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Leyton immediately paused in the middle of his rant after hearing from Sandy that Kai had summoned him. I need to play dumb in front of Kai now and trick him into lowering his guard. When I have more resources and power in the future, I'll repay his humiliation twofold!

After confirming the address with Sandy, Leyton set off for Meadow Restaurant immediately.

Sandy returned to her seat and informed Kai quietly, "He'll be here soon."

Kai appeared indifferent to her words, and Leroy smirked. The latter jeered, "Go on with your act, then. When Mr. Scott's here, you'll be drowning in your own tears!"

Kai sneered at Leroy and retorted, "We'll see about that, though you'll definitely be crying later!"

"What did you say? I'll cry? I'll make you cry right now!" Leroy barked before picking up a wine bottle.

Alarmed, Sandy screamed, "Leroy, are you mad? Put that wine bottle down right now!"

"Sandy, why are you so scared of Kai? He may have picked up some moves during his time behind bars, but this is Mr. Lewis' turf. He won't dare to lift a finger here!" Leroy then approached Kai menacingly and taunted, "Think you're so great, huh, Kai? Since you broke Warrick's leg, let's see if you dare to touch me!"

Slap!

Leroy had barely finished his sentence when Kai slapped him across the face.

The force sent two of his teeth flying out of his mouth, and his cheek instantly swelled.

Kai teased, "I've never had someone offer themselves up for a slap. Was it comfortable? Would you like to have another go?"

Leroy saw stars, probably concussed from how hard Kai had struck him.

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Pamela rushed forward to support Leroy and asked, "Oh my god, Leroy. Are you okay?"

"Kai, how could you hit him? We're in hot soup now!" Virgil uttered anxiously, panic written all over his face.

Their classmates were in equal disbelief, and they began reprimanding Kai with gusto.

"What the heck, Kai? How could you slap Leroy?"

"We're all ex-classmates. There's no need to be violent to each other!"

"Just wait and see. You're dead meat!"

Bam!

Kai suddenly slammed his palms on the marble dining table, breaking off a chunk of the tabletop.

That effectively shut everyone up.

Kai's gaze roved over the crowd as he stated, "Did you all conveniently turn blind when Leroy was practically begging for a beating?"

The silence continued, and everyone looked uncomfortable.

"He's right! Leroy asked for it. How could all of you accuse Kai of being in the wrong?" Sandy spoke up, breaking the silence.

Her behavior perplexed their classmates. They had no idea what Sandy was playing at.

Leroy had slightly recovered his senses by then. He glared at Sandy before directing his attention and rage at Kai. "I can't believe you had the gall to hit me, Kai! You won't leave this room in one piece; I guarantee it!"

He began stumbling toward the door in search of Benji.

Virgil panicked and tugged on Kai's sleeve, uttering, "Kai, just apologize! Then we can scam!"

Kai merely smiled at his anxious friend and replied, "Sit tight, Virgil. I'll give you a precious opportunity today!"

Just as Leroy reached the door, it was suddenly opened from the outside by a huffing Leyton.

Leroy's attitude took a one-eighty when he spotted Leyton. He smiled brightly and greeted, "Mr. Scott, we've been anticipating your arrival. Please, take a seat!"

Their classmates joined Leroy in buttering up Leyton.

Leyton ignored them, barely glancing at Sandy as he searched the room for someone. Once he saw Kai, he jumped slightly and made a beeline for him.

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Leyton approached Kai and said courteously, "Mr. Chance, I rushed over as soon as I could after knowing that you were looking for me."

Except for Sandy, everyone's jaw dropped at Leyton's display.

Why is the Scott family heir talking to Kai like he's some kind of VIP? Aren't they love rivals?

Kai's gaze roved over his stunned audience before he scoffed. He pointed at Leroy and said, "I heard that the Scotts have some dealings with him."

