand what Chad had meant, Zephyr and Charles exchanged glances before shaking their heads.

Chad, on the other hand, still had many questions, which he threw out all at once.

"Judging by this lord's actions, it seems he holds our Neera in high regard, to the point where she's almost his top priority. What's puzzling, though, is why he hasn't appeared before her since she has been here for a while. If he truly wanted to express his gratitude, wouldn't it be more sincere to do it in person? Even if he wanted to maintain an air of mystery, he could've sent someone to invite Neera over and thank her privately. However, he didn't. Even Neera herself is in the dark about the lord's true identity. Why has he done so much yet missed this crucial step?"

Charles immediately understood what Chad was insinuating. "Mr. Gordon, do you think this lord is avoiding Ms. Garcia intentionally?"

Chad nodded. "That's right. He's determined to help Neera, yet he refuses to show himself to her. The only plausible explanation is that he doesn't want to see her," he said before pondering for a moment. "Or... Maybe it's not that he doesn't want to see, but rather... He can't see her."

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## Chapter 1287

By then, Zephyr was completely perplexed. He was a fanatic of fighting arts, and although he was quite intelligent, he despised beating around the bush and pondering over such convoluted matters.

"Why can't he see Ms. Garcia? He has provided significant assistance, so it can't possibly be because he distrusts her, can it? That wouldn't make any sense at all."

"That's impossible," Chad firmly replied. "Based on his various actions, there's no doubt that he has absolute trust in Neera."

Simultaneously, a glint flashed across his eyes. Ah... I believe I'm on the verge of uncovering the truth.

Charles, too, could feel his mind working. "If he's intentionally avoiding Ms. Garcia, then it might be because he's someone she knows. If they were strangers, it wouldn't matter even if they met. But if they've known each other for a long time, meeting in person would mean exposing his identity. Therefore, the lord might likely be someone Ms. Garcia is familiar with."

"Yes. That makes sense," Chad said before sitting up straight, his eyes narrowing as he considered the people close to Neera. Hmm. Who could be the lord of Phison? There don't seem to be many people I can choose from...

At that point, Zephyr finally caught on. Combining the information previously provided by Charles, he made a bold guess.

"Ms. Garcia had just arrived in Phison when Mr. Beauvort disappeared from Kingsview without a trace. At the same time, an unidentified private jet landed in Phison with unknown passengers, and Mr. Beauvort's travel records are completely blank. Then, Lordsworth Estate broke its rules by supporting Ms. Garcia, yet the lord who claimed to be repaying a favor never showed up. Even after Mr. Beauvort arrived in Phison, he never appeared either... Mr. Gordon, do you think Mr. Beauvort could be the lord of Lordsworth Estate?"

As it turned out, Chad was toying with the same idea, but he couldn't be entirely certain.

"Not necessarily. These are all just our speculations, and there's no solid evidence to support them. We could be overthinking, or it could also be that Jean is well acquainted with the higher-ups in Lordsworth Estate. In any case... It's hard to say."

That being said, Chad always felt that his train of thought was correct.

From the moment Jean first appeared in the city, Chad had already sensed that something was amiss, so he instructed Charles to investigate further.

As he had anticipated, everything was a blurry mess.

However, this could also shed light on some issues.

In any case, one thing was certain-Jean Beauvort was no ordinary man!

He was definitely more than just the CEO of Beauvort Group, and chances were, he held a significant position in Phison too!

Back on Wind Chime Island, Neera was still sound asleep.

At that moment, it still didn't occur to her that her carelessness had provided an opportunity for those with malicious intentions.

Standing in the corridor, Jean gazed at the courtyard outside the window, his gaze dark and cold.

It was late and quiet, and everything was shrouded in shadow.

Instead of hesitating, he made a quick decision. "There's no rush. Let's wait patiently. Once they take action, we'll swoop in and capture them all in one fell swoop. Not a single one will be allowed to escape!"

Ian, however, was concerned. "But if you do that, the mastermind will be aware of your existence, and your identity will be questioned..."

Not caring in the slightest, Jean turned around nonchalantly. "So what if they suspect me? Am I supposed to be afraid of them?"

With that, he walked into the bedroom without looking back and lay down next to Neera.

Regarding the frenzy that was about to unfold in the mansion, he wasn't the least bit nervous. On the contrary, he downplayed it as if nothing was happening.

Seemingly having sensed the man's presence, Neera turned over and whimpered before snuggling into his arms. Like a cat, she found a comfortable position to curl up in and quickly returned to sleep.

Jean wrapped his arms around her and lowered his gaze, his eyes twinkling with joy as they wandered over her face.

Since he wasn't sleepy, he simply watched her contentedly, never once averting his gaze. [SEARCH THE Find\\_Novel.net website](http://www.findnovel.net) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Twenty minutes later, the sound of a fight suddenly erupted from downstairs.

A fierce glint instantly flashed across Jean's eyes. Left with no choice, he sighed and gently shook the woman in his arms awake.

"Wake up, Neera."

Neera grunted before wriggling into his arms. "I'm sleepy," she mumbled unconsciously. "D-Don't disturb me...'

Feeling helpless, Jean tickled the woman with her own hair. "Wake up first. You can go back to sleep once everything's over."

By then, Neera was so annoyed that she could no longer remain asleep. After struggling to open her eyes, she glared at the man. "Why are you disturbing my peaceful dream—"

Unfortunately, before she could finish her sentence, the sound of glass shattering rang out from downstairs and startled her.

"What's that noise? What's happening downstairs?" she exclaimed. Having noticed the sounds of a brawl coming from below, she instantly became alert and sat up straight.

The next second, the blanket slipped from her shoulders, revealing a fair, flawless body.

After stealing a glance at her, Jean felt himself tense up. A fire had ignited within him, leaving his throat incredibly dry.

D\*mn it. This woman is far too captivating. I've always prided myself on my self-control, yet she has the uncanny ability to shatter it like a house of cards!

Despite that, Jean knew it wasn't the time to dwell on such thoughts, so he promptly rolled out of bed and fetched Neera her clothes.

"Get dressed first. I'll take you out to see what's happening."

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## Chapter 1288

Upon hearing that, Neera suddenly realized she was naked and felt her cheeks flush with embarrassment. The next second, she hastily pulled the blanket up to cover herself.

Fortunately, the commotion from downstairs didn't give her any time to feel embarrassed.

Instead, she quickly put on her clothes, eager to leave the room.

Just then, Jean gently took her hand. "Don't worry. Everything will be alright."

However, his calm demeanor only added to Neera's confusion. How could he act as if nothing was happening?

"What on earth is going on? Who's downstairs?" Neera asked, slowly realizing the situation. "Wait... Could it really be that someone is trying to take advantage of the situation?"

Jean gently ruffled her slightly messy hair. "Don't overthink things for now," he reassured her.

With that, he led her out of the bedroom.

The sounds of fighting continued downstairs, but Neera noticed that it was peaceful on the upper floor, and no one seemed to be coming up.

As she pondered the situation, Jean led her to the corner of the stairwell, where she had a clear view of what was happening downstairs.

It turned out that a group of black-clad, masked men had broken into the house. They were incredibly agile and skilled in combat.

However, they soon found themselves surrounded by a few shadowy figures.

"Wait a minute... Isn't that Ian, Storm, and Cloud? What are they doing here?" Neera exclaimed.

Jean stared expressionlessly at the scene below, but his tone remained gentle. "I'll explain it to you later."

Neera was utterly confused, unable to make sense of the situation.

After remembering that the triplets were still sound asleep, her face darkened. "I need to go check on the children."

Jean grabbed her once again. "Don't worry. There's already someone watching over them in the room. They're well protected, and nothing will happen to them."

Although Neera was shocked, she felt a momentary sense of relief. Without further ado, she turned her attention back downstairs.

Meanwhile, the intruders had no idea that they were falling into an ambush.

More importantly, they never expected that a small group of people could easily defeat them!



Ian and the others were ruthless in their attacks, and each move was swift and deadly. Anyone who made a mistake would surely meet their end!

They dodged the attacks and stood their ground even when outnumbered. In short, the intruders couldn't handle the onslaught.

Before long, the intruders found themselves at a disadvantage.

Without hesitation, Ian and the others quickly subdued everyone.

Just like that, the unexpected night raid came to a halt.

One of the men in black spat out blood and panted heavily. "Who... Who are you guys?"

Like everyone else, his mask had been ripped off during the fight, revealing an unfamiliar face.

Ian sneered before kicking the man to the ground. "Did I say you can speak? Is everyone from Freo Market this disrespectful? You're at my mercy, yet you still dare to act defiantly?"

Upon hearing him mention "Freo Market," the men in black were stunned. They couldn't understand how Ian knew about it.

Jean finally walked down the stairs with Neera.

As soon as they heard footsteps approaching, Ian, Storm, and Cloud turned around. "Mr. Beauvort, Mrs. Beauvort, we apologize if we've disturbed you," they said respectfully. [Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

"No harm done," Jean replied calmly as he looked at the black-clad men kneeling before him.

