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Shock colored Glen's features as he listened on. In a daze, he grabbed the contract from the bed and was alarmed to see his signature and seal on it. If Kai hadn't shown up, the contract would've been processed, and I would have been deemed a criminal in Horington. Worse yet, I might even be arrested! Cold sweat streamed down his forehead as he hurriedly tore the contract into pieces. The whole time, his heart was racing from anxiousness. The events on that day had totally changed his perception of life.

"Young— Mr. Chance, thank you so much. If it weren't for you, the consequences would have been disastrous. I'm sorry for treating you like that when you were so kind as to offer me a reminder this afternoon," Glen apologized, his face flushing with embarrassment.

"Mr. Lowe, there's no need to thank me. I'm merely trying to protect the well-being of the citizens of Horington!" Kai flashed him a faint smile.

"Mr. Chance, you're such a benevolent man even though you are still young. How I wish my son could be like you..."

Glen heaved a sigh at the mention of his son.

"Mr. Lowe, don't worry too much. People will change eventually," Kai comforted the mayor. "What should we do with these three people?" he then asked. Glen furrowed his brows as he stared at Nicholas and the two businessmen.

Even though they conspired to control him and exploit Horington, they were not citizens of the city, after all. Even if Glen got to the bottom of the matter, the worst punishment he could give was only banishing them from Horington. That hardly seemed to be a fair punishment for such a crime.

Sensing that Glen was in a dilemma, Kai voiced, "Mr. Lowe, I will handle them. Please go back and rest. Also, do not go out tonight. Your soul is damaged, so it's easy for accidents to happen!"

Glen no longer chided Kai for being superstitious since he still had lingering fear from the earlier events.

"I got it. I'll have to trouble you with this matter then, Mr. Chance. When I have the time, I'll surely pay you a visit to express my gratitude!"

Upon saying so, Glen left hastily. It sure seemed like he was traumatized by the whole incident.

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After Glen left, Tommy asked, "Mr. Chance, what should we do with these three men? Should we throw them into the river to feed the fishes?" His statement astounded the trio.

"Please spare my life! I have fifty million here. It's all yours as long as you're willing to let me go. That's all I'm asking for!" Nicholas' body trembled as he

begged for mercy.

Kai's eyes lit up when he heard his words. Since he could not simply kill them due to their unique identities, he figured it would be nice to extort some money. After all, he was strapped for cash.

"All right. It's your lucky day. Hand over the fifty million and get lost!" Kai uttered indifferently.

Upon hearing his response, Nicholas was overjoyed. I can still earn money as long as I am alive. The most important thing now is to get out of here unharmed. Without hesitation, he transferred the money to Kai and fled the scene.

The two businessmen seemed to see a way out as they also pleaded desperately, "We will give you money too! Please don't hurt us!"

"The two of you are the masterminds. I will let you go if you give one hundred million each!"

Since they seemed quite well-off, Kai did not hold back and raised the price.

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As expected, the businessmen's eyes lit up, and they immediately transferred the said amount to Kai without the slightest trace of hesitation. One hundred million was nothing compared to their lives. With that, they scurried out of the room like cowards.

Seeing that those men willingly gave him the money, Kai suddenly regretted his decision.

"Tommy, do you think I should've asked for more? They didn't even protest and gave me the sum so readily!" he queried with a tight frown between his brows.

"I guess. I heard the net worth of businessmen like them is at least one hundred billion!"

"D*mn it. Why didn't you mention it earlier?" Kai cursed wrathfully.

Despite how much he regretted it, it was too late for him to do anything. After all, two hundred million was still better than nothing, not to mention he got the sum for free. Having regained his composure, he decided to head to the City of Herbs once he had gathered enough money.

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Glen returned home looking pale and wretched.

"What happened, Glen? You don't look so good," Helen remarked with a concerned look when she saw him in that state.

"Stop asking questions! You'd better keep a close eye on that rascal. He's not allowed to step foot out of this house. If I find out that he dares to go out and cause more trouble for Kai, I'll break both his legs!" he snapped while waving his

hand dismissively, not knowing how to explain everything to her. With that said, he stormed into the bedroom and lay fuming in bed for a long time.