Leyton glanced at Leroy. His gaze fell on the latter's swollen cheek, and he seemed to catch Kai's unspoken hint. He replied, "Mr. Chance, we have outsourced portions of two property development projects to him. However, we will be ending our partnership with him soon, and I will conduct stringent inspections on the quality of his work. Should we come across any unsatisfactory work, we will deduct his project commission and sue him for damages!"

Kai nodded lightly, secretly impressed by Leyton's quick wit.

Leroy was taken aback by his words. "Mr. Scott, w-what is the meaning of this? Our collaboration—"

"We will dissolve our collaboration and put your project commission on hold. You will be responsible for any damages incurred due to our partnership termination, understood?" Leyton cut in coldly and glared at Leroy.

He did not have any courtesy left to spare after waiting hand and foot on Kai.

"T-This," Leroy stammered, unable to make head or tail of what had just happened.

Kai got to his feet and patted Leyton on the shoulder, declaring, "Your attitude today saved your life, but it's not enough to save the Scott family."

I won't let him or the Scotts off the hook that easily. Sparing his life is the most I can do for him. There will be more horrors in store for them.

Kai's casual threat had Leyton paling instantly, and the latter immediately knelt before Kai, begging, "Mr. Chance, as long as you can spare the Scott family from utter ruin, we pledge to serve you and your interests for life. As a show of our sincerity, we can transfer ownership of our two property development companies under your name!"

He whipped out two sets of contracts.

Leyton had come prepared, proving that he was more than just a rich playboy. He wanted Kai to believe in his deference and disregard him as a future threat.

Walter and Tommy's presence had made it difficult for Leyton to execute his plans earlier. This reunion was thus the perfect opportunity for Leyton to offer his gift.

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Kai was surprised by Leyton's offer. The Scott family earned their wealth and reputation from developing real estate. Their influence in Horington would undoubtedly plunge after they offered both their companies to Kai. However, the Scotts were so wealthy that they could still live comfortably after gifting Kai their companies. It was a far more pressing matter to gain Kai's mercy and ensure their survival.

Kai received Leyton's contracts, much to the latter's delight. If he accepts this gesture of goodwill, our family may have a way out of this mess!

"Well then, I will spare the Scott family over your sincere offer."

Kai signed the contracts, sealing the Scotts' safety.

He was in dire need of the ample funds offered by their companies. The herbs Josephine had procured had cost him millions. It was a costly yet necessary expenditure, given the weak spiritual energy atop Dragon Summit and the rapidly depleting resources in Starry Compass.

Kai had to rely on crafting elixirs out of the precious herbs to increase the pace of his cultivation. He needed to achieve Foundation Phase before mid-July to earn a spot on Nameless Island.

Relying on the weak spiritual energy alone would take him eons to achieve Foundation Phase.

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Leyton uttered gratefully, "Thank you, Mr. Chance, for taking mercy on our family!"

"You're done here!" Kai dismissed him with a wave of his hand.

Leyton got to his feet and bowed deeply to Kai. Then he spun and left the room without sparing Sandy a glance.

Leroy blocked his exit, upset at Leyton's earlier words. He demanded, "Mr. Scott, we signed a contract. How can you terminate our partnership on a whim? Plus, you can't just hold my project commission hostage!"

"Get lost!" Leyton scolded impatiently. "What can you do if I refuse to release your payment?"

Leroy steeled his nerves and threatened, "I'm not scared of you. You may be a Scott, but you were begging pitifully for Kai's mercy just minutes ago. You must pay my project commission in full if you cancel the contract. My cousin Benji is one of Mr. Lewis' men. I have no qualms about involving him if the situation turns ugly."

Though he had no idea why Leyton seemed so deferential toward Kai, Leroy's priority was to secure the lucrative project commission to ensure his company's continued operation.

Ultimately, the Scott family was no match for Tommy's prowess, and Leroy was using that fact to his advantage.

"Dumb*ss!" Leyton muttered under his breath. He ignored the raging Leroy and left.

Tommy obeys Kai's every word. I can't believe Leroy thinks he can ride on Tommy's influence!

After Leyton's departure, Leroy turned his anger to Kai, instantly pinning the blame on him.