Everyone felt a chill run down their spine, and for a moment, no one dared to breathe.

This man... His presence is overwhelming! The way he looks at us makes us feel as though we're being tortured! Who is he? Why does he have so many experts with him? This is different from the information we had!

The intruders were still in shock and confusion when Jean spoke up.

"Who sent you here, and what were you supposed to do?"

The men in black were taken aback by the question, their faces filled with various expressions.

Seconds passed, but there was only silence.

The intruders remained silent, determined not to speak.

Jean chuckled coldly. "I didn't think you guys would be so tight-lipped. No one's saying anything, huh? In that case, you're in for a rough time."

Finally, someone spoke up. However, instead of revealing the truth, they fired questions at Jean.

"Who are you? Phison doesn't allow outsiders, so how did you bring your people here? If those in Phison find out, you and your team will be in trouble!"

To their surprise, Jean burst into laughter, his tone filled with scorn and mockery.

"At this point, you still have the mind to worry about me? You should start thinking about your next steps. Think about whether you can leave this island alive."

After saying that, Jean wiped away his smile and glanced at Ian.

With just one look, Ian knew what to do.

He ordered Storm, Cloud, and two other subordinates to quickly take the intruders out of the mansion.

"Where are they being taken?" Neera asked.

"We'll find a place to keep them under watch and make sure they reveal everything."

Neera understood what he meant. The intruders were going to be locked up and interrogated, possibly even tortured.

She didn't try to stop it. The thought that she might have died in the mansion if it weren't for Ian and the others left her without sympathy.

Even now, she still felt fear. "It's all my fault. I was too careless. Zephyr and Charles were right to be worried. I can't believe someone is so eager to come after me that they tracked me down to this place..."

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## Chapter 1289

Judging by the number of people and their formidable appearance earlier, she deduced with considerable certainty that they were after her life. Search the Find\_Novel.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

At that moment, her brows furrowed, her expression somewhat unpleasant.

"Who on earth is so desperate to take my life? Are they so eager to seize my power, resorting to any means necessary? But even if I die, the Gordon family will still exist. The position of the district president, as well as the seat of the ninth elder, should still fall to the Gordon family..."

She couldn't figure it out, nor could she guess who was behind it.

Jean poured her a cup of warm water and handed it to her. "Don't jump to conclusions just yet. These people are indeed targeting you, but it might not necessarily be for the power you hold."

Neera did not understand him. "Isn't that so? What other reason could there be? I have no deep connection with Phison. Apart from this, there shouldn't be anything else that could make someone hate me to this extent, right?"

Jean pondered and said, "Just like you said, the Gordon family is currently in a powerful position. Even without you, someone else from the Gordon family would inherit your current position. Only if the Gordon family's power wanes would it be possible for others to step in. So, there's no need to rush to act against you now. I think anyone with a brain can understand this. Therefore, I feel that this matter might not be as simple as it seems. There might be other reasons." Then, he comforted her in a gentle voice, "If you can't figure it out, don't dwell on it for now. After all, we've already caught the culprits. Sooner or later, they will spill the truth."

That might be true, but Neera's good mood from the past two days had completely evaporated, her mind filled with the unexpected events of that evening.

"That was close. If it weren't for Ian and the others being there, who knows what terrible things could have happened..." she murmured to herself.

Suddenly, recalling the "Freo Market" that Ian had mentioned earlier, she couldn't help but ask curiously, "By the way, what is Freo Market?"

Jean explained to her, "It's essentially the black market of Phison. All the under-the-table dealings happen there."

"Who were those people just now? What kind of people are they?"

"Traders in the Freo Market. People pay them to get things done. They receive the remuneration and do others' bidding."

Neera furrowed her brows, completely unable to fathom that such a thing could happen.

At that moment, Ian walked in and reported, "Mr. Beauvort, those people are extremely stubborn. They refuse to utter a single word."

Upon hearing that, Jean smiled coolly. "I expected this outcome. The people of the Free Market are tough nuts to crack."

Ian hesitated for a moment, seeking his opinion. "Should we bring Lu..."

He was halfway through his sentence when he suddenly remembered something. He caught himself before finishing the rest of his sentence. Ian quickly changed the subject. "Should I call them over?"

Jean glanced at him and said lightly, "Go ahead. Get the results as soon as possible."

Ian nodded. "Yes."

It was only after he left once again that Neera remembered. "By the way, how did Ian end up here? And what about Storm, Cloud, and the others? Didn't you say you didn't bring anyone with you? How did they get into Phison?"

Jean fell silent for a moment, then responded without changing his expression, "Seeing that your situation here isn't very safe, I called them over to protect you secretly, just in case. Thanks to the Gordon family, it was much easier to enter Phison."

Neera didn't doubt him, believing his words to be true. "So, that's how it is. You're indeed more meticulous in your planning."

Upon receiving the news, Luna hurried to Wind Chime Island overnight.

Those men in black were confined in a massive garage. When she walked in, Cloud and Storm were interrogating them inside.

"Daybreak is almost upon us, and still no one is willing to speak up? What exactly are you all holding out for? Is it just for the money? Look at your current situation. You're literally making money at the risk of your lives, only not to have a chance to spend it. Why put yourselves through this?"

Someone spat out, vehemently retorting him through gritted teeth, "Don't think that by capturing us and throwing around a few threats, we'll be scared! Even if you have some skills, don't forget this is Phison! How dare you lay a hand on us casually?"

"Exactly!" someone chimed in. "Phison has its own rules. Outsiders are absolutely not allowed to lay a hand on the people of Phison! If you dare to make a move, don't even think about leaving Phison alive!"

Initially, they were quite wary of these people who had suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

However, those involved in the Freo Market were by no means fools. Once they calmed down, they quickly analyzed the current situation, realizing it was not as dire as they initially thought.

Emboldened by the fact that they were from Phison, they regained their confidence.

Even though many people were tormented to the point of wishing for death, they still refused to utter a single word.

Seeing the situation, Ian narrowed his eyes. "You really are tight-lipped. I'm curious to see how long you can keep this up."

"1

Having said that, he gave a meaningful glance to his two subordinates. Understanding his intent, they promptly strode over.

In an instant, the garage was filled with screams akin to a pig being slaughtered.

Luna found the sound quite grating. Rubbing her ears, she walked in with an expressionless face. "You called me over for this?"

Upon hearing her voice, Ian and the others turned to look.

"You're here. They refuse to speak up, so I had to call you over to keep them in line."

Luna was unfazed as she stared at the captives' swollen faces, noses, and blood-stained cheeks. She coldly said, "If you can't even handle such a small matter, are you still competent?"

Ian was rendered speechless.

Storm was rendered speechless.

Cloud was rendered speechless.

The three of them exchanged glances, all wearing expressions of helplessness.

Ian raised his hands and shrugged, expressing his helplessness. "There is nothing we can do. They are banking on their affiliation with Phison, assuming that we wouldn't dare to harm them, so they persistently refuse to cooperate."

While it was true that Ian and his group had no intention of killing the captives, it was not due to their benevolence, but rather because the complete truth had not yet been unveiled.

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## Chapter 1290

Luna had no patience to waste time with them. She took a few steps and stood under the dim light.

Her sudden appearance left all the people in black dumbfounded, their eyes wide and speechless.

"You're Luna!" someone exclaimed in shock.

Even without him saying it, everyone else knew who she was.

During the district president's election, Luna had already revealed herself to all the people of Phison.

At that time, she was following the Medicina family.

So, it was only natural for those people to assume she was from the Medicina family.

Soon, someone couldn't help but anxiously question, "Aren't you from the Medicina family? What are you doing here?"

Luna found him annoying. As her eyes scanned the room, her hand swiftly swung, sending a small, sharp blade flying. It whizzed past, grazing the speaker's scalp.

A strand of hair fell from that person's head, revealing a patch of scalp. Coupled with his pale, bloodless face and an expression of shock and fear, he seemed particularly comical.

"Are you even worthy of asking who I am and where I'm showing up?" Luna's voice was delicate, yet her tone was exceptionally stern.

She continued to scan the room with her eyes, her voice cool. "Who is the leader among you?"

An eerie silence followed.

Before Luna's arrival, those people, relying on their status as locals of Phison, clung stubbornly to their secret, courting death in various ways.

But now, the situation was different.

Luna was indeed a genuine local of Phison and even a prominent figure from Lordsworth Estate. Hence, how would they dare to step out of line? [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Long before they had laid eyes on Luna's true face, they had heard of her renowned reputation and various horrifying incidents involving her.

Everyone knew she was the most skilled fighter at Lordsworth Estate. Despite being a woman, her methods were more decisive and ruthless than the average man, showing no less brutality and severity.

She was so skilled that she could even extract the clues she needed from a corpse, let alone a living person.

If they were to fall into the hands of Luna, they could easily predict the outcome. They would be caught in a living hell.

That was simply a fate more terrifying than death!

The thought alone was enough to send shivers down the spines of those burly men in black. They trembled uncontrollably, and in unison, they turned to look at one of their own.