Momentarily stunned, Helen quickly returned to her senses and hurried upstairs. I have to remind Frederick not to leave the house. Otherwise, Glen's going to make good his threat.

At that moment, Frederick was upstairs in his room, talking on the phone. He was infuriated that Kai had the guts to tell tales after breaking his wrist.

"Why did you suddenly call me? This isn't like you at all..." the person on the other end of the line said in an amused tone.

"Stop trying to be funny, Tyrion Whitaker. We need to team up and vanquish our enemy!" Frederick replied angrily.

"What do you mean?" Tyrion asked.

"Josephine has found herself a guy! And to add insult to injury, he's an ex-convict! That makes my hackles rise!" Frederick growled, gnashing his teeth.

"What?" Tyrion demanded, raising his voice. "She's with an ex-convict? Has she lost her mind? How could she choose an ex-convict over the both of us? But come to think of it, is there anyone in Horington who'd dare to steal your woman? Why don't you get someone to beat him up?"

"Don't even bring that up. That jerk seems to be quite skilled in martial arts. He's the one who broke my wrist! Besides, you know how my father is. He's so pedantic that he's locked me up at home and won't let me seek revenge. That's why I'm calling you," Frederick explained.

Tyrion guffawed. "You, the great and mighty Frederick Lowe, want my help? We're love rivals, so why should I help you? Have you forgotten how you used your identity as the son of Horington's mayor to lord it over me previously?"

"If you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours. As long as you deal with that jerk, you can have Josephine. I won't fight with you for her. Oh, and that new branch your family is thinking of building in Horington? I'll think of a way to make it happen."

Frederick's eyes glinted coldly. I'm not going to let this slide. If I don't get my revenge, I'll never be able to rest easy!

"Are you serious?" Tyrion asked eagerly, tempted by the offer.

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"Of course. You can even record what I just said," Frederick responded nonchalantly.

"Deal. Send me the details on that jerk. I'll teach him a lesson for daring to make advances to my woman!" Tyrion vowed vehemently before hanging up.

Tyrion was the eldest son of the Whitaker family, and he was schoolmates with Josephine and Frederick. When they were in school, both he and Frederick liked Josephine. However, she was not interested in the two playboys.

After their graduation, Frederick seized the advantage of living in the same city as Josephine and pursued her relentlessly. Although Tyrion visited Horington a few times to try and win her over, he was helpless against the son of Horington's mayor and was constantly chased away by Frederick.

Frederick had requested Tyrion's help because his father's influence did not extend until Summerbank. If Frederick were to find someone in Horington to beat Kai up, Glen would surely get wind of it in the blink of an eye. However, it would be a different story if someone from Summerbank came over.

Tyrion had also been in the military for a few years and was quite skilled at combat, so it probably would not be too difficult for him to deal with Kai. As soon as the call ended, Helen opened the door to Frederick's bedroom.

"Does your hand still hurt?" she asked worriedly. The sight of his bandaged wrist pained her.

Frederick turned his back toward her immediately. "That's none of your business. Just leave me to endure the torturous pain on my own. I'm beginning to wonder whether I'm your biological son or not. Someone broke my wrist, yet my own parents still want to apologize to the culprit! It drives me crazy!"

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Look at you. You're always stirring up trouble wherever you go. One day, that's going to be the death of your father! You're lucky that only your wrist got broken this time. If you continue causing trouble, you might wind up dead somewhere!" Helen snarled, her voice tinged with disappointment.

"Who cares? So be it! You should go. I'm going to bed."

Frederick pointed toward the door as he spoke.

"Your father has already made it clear that you're not to go seeking revenge on Kai. Otherwise, he'll break your legs," she cautioned.

Frederick's temper flared up at once. "Go ahead! Or forget about breaking my legs and just finish me off! At least I'll finally be free then!" he roared.

Afraid that Glen would hear his shouts, Helen hurried out of the room and closed the door tightly behind her.

After she left, Frederick clenched his teeth and hissed, "Kai Chance, I'll make sure you get what's coming to you..."

Over at the mansion on Dragon Bay, the person Tommy sent to purchase the herbs had just delivered them. Kai felt a little overwhelmed as he stared at the big bags filled with herbs. Well, it looks like I can forget about sleeping. It's going to take me all night!