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He scowled and said, "Kai, I don't know what you've done to frighten Leyton into submission, but I'm not scared of you. I'll ensure your ruin today!"

Finally, Leroy stalked off to find Benji.

The room fell into an awkward silence after his departure. Everyone stared at Kai, wondering how he seemed to have Leyton wrapped around his finger.

Juliette stared at Sandy instead. Hesitantly, she asked, "Sandy, did you break up with Leyton? Are you no longer the Scotts' future daughter-in-law?"

Her question had everyone turning their questioning gazes on Sandy, who blushed furiously and fidgeted.

She could only nod in resignation.

The crowd erupted into fierce whispers of displeasure. "So that's why she was defending Kai earlier! Looks like someone got dumped by the Scott family heir!" "Judging by his behavior earlier, I don't think Leyton will consider courting Sandy again!"

"Pfft, she acted as though she was still associated with the Scott family!"

Sandy had been reduced to nothing in their eyes now that her coveted association with the Scotts turned out to be void.

Leyton's deference toward Kai did not soothe Virgil's anxiety. He cautioned, "Let's go, Kai. Mr. Lewis doesn't even blink when he kills someone!"

He was genuinely worried over Kai's safety now that Leroy had finally gone off to summon one of Tommy's men.

Kai smiled and asked, "Have you seen Tommy Lewis in the flesh?"

"No!" Virgil shook his head.

"Well then, how do you know he doesn't blink when he kills someone?" Kai teased.

Virgil answered fearfully, "Kai, things have changed while you were in prison. The members of Mr. Lewis' Templar Regiment and Steven Fisher's Crimson Dragon Gang are ruthless killers. Everyone in the city has heard about their murderous exploits."

Kai's smile merely widened as he clapped Virgil on the shoulder and coaxed, "Don't worry. Nothing will happen on my watch." He then tossed the signed contracts to Virgil and uttered, "I'm too busy. You should manage them on my behalf."

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Virgil was stunned. He stammered, "J-Kai, t-this is too much. I have no idea how to manage a company!"

"No one's born knowing how to manage a company. You can always learn." Kai stuffed the contracts into Virgil's hands and insisted, "Work hard, and I'm looking forward to calling you CEO, Mr. Hancock!"

Virgil's hands shook as he held the valuable contracts. He blushed, overwhelmed with gratitude.

He became absorbed in daydreams of his future life as a CEO.

Virgil was now the envy of every classmate. After all, he had become the CEO of two multimillion companies in the blink of an eye.

Some of them regretted their decision to scorn Kai instead of supporting him, like Virgil, from the beginning.

Just then, someone kicked open the room door. A young man dressed in a sharp suit strode in, followed by several imposing security guards.

Leroy was part of the group, and he pointed at Kai as he declared, "Benji, that's the person who hit me. You've got to teach him a lesson!"

Benji glared at Kai and asked, "Did he act alone?"

Leroy surveyed the room, and their classmates hurriedly put some distance between themselves and Kai for fear of being dragged into this mess. Virgil shook with fear, yet he determinedly stood his ground beside Kai.

His show of loyalty infuriated Leroy, who barked, "Get rid of that fellow beside him too!"

To his surprise, Benji slapped Leroy up the side of his head and scolded, "Useless! You called me over to deal with those two fools?"

Leroy wailed, "Benji, one of them came out of prison recently. He picked up some moves while he was there."

"Oh, so he runs in our circles." Benji smirked. "Which gang are you with?"

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He mistakenly believed that Kai had spent time in jail over underground crimes. "Far from that, Benji! He beat up Leyton Scott for playing his girlfriend and got slapped with a three-year sentence!" Leroy explained hastily.

"F*ck! That's unexpected!" Benji guffawed. "Well, he does look like an unlucky lad. Still, he can't be some simpleton if he dared to hit my cousin!"

Benji grabbed a wine bottle and brought it down upon Kai's head.

A few girls shrieked in terror.

Virgil paled, but he gritted his teeth and grabbed a chair, ready to defend Kai from Benji's attack.