Although Luna was known for her intimidating reputation, she was undeniably beautiful. Her solemn facial features were stunningly cold and elegant. With a gentle squint of her beautiful eyes, she shifted her piercing gaze onto one of the men. "It seems you're the leader."

She took a few steps forward, stepping on the man's right shoulder with one foot. With one leg slightly bent, she looked down at him from above, exuding the commanding presence of a queen. "Speak up. Who bribed you, and what exactly did they ask you to do?"

The person looked up, unable to suppress an instinctual fear, continuously shaking all over like a sieve.

"Luna, don't forget, you are a member of Phison. How can you collude with outsiders?" Although the person was terrified, he didn't want to divulge the truth. Swallowing hard, he tried to persuade her, using words that would appeal to her emotions. "How about this? We'll make money together. You help us deal with them, and we split the profits

fifty-fifty. As for today's incident, we'll act as if it never happened, never mentioning it again from this day forward. Does that sound good?"

Seeing Luna remain silent, just coldly staring at him as if looking at a dead man, he broke out in a cold sweat. "This benefits you too, you know. If you turn against us, you'd be colluding with outsiders and harming your own people. If word gets out, you'll be branded a traitor of Phison! Not only will your reputation be ruined, but you'll also be wanted for arrest by Phison. Once caught, you'll definitely be put on trial and exiled to Judgment Island! Why go through all that? It's better to join us in this venture!"

No sooner had his words fallen than a round of applause rang out.

With a smile, Cloud said, "What a silver tongue you have, daring to plot right before us. It's such a waste to have you involved in these murderous and treacherous deeds."

The person gritted his teeth, his mouth filled with the taste of blood, but he tried harder. "Luna, your status in Phison didn't come easily, did it? You wouldn't want to ruin your future over such a trivial matter, right? It's just about dealing with two people. That man and woman are insignificant, and their lives are worth less than grass. Their death would be no loss. There's absolutely no need to make an enemy of the entire Phison for them, don't you agree?"

A layer of frost covered Luna's eyes after she heard that. Her eyes were filled with a chilling coldness so intense that it almost materialized, capable of killing her enemies without lifting a finger.

"Their lives are worth less than grass?" she repeated, her tone chilling. "Their death would be no loss?"

That man felt the intense aura of hostility emanating from her, trembling even more intensely, unsure of what he had said wrong.

"You..." He opened his mouth, wanting to say something more, but a force heavily pressed down on his shoulder.

Subsequently, he collapsed with a thud.

Immediately after, accompanied by a dull "crack" sound, a heart-wrenching scream echoed throughout the entire garage.

They saw Luna stepping on that man's shoulder, grinding down forcefully. Astonishingly, that action broke the man's arm and shattered his collarbone!

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## Chapter 1291

The intense pain caused the person to faint instantly, his face turning deathly pale, making him look no different from a corpse.

Ian rubbed his sore ear. He didn't stop Luna and instead leaned leisurely against the wall, watching the drama unfold with a relaxed demeanor.

The other men in black were completely stunned by that scene, unable to believe that Luna had actually taken action in such a ruthless manner!

On the other hand, Luna, as if nothing had happened, indifferently withdrew her foot, coldly observing the group of people who were left dumbfounded. "See that? That's what you call a life worth less than grass. His death would be no loss. If any of you wish to share his fate, feel free to make a fuss. I guarantee you'll all get a taste of pain so unbearable you'll wish you were dead."

Her tone was calm, but her words sent a wave of terror through everyone present.

It was only then that those people realized the two individuals in the mansion were simply not ones they could afford to provoke. Especially that man! These people must be that man's subordinates. [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

What they couldn't understand was why Luna was also helping. Judging from the situation just now, she seemed very familiar with those outsiders. Could it be that she's also that man's accomplice? But isn't that man unrelated to Phison? How come there are people from Phison protecting him?

Just as those people were trembling with fear and filled with uncertainty, Luna spoke again, her voice cold and detached. "My patience is running thin. I don't want to hear any more nonsense. I'm giving you one last chance. If you speak honestly, there might still be a glimmer of hope for you. But if you continue to babble and dodge, I won't mind dirtying my dagger to pry open your mouths. I'm curious to see just how stubborn you can be!"

A silence as profound as death ensued.

Aside from the one who had fainted, all the other men in black hung their heads in submission.

They knew they had no other choice. They didn't dare to provoke Luna, so they had no choice but to spill everything honestly.

Meanwhile, Phone was woken up by a phone call.

She turned on the desk lamp, her face clouded as she answered the call. She immediately scolded that person on the other line, "Do you know what time it is? Whatever it is, can't it wait until tomorrow? Must you disturb someone's peaceful sleep?"

On the other end of the line, Nicolas furrowed his brows, reporting directly, "Ms. Cox, there's been an incident. The situation doesn't look good."

Upon hearing the news, Phoebe sat up, furrowing her brows as she asked, "What happened? Speak clearly. Are there complications with the situation on Wind Chime Island?"

"Yes. The group we sent to Wind Chime Island hasn't returned yet. We can't get in touch with anyone either. It's as if they've vanished from the face of the earth. This isn't normal."

"Vanish from the face of the earth? How could that be possible!" Phoebe sobered up at once, her tone quite disgruntled. Clearly, she hadn't yet grasped the gravity of the situation. "Besides, if you can't get in touch, can't you just send someone else to check it out? You can't even handle such a small matter. You're so useless!"

Nicolas' face darkened, his hands clenched into fists, swallowing his pride. "I've already sent people to investigate the situation, but strangely, those few have also disappeared without a trace, and we can't get in touch with them. I suspect they might have been discovered. Chances are, it's more likely to be bad news than good!"

Phoebe couldn't believe it. "What kind of joke are you telling? I asked you to hire so many people just to deal with two small fries. How could they possibly fail?"

In her eyes, Neera, without her subordinates, was nothing to be afraid of.

As for Jean, a newcomer without any foundation or connections who didn't even have a trusted aide by his side was even less significant. Yet, now, Nicolas is telling me that all the people I hired could likely be completely wiped out? Isn't this the biggest joke ever?

Nicolas was also unsure of what was going on. Currently, there was no news at all, which left him feeling uneasy. He had a constant feeling that something bad was about to happen.

He hesitated for a moment, then suddenly voiced a doubt. "Ms. Cox, even though the head of the Gordon family didn't bring anyone to Wind Chime Island, she has a good relationship with Lordsworth Estate. Could it be possible that someone from Lordsworth Estate is secretly protecting her?"

"Lordsworth Estate?" Phoebe's breath hitched, only now remembering that Neera was not only backed by the Gordon family. "But how could someone from Lordsworth Estate be protecting a member of Bartitsu Guild around the clock? Even if she has some connections with Lordsworth Estate, it shouldn't go to this extent, right?"

Nicolas was puzzled as well. "I'm just suspicious. The current situation is unclear, but one thing is certain. Our people who were sent out have encountered problems. So many have gone, and none have returned. There's not even a shred of news, which indicates that there are definitely people protecting Ms. Garcia. However, all the experts of the Gordon family have already followed Mr. Cox to carry out tasks on Adieu Island. Bartitsu Guild has always been selfish. I've never heard of their upper echelon protecting any of their members. The only possibility is Lordsworth Estate's involvement. After all, they could openly challenge Mr. Lozano for the sake of Ms. Garcia. It shows how much they value Ms. Garcia. Hence, it's not impossible for them to send people to protect her in secret."

Phoebe's expression gradually turned solemn after listening to that analysis. "What do we do now? If they get caught, they might spill the truth!"

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## Chapter 1292

Nicholas said, "I'm not sure yet. Dealers are always tight-lipped. Besides, I'm using a fake identity. Even if they can't hold up and give me away, those people probably won't be able to trace it back to me."

This was somewhat good news, and the anxiety in Phoebe's heart eased a little.

"That's good. You're quite clever. But those people are really useless. So many of them, and they still couldn't get the job done!"

The thought that not only had she failed to eliminate Neera, but also implicated her own hired help, filled her with seething rage.

She instructed Nicholas to keep a close watch on any activity on Wind Chime Island and to report back to her immediately if anything happened. Then, she hung up the phone.

Later that night, she simply couldn't fall asleep.

A sense of foreboding lingered, constantly hovering in her heart, stirring up an unsettling restlessness within her.

Meanwhile, a deeper sense of resentment filled her heart, consuming all her thoughts and emotions.

How is it that Neera is always so lucky?

What virtue or talent does such a despicable person possess to earn the protection of so many?

Why is her cousin always around, and even people from Lordsworth Estate are involved? Even when she's on vacation, there are people secretly protecting her. Why is this happening?

She couldn't bear it, she just couldn't bear it!

No matter what, she was determined to make that b\*tch disappear completely!

It's not a big deal if I failed this time, there's always tomorrow. As long as I am still breathing, I won't let the wretch off easily no matter where she is!

It turned out, both Nicholas and Phoebe had oversimplified the matter. [SEARCH THE WEBSITE](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

That very night, the truth had already surfaced with crystal clarity.

After sharing the information he had found, Luna pointed in the direction of the villa and said, "Since Lady Phison is present, I won't go over. You guys go and report to My Lord."

