

Chapter 15 That's Impossible

Zac noticed the other team approaching, looking exhausted. He then saw them holding a few eggs and vegetables. "Is that all you got in exchange?"

Aaron raised an eyebrow. "Are you saying you got a lot?" That's impossible. We asked dozens of families, but we've never encountered these guys. As they slowed down and talked among themselves, they speculated that Zac and his team never left the courtyard. And it seems to be the case.

Zac smiled. "We haven't received anything in return, but our dinner is taken care of."

Aaron didn't believe it. "How can you have dinner when you haven't received anything in exchange?"

Zac pointed at Simone, smiling. "Because we have Simone. She's our secret weapon."

Aaron and his team became even more confused. Jodie's heart sank.

"You won because of her?" That's impossible. She didn't like that Zac was being so friendly towards Simone.

Smugly, Zac said, "She fixed the committee's tractor, so the village head invited us over for dinner at his place."

Jodie raised her voice, "She can fix tractors?"

Aaron was also surprised. He looked at Simone. "When did you learn how to fix tractors?" Why didn't we know that?

Simone looked at Aaron. "I've always known how to fix tractors. It's normal that you have no idea about it."

Aaron struggled to find words. "I..." He was starting to realize that he didn't understand his sister at all, and he was annoyed. Simone was hiding something from them. Unable to hold back, he sarcastically said, "Then you're amazing."

Simone grinned. "Thanks. I think I'm pretty awesome too."

Aaron was speechless. Zac couldn't help but laugh. He was happy to see Aaron being silenced.

Aaron's fans started hurling hate comments at Simone, calling her a disrespectful woman. Simone's fans and some of the viewers found her straightforward attitude likable. Aaron had been sarcastic at first, but Simone didn't have to tolerate that.

Leon watched as Simone fired back at Aaron, and he realized that she had changed. She used to hold back because Aaron was family, but now she saw Aaron as a stranger. No, she treated him like she hated him. How will she treat me, then? For some reason, he felt restless, but he couldn't talk to Simone about it in front of the camera. He told his team, "Let's go back and rest." He was also trying to make things easier for Aaron.

Aaron didn't push his luck. "Sure." Instead of going back to his room, he went to Jodie's. Concerned, he asked, "Is your leg still hurting, Jo?"

Aggrieved, Jodie said, "Yeah." Before Titus arrived, she was supposed to put on a loving sibling act with Aaron to gain more fans, so she showed the camera how well she got along with her brothers.

"I'll give you a foot massage then." Aaron crouched down and took off her shoes, then he rubbed her foot. Jodie leaned forward and hugged him, like a loving sister asking for affection.

She nuzzled her head against his shoulder. "You're the best, Aaron."

Leyla was right beside them, feeling sore. And jealous. She thought it was strange that Jodie and Aaron were so close. A bit too close.

Aaron's and Jodie's fans called Aaron a caring brother and Jodie a sweet sister. This was really heartwarming, but some people thought they were being too close for comfort. They were actual siblings, though, so they didn't think much of it.

At the same time, a beautiful straw basket was finally completed. Keira looked at Simone. "You can make baskets too, Simone?" She and the others tried, but they were not good at it and failed to learn.

Simone smiled. "I did learn how to do it." She placed the basket on the table. "We'll use this basket to store our essentials."

Keira picked it up to examine it closely. "Sure. I was wondering where I should keep my skincare stuff. We'll just take this basket with us when we shower. It'll make things a lot easier." I made the right choice by sharing a room with Simone.

Simone smiled. "That's what I was thinking too. Tomorrow, I'll make some straw hats. We can wear them when we go fruit-picking. Then I'll make some more baskets to store our clothes."

Zac smiled. "Do Eric and I get one too?"

Simone looked at him. "Of course. We're a team. Everyone gets one."

Zac smiled. "Thank you very much, then." They would be staying here for almost a month, and he didn't want to cram everything into his luggage.

Eric smiled. "Thank you, Simone. You've worked hard."

Simone smiled. "Don't mention it." She then picked up more straws and started making more items. Her team members and everyone watching the livestream observed as her fingers danced and fluttered, and a straw hat was made in no time. Everyone had the same thought. She is skilled with her hands.

Soon, the village head's youngest son came in and invited them to dinner. The team arrived at the village head's house, and they offered to help clean the vegetables out of courtesy, but the village head's wife and mother-in-law declined, so they stepped back. They sat with the village head and engaged in conversation. He shared stories about the village.

The village head's wife and mother-in-law prepared a seven-course meal. It didn't look fancy, but it smelled delicious, and the portions were generous enough to feed everyone. The team was already hungry, so they picked up their utensils and started eating.

They praised the food, and judging by how quickly they devoured it, it was clear they weren't faking it. The village head and his family were pleased, and the dinner went well. Afterward, Simone's team took four dishes back to their courtyard and exchanged them for four sets of bedding from the director.

The other team scrambled to prepare their meal. Or, to be precise, Jodie was cooking while everyone else only helped with cleaning the food, after which they stood around idly. Jodie disliked this kitchen. She wasn't used to primitive stoves like this, so she messed up the first dish. She added the food to the wok too quickly when making the second dish, and a few drops of scalding oil landed on her hands. Her hand turned red, and tears welled up in her eyes.

Aaron felt sorry for her. "Jojo, your hand is hurt. You should stop."

Jodie wanted to stop, but the live stream was still ongoing. She had to maintain the image of a determined woman. She had learned how to cook specifically for this show, so she had to perform and smile accordingly. "It's alright. I can continue. Just two more dishes and I'll be done. If I fail, we won't receive any bedding supplies." She appeared as though she would persist even if her hand was scalded, all for the sake of her team.

Leon was moved, but Leyla thought it seemed very artificial. However, she didn't voice her opinion.

Aaron shook his head. "No. Your hand is injured. You can't continue. You should apply some ointment to it."

He then overheard Simone and her team conversing. The opposing team had returned.

Without hesitation, Aaron went out and approached Simone. He commanded, "Simone, help us prepare a couple of dishes."