He scarcely moved when Kai suddenly threw out a punch.

It landed square in Benji's abdomen, sending the latter flying a distance. Benji curled into himself, huffing from extreme pain.

"Are you okay, Benji?" Leroy asked as he tried to help his cousin to his feet.

"Get him!" Benji growled, spurring the security guards into action.

They charged at Kai with batons.

Virgil shouted, "Run, Kai! I'll hold them off!"

He lifted a chair and ran toward the charging men.

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They were about to clash when a shadow darted past Virgil. Seconds later, the guards lay on the ground, moaning in agony.

These were all Tommy's men, which made them Kai's subordinates. It was the only reason Kai had refrained from unleashing his full strength.

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Everyone was dumbfounded, and even Leroy was grudgingly impressed. Kai seemed to have defeated his opponents with the barest hint of effort.

Benji had woefully underestimated Kai's abilities, and he groaned, "Get Mr. Lewis here at once!"

One of the waiters rushed off.

Everyone in the room grew nervous at the thought of Tommy's arrival. They were mere bystanders, yet Tommy's reputation preceded him.

"Kai?" Virgil called out hesitantly. He was still holding the chair from earlier.

Smiling, Kai asked, "Are you scared, Virgil?"

Virgil clenched his jaw and shook his head. "There's nothing to be scared of at this point. I'm ready to fight to the end!"

That earned him a quiet smile from Kai.

Leroy's arrogance grew as he anticipated Tommy's arrival, and he warned, "Watch out, Kai. Once Mr. Lewis is here, he'll have you hacked to pieces!"

"I can't wait," Kai replied drily before returning to his seat, cool as a cucumber.

In fact, Tommy had been awaiting Kai's arrival on the third floor for some time now. Despite his concern over Kai's prolonged absence, he did not want to rush Kai and could only wait patiently for the latter's arrival.

A waiter burst into Tommy's room on the third floor and announced, "Mr. Lewis, there's trouble happening downstairs. Someone beat up Benji!"

"What? How dare they cause trouble in my restaurant! Is it someone from the Crimson Dragon Gang?" Tommy demanded, jumping to his feet in an instant.

He hurried downstairs as the waiter explained, "I'm not sure, but he's very strong!"

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Tommy frowned. If he's strong, then he's obviously here to cause trouble. No one but the Crimson Dragon Gang has dared to mess things up on my turf. It could be them since Steven was humiliated just days earlier!

Soon enough, Tommy came to the second floor. He kicked the door open and was about to reprimand the troublemaker until he saw Kai sitting in the room. He quickly swallowed the insults on the tip of his tongue, and he subconsciously shuddered with fear.

Oblivious to Tommy's emotions, Benji struggled to get up and croaked, "Mr. Lewis, he—"

Tommy ignored him and made a beeline for Kai.

Leroy cackled in glee as Tommy approached Kai. He taunted, "You're dead meat, Kai!"

To his shock, Tommy greeted Kai courteously, "Mr. Chance!"

Silently, Kai placed his cup on the table, and Tommy immediately refilled it for him.

Everyone stared on in disbelief, flabbergasted by the turn of events.

Tommy appeared to worship Kai just as Leyton did earlier.

It seemed unimaginable to them that Kai could wield such influence over these important men.

Leroy and Benji were perhaps the most stunned of them all.

Benji stuttered as he asked, "M-Mr. Lewis, who is he?"

He had already realized that he had grossly misjudged the situation.

Instead of answering him, Tommy asked, "How long have you been serving me, Benji?"

"It has been f-five years, Mr. Lewis!" Benji stammered nervously.

Calmly, Tommy clapped Benji on the shoulder and commented, "Five years is a long time."

His cryptic statement sent alarm bells ringing in Benji's head, who immediately knelt before Tommy.

He was no stranger to Tommy's personality, and his present silence spoke volumes about his murderous intent.

Benji muttered, "Please spare my life, Mr. Lewis. Please!"

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Tommy was unmoved as he tossed a sharp dagger on the ground and said, "Cut your hand off!"