Ian nodded, raising an eyebrow with a smile.

"It seems that we're not much use after not staying in Phison for a long time. When it comes down to the wire, we still have to rely on you."

With a casual air, Cloud sauntered over and slung his arm around Ian's shoulder, looking every bit the picture of brotherly camaraderie, chiming in agreement.

"Yeah, Luna, I didn't expect that after not seeing you for a few years, your skills have become so strong, and you've become more authoritative. It seems that we will have to rely on your power in Phison."

Luna couldn't be bothered to argue with them. He gave them a sidelong glance and turned away.

Ian, Cloud, and Storm chuckled and shook their heads in amusement behind.

"This girl, she's still so hard to amuse..."

In no time, Ian returned to the villa and reported everything in detail.

"They said they were hired by a man named Seus through Dark Net. Their task was to... deal with Mrs. Beauvort. If you pose a threat, they will deal with you as well. They are absolutely not to allow Mrs. Beauvort to leave Wind Chime Island alive."

Jean had anticipated this outcome long ago. He scoffed coldly, "Well, your appetite is quite large, wanting to take two at once."

"They bite off more than they can chew."

Neera would rather not believe that the other party's intentions were so malicious, a cloud of gloom shrouded her radiant face.

"Who is this Seus, not his real identity, right? I don't recall ever meeting such a person, let alone having any grudge against him."

Ian nodded, "Madam, your insight is commendable. We have investigated throughout Phison for anyone named Seus, but none could possibly be linked to today's night raid. Later, Storm got TorrentCloud to attack Dark Net, and following the trail, we discovered the true identity of this Seus. He is actually a man named Nicholas. He was once a trader in Freo Market but was eventually bought out completely, severing his ties with Freo Market. And the person who bought him... was Phoebe Cox."

In accordance with the rules in Freo Market, the identity of the buyer is to be kept confidential.

However, these rules meant nothing to Jean.

No matter how deeply hidden the truth he sought may be, he always had a way to unearth it.

Upon hearing Phoebe's name, Neera was first taken aback, then seemed somewhat dazed.

Before she knew the truth, she had suspected many other families. She had run through anyone of them who had ever had a conflict with the Gordon family in her mind.

But she never imagined that the puppet master behind the scenes would actually be someone from the Cox family.

Why would Phoebe be so ruthless towards me?

Aside from the last encounter at the Cox's residence, where the woman was indeed quite unfriendly towards her, there hadn't been any friction between them.

Moreover, no matter how she looked at it, the Gordon family and the Cox family had a good relationship. She even sent people to help the Cox family instead of watching over the fence. Why then does Phoebe still treat me so maliciously?

She just couldn't understand.

"Could there be some kind of misunderstanding here? I've only met Phoebe once, even if she dislikes me, would she really despise me to this extent? She actually hires so many people just to get rid of me? What is she after?"

Jean was somewhat surprised by the results of this investigation.

Ian actually knew some inside information.

Rumor had it that Phoebe was not the biological daughter of the third elder of the Cox family. More than a decade ago, Albert's wife passed away, and his daughter also died at a young age. This dealt a heavy blow to him. Phoebe was an orphan he adopted because she bore a slight resemblance to his deceased daughter.

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## Chapter 1293

Neera was taken aback by the truth, as she hadn't expected such a past event.

However, she still couldn't comprehend. "Even so, what does it have to do with me?"

Ian paused, glanced at Jean, and seemed to have something to say but held back.

Jean remained calm. "Please continue."

Following the command, Ian continued, "If I'm not mistaken, Phoebe has developed inappropriate feelings for the head of the Cox family... That's why she has been so hostile towards you."

Neera was filled with questions. "What? Does she like Avery?"

Ian scratched his head. "I believe so. Although there are no rumors circulating, my investigation reveals that Phoebe has been lingering in the Cox residence since she came of age. She always finds ways to be around Mr. Cox, despite his indifference towards her. She is persistent. Furthermore, I discovered that any women who tried to get close to Mr. Cox ended up in a terrible state and never appeared in front of him again. Phoebe is responsible for all of this. Nicholas is just a pawn in her hands, assisting her in carrying out cruel acts."

Neera was both angry and bewildered.

"So, it turns out that Phoebe wanted to harm me out of jealousy!"

"But I never liked Avery, nor did I have any intention of getting involved with him."

"Besides, even without her interference, they could never be together due to their cousin relationship."

"Why should she take her anger out on me?"

The more Neera thought about it, the angrier she became, and her face darkened significantly.

Jean's expression mirrored her gloominess. He turned to look at her and gently squeezed her hand. [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

"Don't waste your anger on unworthy people. It's not worth it. What do you want to do? I'll take care of it for you."

Neera pursed her lips, unsure of what to do.

If she could, she would rush to the Cox family right away, drag Phoebe out, and make her pay for her actions.

But she couldn't do that at the moment.

No matter how despicable Phoebe may be, she was still a member of the Cox family.

The Cox family had helped her several times before, and she owed them a debt of gratitude. If she were to confront Phoebe directly, she wouldn't be able to justify it to the Cox family, nor could she explain it to Avery.

She didn't want the Cox family to think that she was ungrateful.

With this in mind, she took a deep breath and decided to hold back for now.

"Fortunately, everyone is safe today. Let's put this matter on hold and leave Phoebe alone for the time being."

Jean's eyes narrowed slightly. "Why? Is it because of Avery?"

Neera nodded slightly. "Yes, Mr. Cox has helped me several times before. If I were to confront his cousin without informing him, it would be quite disrespectful."

"So what?" Jean remained indifferent. "It was Phoebe who first developed inappropriate feelings and acted wrongly. She should be prepared to face the consequences. Even if Avery comes back, he can't say anything. Besides, he and Phoebe don't have a good relationship."

"I understand that, but it still doesn't feel right. Whether Avery cares about Phoebe's well-being or not, that's his business. But I can't punish her without informing him first. I need to talk to him and then make a decision. It's not for any other reason but to ease my own conscience. I owe him too much. If I harm the Cox family now, wouldn't I be acting ungratefully?"

Jean remained unfazed and let out a cold huff. His pitch-black eyes were filled with frost.

"That woman must have calculated that there aren't many skilled people around you right now. That's why she dares to act so recklessly. If she succeeds, everything will be set in stone by the time Avery returns. No matter what we do then, it will be too late."

Neera understood, but she couldn't be ruthless like others.

"I know you don't want to tolerate this, but for my sake, please leave her alone for now. Once Mr. Cox returns, I'll discuss it with him."

Jean looked at her pleading expression, his brows slightly furrowed, but ultimately, he agreed.

"Alright, I will spare her life and wait for Avery to come back."

Neera finally felt relieved.

At that moment, the triplets appeared from around the corner of the staircase.

One by one, they were dressed in cow-print pajamas, their wide eyes peering down the stairs.

"Mommy, Daddy, what's happening?"

Sammy and Harvey showed no signs of fear. Their faces were filled with curiosity as they looked at the messy living room, their mouths agape in surprise.

"What a mess. Did someone break in?"

Upon seeing the triplets, Neera decided to put aside her thoughts and called them over.

"Come here quickly. Be careful and watch your step."



Instead of burdening the triplets with too much information and worrying them, Neera brushed it off with these words.

"Yes, someone broke in earlier, but everything is under control now. They have been caught. Don't worry."

Penny was still half-asleep. Upon hearing about the break-in, she couldn't help but feel a little scared. She sought comfort in Jean's embrace.

"Daddy, hold me. I'm a little scared..."

The little girl, with her soft body, climbed up and called out in her babyish voice, melting Jean's heart.

He held her securely, gently kissed her forehead, and reassured her, "Don't be afraid. Daddy is here."

"Mmm..." The little girl responded softly, nestling comfortably in his arms, and within a few seconds, she fell asleep.

Neera glanced at them and couldn't help but smile.

"Nothing can interrupt her sleep when she's tired. It doesn't matter how significant the event is. She just expressed her fear, but she's already fast asleep."

With a faint smile, Jean supported the young girl's back, stood up, and carried her back upstairs.

Neera kindly guided Harvey and Sammy back to their beds, persuading them to lie down before she eventually went back to her own room.

"The chaos downstairs..." Neera couldn't help but feel a headache coming on at the mere thought of it.

Jean lovingly tucked her in. "I'll handle everything. Don't fret."

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## **Chapter 1294**

It was nearly five in the morning after all the commotion.

Jean felt sympathy for Neera. "Go to sleep. You can wake up later in the morning. We're finally here to relax, so make sure you get enough rest."

Neera had been tormented by him until the early hours of the morning. She had barely slept when another issue arose. She was now exhausted.

Despite her fatigue, her mind remained active.

Noticing that Jean hadn't laid down, she asked, "Aren't you going to sleep?"

Jean nodded slightly and casually replied, "Hmm, I'll go and give them a few instructions. That group still needs to be dealt with."

"What do you plan to do with those people?" Neera inquired.

Jean had made up his mind. "Send them to Judgment Island. They are criminals who have been hiding in Freo Market. Now, it's time for them to face the consequences."