Benji stared at the dagger. After a momentary hesitation, he grabbed the dagger and brought it down on his left hand.

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A blood-curdling scream filled the air as Benji cut off his left hand.

The bloody scene frightened everyone into silence, most of all Leroy.

Benji clutched his bleeding wrist and eked out, "Thank you for sparing my life, Mr. Lewis!"

Coldly, Tommy tossed out, "Don't thank me. Thank Mr. Chance!"

"Thank you, Mr. Chance. I will not forget your kindness!" Benji turned and knelt before Kai instead.

Leroy stammered in utter disbelief, "B-Benji?"

He stared at his cousin, stupefied by the horrifying turn of events.

Benji yelled at him, "F*cker! Get on your knees right now!"

Petrified into submission, Leroy hastily fell to his knees. He kept his head lowered and his mouth shut.

Kai stood up and walked toward the exit.

Tommy followed him and addressed Benji coldly, "Your cousin was disrespectful toward Mr. Chance. I'll trust you to teach him a lesson."

"Understood, Mr. Lewis!" Benji nodded fervently.

Kai lifted a finger and pointed at Pamela. He commented, "Deal with this woman too."

Pamela was already pale and shuddering in fear, and she fainted from shock the minute Kai pointed her out.

"Yes, Mr. Chance. I understand," came Benji's reply.

Kai allowed his gaze to rove over the room once more, and his classmates all

looked away, trying their best to shrink into themselves. Juliette hid at the back, terrified that she would suffer the same fate as Pamela or Leroy.

Finally, Kai's gaze landed on Virgil, and he smiled. "Work hard, Virgil. I trust in your abilities. If you have any difficulties in the future, you can seek Tommy's help."

Tommy piped up, "Of course! Virgil, you can contact me anytime for help!" Virgil could only nod repeatedly in reply.

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Benji steeled his nerves as Kai and Tommy took their leave. He ordered his men to drag Leroy and Pamela out of the restaurant. Terrified screams rang out soon after. Benji did not take Tommy's orders lightly.

Kai's classmates regretted the way they had acted earlier. If they had not teased and mocked him so, Kai might have given them unimaginable riches like he did Virgil.

Meanwhile, Kai and Tommy had arrived at the room on the third floor.

Kai asked, "Have you heard anything of Steven? Has he been causing you trouble?"

Shaking his head, Tommy replied, "He hasn't. His master, Hydra, is a rare sight, and he has been difficult to track down."

"Hmph! Even his grandmaster hardly frightens me. All these experts of ancient martial arts are nothing to me," Kai scoffed.

"Well, of course, My Lord. They are no match for your immortal techniques!" Tommy chimed in.

Kai smiled and said, "No need to butter me up." He took an enhancement pill from his pocket and offered, "I have a pill here that can increase your abilities upon consumption. Once you take it, Steven will cower in the face of your prowess."

Tommy was fascinated. The pill was smaller than a thumb and looked utterly unassuming. Can it truly boost my abilities?

He asked curiously, "My Lord, what pill is this? It sounds impressive."

"It's an enhancement pill. Don't underestimate its effects. The herbs used to craft one pill cost millions!"

"What?" Tommy exclaimed and immediately swallowed the pill.

Warmth filled his abdomen and began spreading out toward the rest of his body. Soon enough, Tommy felt his body surging with energy and in need of release.

Kai noticed the change in Tommy and smiled. "Does your building have a backyard? Go ahead and give it a try!"

"Yes, there is!" Tommy immediately led him out the back.

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There was a huge stone behind Tommy's restaurant. Tommy had paid a fortune to have a saying carved into the stone. Kai pointed at it and suggested, "Why don't you swing a fist at that stone?" Tommy punched the stone without a moment's hesitation. Crack!

The stone split down the center. Tommy stared at his fist in amazement. I must have used tonnes of force to break that stone! Kai patted him on the shoulder and said, "Your punch can easily kill a bull. Steven's Impenetrable Skill is practically child's play to you now. In the face of true power, there is no such thing as Impenetrable Skill!" Tommy's excitement was palpable as he asked, "My Lord, do you have more? I want to swallow two more pills!" If I'm already this strong after taking one pill, I will be practically invincible after taking two!

Kai rolled his eyes in response. "This pill is crafted from rare and exorbitant herbs. I exhausted a lot of spiritual energy trying to create this thing! I can hardly give you another pill, let alone two!" Tommy scratched his head and replied sheepishly, "I got too excited. This pill could fetch you tens of millions per piece. Martial arts are all the rage nowadays. Too many people are willing to spend a fortune on exotic herbs or hire masters to train them in ancient martial arts. Steven purportedly spent two hundred million to train under Francis Yancey." "Two hundred million?" Kai was stunned. He spent two hundred million on such paltry skills? Tommy can break through his Impenetrable Skill after consuming just one pill. Damn, this pill is even more valuable than two hundred million! Kai's eyes lit up as he identified his source of income.

He asked, "Tommy, if I craft more of these pills, will you be able to sell them?" "My Lord, isn't it better to let our men consume these pills instead of selling them? If you need funds, Templar Regiment has a commercial street under its name. We're drawing lucrative profits from that street every year!" Tommy could not fathom Kai's motives for selling such a game-changing pill.

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If our enemies get their hands on this pill, we're practically digging our own grave! Kai explained, "I won't be selling this enhancement pill; it costs too much money and spiritual energy. I'm thinking of preparing some revitalizing pills for sale. They can restore focus and nourish the brain, as well as extend one's lifespan. It also improves male virility!" He then asked, "How much revenue is that commercial street bringing in annually?" "About two hundred million. Most of it goes toward the operations of Templar Regiment, which leaves us with about one-tenth of that sum," came Tommy's reply after some thought. Kai shook his head and stated, "I need way more money than that. I probably need billions or even more to purchase the raw materials for these pills. We'd have to wait decades if we relied solely on your commercial street!" "Billions!" Tommy inhaled sharply before continuing, "My Lord, why do you need so much money?"

Kai explained truthfully, "I need a lot of spiritual energy to cultivate. The energy is far too weak even atop Dragon Summit, which is insufficient to raise my abilities. I need the money to procure valuable herbs and craft more enhancements pills to hasten my cultivation!"

"Ah!" Tommy nodded in understanding. He scrunched his brows and said, "I fear you may not have enough funds even if the Sullivan family gives you all its assets."

That earned him a glare and a reprimand from Kai. "What the heck do you mean? Do I look like a person who'll live off his woman's money?"

Tommy hurriedly shook his head and denied, "No, no, of course not! The overlord of Dragon Sect will never do something like that!"

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"I will tell you a list of herbs now. They are all ordinary herbs and are not expensive. Please purchase them for me. Also, I've made some revitalizing pills. Go and sell them. You can decide the price!"

After Kai finished his sentence, Tommy asked his men to take a piece of paper so that he could jot the name of the herbs down.

At one shot, Kai named more than ten ingredients, but they were all ordinary herbs that could easily be purchased.

"Did you write them all down?" he asked.

"My Lord, yes, I did. They are all ordinary herbs. The pharmacy in Horington has them, but not in bulk. I will send some men to Yeringham. There's a medicinal base there. It has all kinds of herbs, cheaper than other places! With that, we can also save a lot of money!"

After knowing that Kai needed a lot of money, Tommy had learned to be frugal.

"Yeringham?" Kai suddenly recalled that city. It was located a few hundred kilometers southwest of Horington and was indeed the biggest herbs producer in the country.

Almost all the herbs in the country were sold through Yeringham. Over time, Yeringham was given another name—the City of Herbs.

"I am not sure if the City of Herbs has the herbs I need!"

The herbs that Kai needed were all rare and expensive. The ginseng and reishi mushrooms required for making energy condensing pills must be at least three hundred years old.

Such herbs could only be found in desolate mountains. Thus, it was tough to obtain. Moreover, to maximize the energy condensing pill's effect, snow lotus was also needed.