As he spoke these words, a flash of determination flickered in his eyes.

After everything that had happened, sending these people to Judgment Island could be considered lenient.

If they were to fall into his hands, he would make them suffer a thousand times more than they did on Judgment Island.

However, those were just minor characters, so he didn't even bother paying attention to them.

Phoebe was the real culprit!

At this moment, Neera noticed something and became curious.

"Why do I always feel that you're quite familiar with Phison? Isn't Judgment Island under the jurisdiction of the neutral faction? Can you actually send people there?"

Although Judgment Island was a place for imprisoning criminals, not just anyone could be sent there. Only those who were extremely wicked or had committed serious crimes could be confined within its walls.

There was no need for the neutral faction to adjudicate minor offenses. They could be sent to the nearest prison directly.

Jean's eyes flickered slightly as he tactfully replied, "I've taken some time these past few days to learn quite a bit. They've committed crimes and have a criminal record. Sending them to prison shouldn't be too difficult. In any case, you don't need to worry. Just leave everything to me. Just sleep peacefully, and everything will be alright when you wake up tomorrow."

Neera made a "hmm" sound and once again reminded him, "Don't act impulsively because of me."

She didn't care about Phoebe's fate.

However, she didn't want Jean to get into trouble.

If the Cox family blamed Jean for this, who knew what might happen if they took action against him...

Jean gently touched her face. "Don't worry. I know my limits."

This response seemed somewhat ambiguous, but Neera didn't notice anything amiss.

She nodded and quickly fell asleep with Jean by her side.

Once her breathing had steadied, Jean gently got up and left, descending the stairs.

Ian was still waiting downstairs. "Sir, it's almost dawn. Aren't you going to get some sleep? Can your body handle this?"

Jean sat nonchalantly on the sofa. "No worries, how are those guys doing now?"

Ian truthfully answered, "Apart from one who seems to be the leader, whose arm was disabled by Luna and has since fainted, everyone else is still conscious. Storm and Cloud are waiting for your instructions."

Jean's eyes narrowed slightly, a trace of severity flashing in their depths.

"Send them all to Judgment Island. Notify the neutral faction and lock them up in the water dungeon. Their fate is in their own hands."

Ian was not surprised at all, he simply accepted the order. "Yes."

The water dungeon on Judgment Island was a place that struck fear into the hearts of those who heard of it.

Being sent there was equivalent to being sentenced to death.

The place was dark, damp, and stiflingly hot. Anyone who entered would find themselves mostly submerged in water. After just a few days, they would suffer unbearable pain and swelling. [Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

In that place, various snakes, insects, rats, and ants often appeared due to the environmental conditions.

People being gnawed to death by rats was not an uncommon sight, and their manner of death was utterly horrifying.

Once these people went in, most of them wouldn't last more than ten days to half a month before meeting their untimely deaths.

However, considering what they had done, such a way of dying didn't seem excessive.

Since they dared to harm Mrs. Beauvort, their punishment can be considered lenient.

When he thought about the instigator behind all this who hadn't been dealt with yet, Ian asked again, "Master, are you really going to listen to Mrs. Beauvort's words and let Phoebe off the hook?"

Jean's eyes darkened, but he didn't say a word.

Ian frowned and muttered, "Isn't that too lenient on that woman? She harbors resentment towards the young mistress and even plotted her death. Even a thousand cuts wouldn't be too much for her. Yet, she managed to escape punishment just because of the Cox family. Doesn't this mean she can use the Cox family as a shield in the future and become even more reckless?"

At that moment, Jean suddenly said in a cold voice, "Escape punishment? Huh, she can dream on."

Ian's eyes lit up. "Sir, do you have any ideas?"

Naturally, Jean couldn't let this insult slide.

As dawn was about to break, Luna stealthily infiltrated the Cox residence, unnoticed by anyone.

She had long since familiarized herself with the inner workings of the Cox family and effortlessly made her way into Phoebe's room.

At this moment, Phoebe was still sleeping, blissfully unaware of the trouble awaiting her.

After receiving Nicholas' call, she felt a moment of anxiety, but quickly dismissed it as nothing to fear.

She had purchased Nicholas under a false identity. Moreover, Nicholas had also used a fake identity. With these two layers of protection, it would be nearly impossible for anyone to trace back to her.

Given her status as the daughter of the Cox family, Neera wouldn't dare lay a finger on her!

Even though she wasn't clear about what had happened to the people she had sent out, and she didn't understand why there were such formidable experts protecting Neera and Jean, she wasn't worried. She didn't anticipate any major trouble. As long as she was still a member of the Cox family, that wretch wouldn't dare to do anything to her.

With these thoughts, she gradually relaxed, feeling smug without a care in the world. She was also secretly scheming. If she couldn't deal with Neera this time, there would always be another opportunity.

Unbeknownst to her, as she indulged in her mindless daydreaming, Nicholas had already taken control...

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## Chapter 1295

Dawn was approaching, and the room fell into silence.

In the dim light, Luna approached the bedside with a steady stride, looking down at the person lying on the bed from a position of superiority.

Without warning, she forcefully threw off the blanket, grabbed the unconscious Phoebe, and dragged her onto the floor.

Phoebe jolted awake, but before she could react, her body crashed onto the hard floor, scraping her chin. Blood flowed from her gums, staining her mouth red.

In pain, she covered her mouth and collapsed to the ground, crying out in agony.

At that moment, a sharp dagger was pressed against her neck from behind, chillingly cold against her skin.

"If you dare to make even the slightest noise, your life will end here and now," Luna's chilling voice echoed, causing Phoebe to shudder in fear. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Utterly confused, Phoebe wore a bewildered expression, faced with this sudden turn of events.

Yet, the sharp sensation on her nape served as a stark reminder that this was all too real. It was truly happening.

Her heart pounded fiercely, initially out of fear, then giving way to anger, compelling her to struggle.

"What kind of lowlife are you, daring to lay a hand on me in the Cox residence! Release me at once, or I'll call for help and ensure you meet a gruesome end!"

Luna remained utterly expressionless upon hearing this, not even blinking an eye. She pushed the dagger down slightly.

In an instant, the blade of the dagger was stained red with blood.

The sudden surge of pain made Phoebe turn pale with shock. Fear gripped her entire body, leaving her too terrified to move an inch.

She hadn't expected the other party to actually take action. Her only hope now rested on the people inside the house.

Just as she was about to scream out loud, Luna's voice echoed again, chillingly terrifying.

"It seems you don't believe my words," she said. "Let me tell you, in the entire Cox residence, you're the only one who's awake right now. Everyone else has been put under my spell. You can scream all you want, but only you and will hear it. If you're so eager to die, I can grant your wish right now."

As she spoke, she exerted a bit more force with her hand.

Finally, Phoebe realized that everything she said was true. Terrified to her core, she quickly pleaded, "Don't! Don't kill me!"

Even now, she wasn't sure what had actually happened.

Gritting her teeth, she dared not act arrogant anymore, and could only swallow her anger and ask, "Who... who are you? Why are you doing this? Let's talk it out. I can give you whatever you want, as long as you let me go."

Seeing that she finally calmed down, Luna released her grip and moved to stand in front of her.

Phoebe was lying on the ground. First, she caught sight of Luna's boots. Then, her gaze trailed upwards along her black skinny jeans, until finally, she saw Luna's face.

In an instant, she was dumbstruck, not knowing whether she was scared or simply taken aback.

"How... How is it you?!"

Luna looked at her indifferently. "Who else did you think it was?"

Phoebe was at a loss, and by the time she reacted, she was so scared that she propped herself up, moving back in a flustered manner. She ended up with her back against the bedside table, too frightened to even stand up.

She knew all too well about Luna's reputation. In fact, she had heard of how formidable and ruthless Luna was.

"What, what are you here for? I belong to the Cox family, and we have nothing to do with Lordsworth Estate. The Cox family is the second most powerful force in Bartitsu Guild. You... you wouldn't dare lay a hand on me!"

She didn't know why Luna came, so she tried to use the Cox family's name to scare Luna off.

Luna seemed completely unfazed. "What about the Cox family, and what about Bartitsu Guild? If I dared to come here today, it means I don't take you seriously. Aren't you making a fool out of yourself by saying these things to me now?"

Upon hearing this, Phoebe was both shocked and furious. "You... You're incredibly arrogant!"

"Arrogant?" Luna seemed to have heard a ridiculous joke, a rare expression appearing on her face. It was full of mockery.

"Do you even have the right to tell me that? Phoebe, do you know why I'm here today?"

Phoebe's brows furrowed in confusion, completely at a loss.

Luna toyed with the dagger in her hand. "It seems you haven't quite grasped the situation. Do you really think your actions can't be traced back to you? Or do you believe that being a member of the Cox family gives you the right to act as you please? Huh... Even if you are the Cox family's precious daughter, it depends on whether others acknowledge this status. Do you really think your identity is so noble? You should take a good look at yourself. You're not even worthy of carrying Ms. Garcia's bag."

Upon hearing these words, Phoebe finally came to her senses.