It was even more challenging to obtain snow lotus, so Kai knew he could not rush it. He could only accumulate wealth first and then acquire those herbs at high prices.

"My Lord, there's an auction house in Yeringham. They specifically run auctions

for rare treasures from all around the world, and rare herbs make up most of the goods. I will keep an eye on it. If there's anything that you need, I will inform you right away," Tommy whispered.

"Okay. That's all we can do for now," Kai replied, nodding.

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After giving all the orders to Tommy, he did not linger at Meadow Restaurant and left for the Sullivan residence.

Since he had completed the pill for William, he wanted to bring them to the latter.

Even though he and Josephine had not confirmed their relationship officially, it was only a matter of time before William became his father-in-law.

As it was a matter concerning his father-in-law, Kai dared not delay things.

Tommy personally chauffeured him to the Sullivan residence.

When they arrived at the mansion's entrance, they spotted a black Audi parked at the front. The license plate was eye-catching, with A00001 seen on it.

"Holy sh*t. Isn't that the car of the mayor of Horington? Why is it here?" Tommy exclaimed upon seeing the car's license plate.

Kai could not wrap his head around it too. However, he soon figured it was not unthinkable for the mayor to come to discuss things with William, the richest man in Horington.

After a brief hesitation, Kai eventually decided to go in. He will be my father-in-law soon. There's no need for me to be restrained. Plus, making acquaintances with prominent figures like the mayor may come in handy in the future.

As soon as he walked into the mansion, he saw Josephine engaging in a conversation with a young man in the courtyard. However, she looked rather displeased.

"Frederick Lowe, do not come to my house ever again. Other people might misunderstand that there is something going on between us!" she said to the young man with her brows furrowed.

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"Josephine, I'm just here to visit Mr. Sullivan. I heard that he's sick. I even brought a thousand-year-old ginseng root as a gift. It took me a lot of effort to obtain it from the City of Herbs!"

As Frederick spoke, he reached out to grab Josephine's hand.

Shocked, she staggered a few steps back, but he did not seem willing to give up. Kai lost his temper upon witnessing that scene and snarled, "How dare you make advances to a lady in broad daylight! Do you even have manners?" "Kai!" Josephine was delighted to see him and immediately ran over to him.

A trace of hostility flashed across Frederick's gaze when he noticed her reaction to Kai's appearance. "Who are you? Do you know who I am?" "I don't care who you are. I will beat up whoever touches my wife..." Kai growled, intending to charge forward and land two kicks on Frederick but was stopped by Josephine. Holding his arm, she said, "Calm down. He didn't manage to touch me!"

Nevertheless, she was touched by his words and found herself falling for him further. "Your wife?" Frederick's eyes widened in disbelief.

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"Why? Do you want to see the marriage certificate?" Kai stared at Frederick in contempt while a sneer touched his lips. Josephine was at a loss for words, wondering why she was oblivious to that matter. However, she soon came to her senses and figured Kai was trying to exasperate Frederick. "All right. Show me then," Frederick replied as he extended an arm toward Kai. Not expecting him to go along, Kai was momentarily stunned.

"I didn't bring it with me. Plus, you have no right to see it. It's none of your business!" he remarked as a teasing smile hovered on his lips. Evidently, Kai was fooling with Frederick.

Upon seeing his countenance, Josephine stifled a giggle by covering her mouth with her hand. "Bast*rd. How dare you try to fool me? I'll..."

Before Frederick could finish his sentence, William came into the room with a teapot in his hand. He was slightly startled to see that Kai was also around. "Oh, Kai, you're here too. Come and try the tea I've brewed. Fred, you too!" After William knew about Kai's close relationship with Josephine, he started calling the young man by his name so that they would seem less distant from each other. "The tea brewed by my dad tastes amazing. Let's try it out!"

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To Frederick's dismay, Josephine linked her arm with Kai's and walked toward a pavilion in the courtyard. Despite his darkening expression, Frederick still caught up with them. They sat in the pavilion while William poured them a few cups of tea. "Fred, this is Kai. He was the one who cured my illness. Without him, I would've met my maker by now!" the older man said and chuckled. "Mr. Sullivan, isn't he Josephine's husband? They've already registered their marriage!" Frederick asked William directly. "Husband? Registered their marriage?" William echoed, stunned to hear the

younger man's query.
He had no idea about it, as Josephine never told him.

At the sight of his bafflement, Frederick sneered. William's reaction had confirmed his suspicions. Earlier on, he had suspected that Kai made up a lie in order to anger him. Not only are they not married, but the marriage certificate is also a bluff!

"Dad, Kai was just joking around!" Josephine immediately explained to William.

Even though William seemed satisfied with Kai, he would never allow her to get married to the latter secretly. Her father was a typical conservative man, after all. "I see!" William's expression lightened when he heard her explanation. Noticing that, Frederick sneered and taunted Kai through his gaze.

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"Mr. Sullivan, I heard you weren't feeling well previously, so I purposely brought a thousand-year-old ginseng root from Yeringham. Such a herb is extremely scarce! I bought it at a high price from a farmer, and apparently, it can cure all diseases and prolong life!"

Upon saying that, Frederick took out an exquisite box wrapped in red cloth. It was even tied with a red cord.

"It is said that thousand-year-old ginseng contains spirituality. If we don't wrap it with red cloth and tie it with red cord, it might run out of the box!" he explained while handing the box to William.

"Fred, that's very kind of you." William took the box delightfully. "How's your dad doing recently? Is he busy? I've been meaning to pay him a visit, but I couldn't find the time!"

"Mr. Sullivan, my dad has been quite busy recently. Have you heard of a businessman that wants to make investments in Horington? My dad has been accompanying him lately, but I've told him about your family's land development in the west of the city. He has instructed his men to start processing the approvals!"

Halfway through his utterances, Frederick cast a glance at Kai.

I bet he knows about my identity now and will surely be intimidated!

William let out a laugh after hearing Frederick's words. "Fred, thank you so much! If our land can be developed successfully, I won't forget your help!"

"Mr. Sullivan, you're welcome. We are a family, so there's no need to be so polite with me!"

Frederick shot Kai a triumphant look as he emphasized the word "family."

However, the latter did not even spare him a glance. In fact, there was not even a sign of surprise on his face.

Frederick was somehow startled to see Kai's composure and thought he had yet to realize his identity.

"Mr. Sullivan..." Just then, Kai piped up while taking out the pill that he brought over. "This is the pill I've made for you. Your body will be fine after taking it!"

William's elation at obtaining the pill was far greater than when he received the ginseng from Frederick.

After all, he was aware of Kai's ability. The pills made by the young man were comparable to that of the philosopher's stone.

After receiving the pill, William did not hesitate to swallow it.

Rage welled up in Frederick's heart when he saw how William preferred the black pill over his thousand-year-old ginseng.

"Mr. Sullivan, why are you so happy over a black pill? My ginseng is far better than it!" he grumbled. The hint of displeasure in his voice could not be concealed. When William was about to explain, Kai forestalled him by sneering. "Who knows if your thousand-year-old ginseng is a fake or not?"

Scowling, Frederick countered, "What do you mean by that? I've paid over a million for it, so there's no way it could be a fake. I would've shown it to you right now if I weren't worried that it might flee after I open the box!"

Kai and Josephine burst into laughter upon hearing his words.

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They could not believe Frederick thought the ginseng had spirituality and could escape, not to mention the insanely low price he paid for a thousand-year-old ginseng root.

After all, the hundred-year-old ginseng, reishi mushrooms, and other herbs prepared by Josephine were worth at least a few million. Even that single pill Kai made for William was worth over a million.

"Why are you guys laughing? Do you think I am lying?"

Frederick started to feel anxious.

Josephine tried hard to stifle her laughter as she asked, "Frederick, did you look inside the box when you bought it? Or did you just take it like that?"