"You... You were sent by Neera?"

Luna's cold and unyielding gaze was fixed on her. "Do you really think she has the time to bicker with you? She's completely unaware of this matter."

Phoebe realized something, and her pupils constricted suddenly.

Could it be that the people I sent were really detained by Lordsworth Estate?

Have they confessed to everything now?

So, did Lordsworth Estate send this woman to deal with me?

For a moment, her mind was in utter chaos, completely at a loss.

She couldn't understand why the people of Lordsworth Estate would go to such lengths to protect Neera!

No matter what, the Gordon family is still a force under the banner of Bartitsu Guild. It is one thing to help her once or twice, but to secretly protect that despicable person even when she's out having fun is just too much.

What merits does that woman have to receive such preferential treatment?

Also, I've been so discreet, and Nicholas is a careful person too, he wouldn't easily give himself away. How did Lordsworth Estate find out?

Even though it is a matter concerning Bartitsu Guild, the entire Lordsworth Estate is aware of it.

Is she truly that influential?

The more she pondered, the more anxious she grew.

Her gut feeling warned her that regardless of the other party's words, she must not confess.

Considering the present circumstances, the ruler of Lordsworth Estate is an erratic lunatic. It is uncertain what he may do next.

Maybe, I could actually meet my demise by this woman's hands!

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## Chapter 1296

Upon considering this, she decided to feign ignorance, "I don't understand what you're saying, nor why you would come to bother me in the middle of the night. I have no connection with Lordsworth Estate, nor with Neera. There's no need for you to belittle me in order to praise her. If you want to gain favor with her, you can go and speak kindly to her face. Why waste your time here?"



Upon hearing this, the mockery on Luna's face deepened. She took two steps forward and half-knelt in front of her.

"What's this? You dare not admit it, and you're pretending not to know now? Phoebe Cox, there's no point in doing this. We both know the truth."

Her presence was too powerful, Phoebe didn't dare to meet her gaze directly. She slightly averted her eyes, stubbornly refusing to back down.

"I've said it before, I don't know what you're talking about."

With a cold laugh, Luna said, "You don't know? Alright, let me tell you.'

The dagger spun nimbly at her fingertips, much like twirling a pen, its sharp point occasionally aimed at Phoebe.

"You had your confidant, Nicholas, use the pseudonym Hughes to hire a group of people from Freo Market to assassinate the head of the Gordon family. You thought that since the head of the Gordon family had given all the elite experts to Avery, she would be left without any support, and you could do as you pleased. However, what you didn't expect was that your seemingly flawless plan was actually full of loopholes. Not only were all the people you sent captured, but even you and Nicholas were exposed."

"You're still unaware of the fate of your subordinates, aren't you? Those people you had Nicholas purchase in Freo Market, they couldn't withstand the torture and quickly confessed everything. Now, they've been sent to Judgment Island, about to be locked up in the water dungeon. I believe it won't be long before they're devoured by the rodents in the water dungeon. As for Nicholas, he's already finished. Have you given any thought to what fate awaits you next?"

Phoebe felt as if she was hearing the voice of hell itself listening to her words.

Her complexion gradually turned pale, the color drained from her lips, and a thin layer of cold sweat crept up her back.

She never expected that things would turn out this way.

Not only were her own people completely annihilated, but she herself was also dragged into this.

How could Neera have such a significant influence!

She just couldn't bear it!

Jealousy burned in her eyes, turning them a fiery red. She gave up and suddenly began to scream as if she had gone mad.

"Stop trying to intimidate me here! What's so special about Neera that she deserves your protection? So what if you're from Lordsworth Estate? Your audacity to barge into the Cox family today is a big mistake. If this gets to the guild, I'd like to see how Lordsworth Estate will explain this! Don't forget that Phison isn't ruled by Lordsworth Estate alone!"

She mustered up her courage and began to use the guild as a shield for herself.

"Besides, even if I did what happened earlier, what does it have to do with you? This is, in essence, an internal dispute within Bartitsu Guild. What does it have to do with Lordsworth Estate? Don't think that just because you want to protect that wretch Neera, you can interfere with the guild's affairs. It's not your place to have a say!"

"If you dare lay a hand on me, my cousin won't let you off the hook! The entire Cox family, even the guild, might declare war on Lordsworth Estate! You'd better think it through, is it worth making the estate and the guild sworn enemies for a lowlife like Neera? I don't think the high and mighty lord would want to see this outcome. When the time comes, you won't be able to answer to the guild, nor to the estate!"

Hearing her repeatedly hurling insults, Luna's face fell, and her eyes filled with a hint of chilling coldness.

Suddenly, she raised her hand and slapped her fiercely. The sound was crisp and clear.

Phoebe's head was knocked askew, and instantly, the taste of blood filled her mouth.

Before she could react, Luna struck her again, this time on the other side of her face.

The corner of Phoebe's mouth split open, blood seeping out, and her face swelled significantly.

She was stunned. Then, she covered her face, lowered her head, and remained motionless for a long while.

With an utterly emotionless face, Luna suddenly pulled her hair, yanked her head back, and forced her to look at her.

"A lowlife? Who's the lowlife here, don't you have self-awareness? Do you really think your cousin will protect you? Who can't see through your little schemes and your petty tricks? I wasn't bothered by you before, but this time you dared to stir trouble where you shouldn't. Isn't that just asking for death?"

With that, she suddenly raised the dagger, and without any hesitation, she swung it towards her head. [Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

Phoebe's pupils suddenly constricted in fear, leaving her frozen in place, unable to dodge. She could only watch on. She was so terrified as the dagger came closer and closer to her.

However, the terrible outcome she had anticipated did not occur.

Her soft, long hair fell from her scalp much like a wig.

She stared at her hair scattered all over the floor, dumbfounded.

"You..." She paused for a moment, then let out a piercing scream, ready to unleash a torrent of curses.

But soon, her voice went off-key, turning into a painful wail, as pitiful as a lamb being slaughtered.

"Argh!"

With a swift motion, Luna's dagger was sheathed, and she deftly grabbed Phoebe's shoulder, forcefully twisting her arm.

With a crisp snap, the bone broke on cue.

Phoebe's right arm was disabled just like that.

Having done all this, Luna let go of her and stood up, leaving her collapsed on the ground like a piece of worn-out rag.

She looked down on the woman from a higher position, let out a cold laugh, said nothing more, and turned to leave.

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## **Chapter 1297**

When news of this incident reached Wind Chime Island, it was already the following day.

Neera was taken aback by Ian's report, causing her to drop the spoon she was holding back into the bowl.

"Didn't we agree to leave Phoebe alone for now? Why did you..." She looked at Jean, a hint of worry in her eyes, afraid that the Cox family might harm him.

Jean calmly wiped the cereal that had splashed onto her hand, soothing her with a calm and warm voice as if nothing had happened.

"Don't worry. I know what I'm doing. For your sake, I didn't take her life, but only disabled her arm. It's not a major issue."

Oh my... Her arm is disabled, yet he claims it's not a big deal...

Neera was both anxious and worried, yet also perplexed.

"Why is it that everything seems so insignificant when you talk about it? She is, after all, the daughter of the Cox family. I'm concerned that the Cox family might cause trouble for you. I don't want to involve you in this."

How could Jean not understand what she was thinking?

"Rest assured. If I have the ability to intervene, I also have the ability to handle the consequences. This matter is fundamentally the Cox family's fault. Phoebe wanted to harm you, and if it escalates into a dispute between the families, it means the Cox family intends to be enemies with the Gordon family. Currently, the Cox family still needs the Gordon family's help. The Gordon family is powerful now, and anyone with a brain in the Cox family wouldn't allow such a thing to happen. So, in the end, this is just Phoebe reaping what she has sown. By not taking her life, I am giving the Cox family enough respect.'

"

That was indeed the case. Neera pursed her lips, still feeling a bit uneasy.

"I feel that Mr. Albert of the Cox family is not easy to deal with. I'm afraid this matter won't be resolved easily. I don't want him to trouble you because of this, nor do I want him to cause problems for Mr. Avery."

Jean chuckled lightly. "Do you think he has the audacity to pick a fight with Avery? He should be grateful if Avery doesn't put him in his place."

However, from what he knew, Albert was not a reasonable person, and it was quite possible that he would do something shameless.

"But what of it? If Avery, as the head of the family, can't even handle such a trivial matter, then he might as well not be the head at all."

As for him, he didn't care at all whether it was troublesome or not.

At this moment, Harvey swallowed the food in his mouth and made a few remarks about the matter.

"Mommy, actually Daddy is handling this very well, so you don't need to worry about him getting into trouble at all."

The little boy was quite mature in his thinking, showing wisdom. He could logically understand many adult matters and analyze them meticulously. He was indeed a very insightful child.

Upon hearing this, Neera gave him a chance to elaborate, "What do you mean?"

Seeing the whole family looking at him, the little one seemed a bit shy. He straightened up and expressed his opinion clearly and confidently.

"Even though Phoebe acted against you due to a personal grudge, she is still a member of the Cox family, and you represent the Gordon family. This inevitably involves the interests of both families. As the head of the Gordon family, any harm she does to you is seen as harming the Gordon family. In a way, it shows that she doesn't respect the Gordon family."

"If you don't take some countermeasures and just keep enduring it no matter what the reason, you are considered weak and can be bullied in the eyes of the Cox family. This will only make them more reckless, thinking they can do whatever they want to you. They will look down on you even more, and they will also disrespect the Gordon family."

"So, it's not the best approach if you choose to do nothing and remain silent. Acting like Daddy is the wisest course of action. He has punished Phoebe and let the Cox family know that you're angry and that this matter is unforgivable. But at the same time, it shows the Cox family that out of respect for Mr. Cox, and considering the good relations between the Cox and Gordon families, you're willing to give the Cox family some respect, or rather, a chance. This not only demonstrates your authority but also showcases your magnanimity and how you have taken the bigger picture into consideration."

No sooner had he finished speaking than Sammy and Penny began to clap, their faces full of admiration.

"Harvey, you're so amazing!"

Jean also laughed with pride in his eyes. It was as if he was just short of declaring... This boy is worthy of being my son!

"Harvey, you're right, and your thoughts are very thorough. You are so young, but you have such a perspective. Daddy is proud of you," he praised generously.

Neera was also very delighted as she patted his head and showered him with praises.

"Our dear Harvey has really grown up. He is so sensible, understanding, and very wise too. You're definitely a promising talent for the future. Mommy is quite impressed with you."

Harvey was showered with praises from the whole family, and his joy was beyond words. His face turned slightly red, and he tried to contain his happiness, curving his lips into a restrained smile. Yet, he couldn't hide the laughter in his eyes.

After giving his words some thought, Neera agreed that it was indeed the case, and her mind was put at ease. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

...

Meanwhile, the Cox family was far from peaceful. In fact, the atmosphere was quite tense.

Phoebe, who was wearing a hat, lay on the bed, crying incessantly.

The family doctor shook his head helplessly as he explained the situation to the elders present truthfully.

"There's no other solution. This is a complex fracture, so her right arm will never recover."

Upon hearing these words, Phoebe's crying abruptly stopped, and her face turned as pale as paper.

Albert nearly fainted.

Both elders, Rio and Ronald, furrowed their brows, but didn't react much.

Before Luna left, she distributed copies of Nicholas's and the others' testimonies, along with various pieces of evidence, to every room.

After the Cox family woke up, they all found out about Phoebe's malicious actions.

Upon learning about Phoebe's actions, Rio and Ronald were at their wit's end. They hurriedly made their way to her bedroom, only to discover the distressing state she was in.

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## Chapter 1298

Albert clutched his chest, struggling to breathe, as darkness enveloped his vision.

It took him a while to regain his composure. Gritting his teeth, he asked, "Pheeb, who did this?"

Phoebe stared wide-eyed at the ceiling, her tears dried up, replaced by a fierce look of hatred.

Albert asked again, "Who did this to you? Was it Neera Garcia?"

Phoebe turned her head abruptly, enunciating each word, "Dad, you must seek justice for me. You must! It's Neera. She conspired with the people from Lordsworth Estate, leading me to this state! It's all because of her!"

To Albert's surprise, Lordsworth Estate was involved, making the situation even worse.

"How could Lordsworth Estate assist her in such a matter?"

Phoebe screamed hysterically, "How would I know! It's all her doing! I want her to pay the price now, I want her dead!"

Witnessing his usually obedient daughter behaving like a madwoman, Albert was both startled and furious.

"This Neera Garcia doesn't take the Cox family seriously! She even dares to collude with people from Lordsworth Estate to harm us. This is absolutely outrageous. She's gone too far!"

"Enough!" A stern voice interrupted the father and daughter's argument. "Will this never end? Aren't you ashamed enough?"

Rio couldn't bear to listen any longer, his face turning incredibly unsightly.

First, he subtly signaled the family doctor to leave, then he angrily scolded Phoebe.

"How dare you criticize others? Look at what you've done! You actually had the audacity to bribe someone to assassinate the head of the Gordon family. Have you lost your mind, or are you just incredibly brave? The Gordon family has always been on good terms with the Cox family, and the head of the Gordon family even went out of her way to help the Cox family this time. You tried to harm her for your own personal gain. Are you trying to drag the entire Cox family down with you? Do you want to destroy our family?"

Phoebe clenched her teeth and remained silent.

Albert didn't like what he saw and immediately defended his daughter.

"Rio, why do you always side with outsiders? Even if the Gordon family is close to the Cox family, they are still another clan, not truly aligned with the Cox family. Everyone is here for their own benefits, so why talk about affection and righteousness! If we really think about it, the Cox family has actually helped the Gordon family a lot. If it weren't for the Cox family's strong support, could Neera Garcia have secured her position as the head of the Gordon family? Could she have become the district president? And the seat as the ninth elder, isn't that also thanks to the Cox family's blessings? But look at what she has done now. She repays kindness with enmity. She's simply unworthy of being human!"

Rio found Albert utterly unreasonable, his face turning red with anger.

"Phoebe is naive, but how can you, at your age, be clueless? How dare you accuse others when she has committed such a grave mistake first? Thank god that Miss Garcia is a sensible person. She spared your daughter's life out of respect for the head of the family. Otherwise, your daughter would be nothing more than a corpse now. Would she even have the chance to cry here then? You must be dreaming!"

At this moment, Ronald stepped forward to support Rio.

"Albert, even if you always side with your own family, you should still discern right from wrong. Just look at how absurd you've become!"

How could Albert not know who was in the wrong in this matter? But he just couldn't contain his anger seeing Phoebe's hysterical state.

"Even if Pheebs has made a mistake, she's young and naive. Why is Neera being so ruthless? Let's not forget, her collusion with the people from Lordsworth Estate is a fact. Are we just going to ignore that? Has she forgotten which side the Gordon family is on? She has collaborated with Lordsworth Estate to target a member of the guild. Is this something she, as the ninth elder, should be doing?"

Rio sneered, "What? So your daughter can hire criminals from Freo Market to assassinate her, but she can't use legitimate means to protect herself? What about Lordsworth Estate? Go and ask anyone on the street now. Who doesn't know that Lordsworth Estate is on good terms with the Gordon family, fully supporting the head of the Gordon family? Colin even dared to publicly challenge Matthew, yet you think they can't deal with the Cox family?"

Ronald agreed with him, "After all, it was the Cox family who struck first. Miss Garcia was merely defending herself, and she even showed mercy to the Cox family by sparing Phoebe's life. That was already a great favor. If you insist on making a fuss without discerning right from wrong, this matter will only get worse. If this gets out, how will others view the Cox family?"



"You seem to have forgotten about the head of the family, haven't you? How do you think he would feel if he found out about this when he returns? After all, the Gordon family is still connected to the Cox family through marriage. The woman your daughter wants to kill is his fiancée! I'm afraid once he finds out, he might just end your daughter's life! And here you are, blaming others? Maybe you should start thinking about how to explain this to the head of the family when he returns!"

After saying that, Ronald and Rio turned around and left, paying no further attention to Albert.

Phoebe continued sobbing uncontrollably, her voice filled with resentment and hatred.

Albert stood in place with a grim expression, clenching his teeth as he weighed the pros and cons. In the end, he didn't storm into the Gordon residence. He just gritted his teeth and held back his anger. [SEARCH THE website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Don't worry, Pheeb. I will find the best doctor to treat you. This matter won't end like this!"

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## Chapter 1299

While the Cox family was in chaos, on the other side, Avery remained completely unaware.

On their journey to Adieu Island, they encountered unexpected trouble.

Halfway through, they were attacked.

Irwin had been observing through the telescope for quite some time. As soon as he confirmed the presence of the other party, his expression changed. He quickly reported to Avery.

"Mr. Cox, there are pirates!"

"Pirates?" Avery was resting in the cabin at the moment. Upon hearing this, he immediately sat up, finding the news somewhat unbelievable.

Indeed, there was a group operating in the waters of Phison, primarily engaged in acts of piracy and plunder on the high seas.

However, as they often roamed in the waters beyond the jurisdiction of Phison, neither Lordsworth Estate nor the guild could control them.

But this situation was different.

The island belonged to Phison, as did the surrounding sea.

Irwin said, "I've never heard of pirates appearing here before. Those people are very cunning and they never cause trouble in the inner sea of Phison. Why is it so unusual today?"

When things went wrong, there must be a hidden motive.

Avery's cold eyes narrowed. He reached out for the telescope, asked for it, and then left the cabin with it in his hand.

At this moment, it was dawn. The sea was covered in fog, making visibility extremely low.

He raised the telescope, peered through the lens, and strained to look into the distance. Shifting his gaze two degrees to the left, he spotted a ship moving towards them.

On that ship, a very distinct flag was flying. At a glance, one could tell it belonged to pirates!

Avery's brows furrowed, sensing that something was wrong.

Before they could fully comprehend the situation, the boat suddenly accelerated, and in an instant, it was already very close to them.

"Mr. Cox, they are about to approach!" Irwin's face was tense, but he remained relatively calm.

Avery's eyes were cold and focused as he gave the order. "Wake everyone up."

Irwin immediately followed the order. "Yes!"

Just as he called everyone onto the deck, ready for action, the people on the opposing ship suddenly threw countless hooks towards their vessel.

This scene caused everyone present to change their expressions, each person preparing for battle, their eyes fixed on the grappling hooks.

At this moment, due to their close proximity, the other party had already passed through the mist, appearing clearly before the eyes of the Cox family and their companions.

Suddenly, on that ship, several people were seen tightly clutching the ropes, climbing towards them!

"Mr. Cox!" Irwin's face was serious as he rushed to Avery's side, vigilantly watching the front. "Please retreat to the cabin. Leave these people to us!"

Avery coldly looked at the approaching group and refused. "No need."

Irwin was worried, but in the end, he didn't say anything more. He stood protectively in front of him, not leaving his side even for a moment.

Before long, the other party had reached their boat.

The Cox family and their group were fully prepared. Without uttering another word, they rushed forward and started to fight, doing their best to prevent the others from boarding the ship.

However, the other party had a large number of people, making it impossible to guard against all of them. In no time, some of them had already made it onto the deck.

At that moment, Finnley, leading a group of experts from the Gordon family, charged forward without hesitation, engaging in hand-to-hand combat.

They were all highly skilled fighters, capable of inflicting serious damage with their bare hands. Each one of them was formidable.

It seemed the opposition hadn't anticipated such a team of experts on this ship. Despite their numerical advantage, they were gradually losing ground.

The situation was quickly brought under control by Avery's side. Seeing that things were not going in their favor, those people didn't stay to fight. They resisted while making their escape.

Irwin furrowed his brows, shouting loudly, "Capture them alive!"

But those people were prepared, like slippery eels that wouldn't be easily caught. Seeing they were about to be captured, they didn't bother with the ropes anymore. With a bold leap, they jumped directly into the sea.

Irwin strode towards the edge of the deck, but Avery stopped him. "That's enough, no need to pursue further. They have made their preparations and there will be someone waiting for them. If our people jump after them, it could lead to unforeseen consequences."

An unexpected night raid at sea began with a bang, then ended as swiftly as a gust of wind sweeping away the last of the clouds, leaving chaos in its wake.

The opposing ship, having retracted its hook and rope, disappeared into the vast fog, like a ghost.

Avery's gaze was sharp, as if trying to see through something, fixated on this invisible veil.

"Mr. Cox, should we immediately report the appearance of pirates in the inland sea of Phison to the union?" Irwin asked.

"Pirates?" Avery's voice held a hint of mockery. "I doubt that's the case."

Irwin asked in confusion, "You don't think they are?"

"Law and order are strictly maintained in Phison. Over the years, there have never been any pirates in the inland sea, not even a trace. So why did they appear as soon as we set out to sea? The timing is just too coincidental."

With his remark, Irwin also realized something.

"Mr. Cox, do you believe that these people are not pirates?"

"Indeed, their actions greatly differ from those of pirates. Pirates spend most of their lives on ships, only going ashore when necessary to purchase supplies. They generally avoid docking, so their agility differs from those who have spent a long time training on land. However, the group we just saw, no matter how you look at it, they don't seem like they've been living at sea for long."

Irwin said in a deep voice, "Those people were deliberately posing as pirates, intending to harm you. Their goal must be to prevent you from reaching Adieu Island and to sabotage the Cox family's mission."

"Most likely, that's the case," Avery's handsome face darkened with a shadow. "It appears that the Jagger family is aware of the news. They are no longer willing to stay idle and are planning to take action right from the beginning. It's always better to be proactive than passive. One of their objectives is to hinder us, but they also have another motive. They probably want to investigate and determine the number of people I've brought along, so they can strategize accordingly."

Irwin glanced at Finnley. "Doesn't that mean the Gordon family has been exposed in this way?" [SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

He didn't inform the Gordon family earlier and only allowed the Cox family to intervene. This was done to maintain a certain level of influence and catch the Jagger family off guard.

It seemed that the plan couldn't keep up with the unexpected changes...

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## Chapter 1300

Avery, on the other hand, didn't sense anything wrong.

"No need to worry, the Jagger family has always been difficult to deal with. They must have taken many precautions. Even if we hide our forces, we can't avoid the Jagger family's scrutiny. If they find us, they find us. Ultimately, it's a test of real strength," Avery said.

Irwin nodded. "Yes."

"How much longer until we reach shore?" Avery asked.

"We have about three more hours to go," Irwin replied.

Avery glanced at his wristwatch. "When the time comes, as the sun rises and the fog clears, we will be completely exposed. It would be best to find the most concealed docking point."

Irwin understood and nodded.

Time passed minute by minute, and soon, the sun emerged from the horizon. Slowly, it ascended into the sky, dissipating the fog that had shrouded the sea.

The view became clear and expansive. A solitary island in the sea appeared before everyone's eyes, drawing closer and closer.

Avery gazed at the island, his eyes deep and inscrutable, leaving one to wonder what thoughts were running through his mind.

After sending someone to scout the situation, Irwin confirmed that there were no ambushes. Only then did he lead his group to disembark from the ship.

Several experts surrounded Avery, constantly guarding his safety from all sides.

To reach the inland, they had to pass through a vast, untamed jungle. As Avery stepped into it, he couldn't shake off a sense of unease.

Irwin noticed a peculiar look on his face and asked, "Mr. Cox, is something wrong? You don't look well."

Avery's brow furrowed slightly, and he said in a deep voice, "Since the Jagger family already knew about the mission assigned by the guild and even launched an attack at sea to prevent us, why didn't they set up an ambush on the shore? Why did they let us walk into the mainland so easily?"

Irwin also felt that something was off, but he couldn't quite pinpoint why.

"It does seem suspicious, but our people thoroughly searched the shore and found no signs of anyone present or any indications of an ambush."

The deeper Avery ventured, the more he felt that something was amiss.

"The Jagger family wouldn't just sit back and let us march unimpeded to their lair. There must be a catch here."

He gazed at the unfamiliar and mysterious jungle, suddenly realizing something, and his expression instantly darkened.

"We've been tricked!"

No sooner had the words been spoken than a sudden commotion erupted in the silent jungle.

Countless people emerged from all directions, brandishing weapons, completely surrounding them!

Each of these individuals was tall and robust, clearly trained in martial arts. All of them wore veils, their eyes fixed on them like predators eyeing their prey.

Avery's pupils constricted upon seeing a few people in the crowd holding bamboo poles as blowpipes.

"Cover your mouths and noses, try to breathe as little as possible!" he shouted.

Before his words could even fall, he saw the other party put the blowpipe to their lips, blowing out a large amount of white powder in their direction.

The powder floated in the air, advancing toward them, soon spreading all around them.

It was a stupefying drug!

Avery shielded his nose and mouth with his arm, his eyes wide open, staring intently at the person through the haze of powder smoke.

Clearly, the other party came prepared. Without uttering a single word, they charged at them as soon as the dust began to disperse...

Meanwhile, at the Gordon residence, the meatball fell into the bowl with a plop. Neera looked at Ian, surprised and anxious. "What did you say? Mr. Cox was ambushed? What happened exactly? And what about Mr. Weaver? How are they?"

After the attack on Wind Chime Island, Neera lost her mood to play and decided to return with the children and Jean.

At that moment, the family was having lunch when Ian walked in to report.

Ian glanced at Jean, who nodded, and continued speaking.

"In fact, Mr. Cox had already experienced an attack at sea. The attackers appeared to be pirates, but Mr. Cox suspected that they were actually people from the Jagger family disguised as pirates. There were no casualties during that attack. Seeing that the situation was unfavorable, the attackers quickly fled."

Upon reaching the island, the Jagger family did not set up an ambush along the shore. Instead, they hid in the jungle, which was the only path to the heart of the island. The Jagger family did this to trap them. Not long after the Cox family and their party entered, they were surrounded by the Jagger family's people. They had already assessed the Cox family's strength during the sea attack. This time, they came in large numbers and were prepared with a stupefying drug. The Cox family suffered severe casualties. Despite their fierce resistance, they still lost a number of people. If it weren't for Mr. Cox's subordinates taking advantage of the chaos to cover his retreat and hiding, I'm afraid Mr. Cox might have also met with misfortune. However, Mrs. Beauvort, rest assured, everyone from the Gordon family is safe, and Mr. Weaver is unharmed."

Upon hearing the shocking news, Neera was so shocked that she immediately lost her appetite, unable to eat another bite.

Even though Avery and Finnley were fine, she still couldn't put her mind at ease.

They had barely set foot on the island, and already there had been two attacks. This time, they were hit hard. Who knew what terrifying things might happen next? Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

With a worried expression, she asked, "What news came from there? Are they going to send more people?"

With so many casualties, the situation would be difficult to handle. They needed support.

Ian nodded. "Mr. Cox has sent a message back, requesting the Cox family to dispatch another group of people to Adieu Island."

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