Fortunately, Hannah and Gary were not home. Ever since Hannah regained her sight, she was always out and about exploring Horington, eager to see everything she had missed out in the past few years.

After lugging the herbs into his bedroom, Kai locked the door and began crafting the revitalizing pills.

It took him the whole night. He used up all of the herbs and managed to produce twenty revitalizing pills. By the time he finished, it was already the crack of dawn. Exhausted, he fell asleep as soon as his head touched his pillow.

He was not yet at the stage where he did not need to eat, drink, or sleep.

Kai slept for a long time and only awoke with a start when he heard a loud noise.

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Seeing that the sun was high in the sky, he guessed it was almost noon. After getting out of bed, he walked out of his room, only to realize a small crowd was in his living room. Several kids were running around and shrieking at the tops of their lungs, turning the room upside down.

A middle-aged, glamorously dressed woman turned and spotted Kai. In a voice dripping with sarcasm, she drawled, "Oh, my. We didn't know you were home, Kai. Now that you're staying in a mansion, you've forgotten about your poor relatives!"

The expression on Kai's face clearly showed that he was surprised to see her.

"Aunt Stella, when did you arrive?"

"We arrived quite some time ago. We didn't think that you'd be asleep in your room, too lazy to come down and welcome us."

His aunt, Stella Lambert, rolled her eyes and sat on a couch.

Ignoring her, Kai turned toward Hannah with a questioning look instead.

Hannah pulled him to a corner and said embarrassedly, "I was the one who asked them to come. I... I merely wanted to show them that we're living in a mansion too. However, I didn't expect them to bring so many people along. They've even messed up the living room. How are we going to explain this to Josephine?"

She was still under the impression that Josephine was only lending Kai the mansion so that they could stay there temporarily, oblivious to the fact that Josephine had actually gifted it to him.

"Don't worry about that, Mom. Let them do whatever they want. We can always have someone tidy it up later," Kai replied quickly, comforting her.

"It doesn't look like they'll be leaving anytime soon. I'm sure they'll stay for a meal. Why don't you go and reserve a table at a restaurant? Not one that's too expensive, okay?"

As Hannah spoke, she took some money from her pocket and tried stuffing it into Kai's hand.

However, Kai did not take it. "Put that away, Mom. I have my own money."

"You've only just started working, so how much money can you have? Moreover, you can't keep using Josephine's money. As a man, you shouldn't be spending a woman's money all the time!"

With that, she pressed the money into his hand and left him standing alone.

Kai gave a wry smile as he gazed down at the wad of bills. Some of them were brand new, while some were old and crumpled. He then slipped the money into his pocket and walked out of the mansion.

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Kai phoned Tommy and asked him to pick him up. He planned to give him the revitalizing pills he had just crafted, then reserve a table at Meadow Restaurant.

It did not take long for the latter to arrive, and they headed for Meadow Restaurant at once. When they were in Tommy's office, Kai passed him the revitalizing pills and said, "There are twenty pills here. The amount you spent on the herbs is the cost. I won't interfere in how you choose to sell them and their selling price. I'll leave that up to you. If the response is good, we can proceed to increase the scale of production."

Tommy took the pills and answered, "Got it. By the way, I've reserved Majestic Hall for you. It's the best room here. Your guests will surely be impressed."

Upon hearing his words, Kai shook his head. "There's no need for that. Just a basic private room will do. We're going to need money for many other things, so we should be more careful about our spending in the future."

Tommy nodded and replied, "Okay. Got it."

There was no familial affection between Kai and his uncle's family. In fact, he harbored some hatred toward them.

Kai's family used to live in the countryside. Following Gary's gradual promotion at his workplace, they moved to the city. From then on, Kai's uncle, Benedict Chance, who was also Gary's younger brother, would visit them with his family whenever they needed help.

Later on, Gary helped Benedict and his family move to the city. He also found a job for Stella. However, they began to look down on Kai's family as Benedict climbed up the ladder at his workplace.

Their contempt toward Gary's family intensified after Kai was imprisoned and Gary lost his job. Benedict and the others never once visited them, ignoring them as if they were not blood relatives.

Part of the reason Hannah had told them they were staying in a mansion was that she wanted to brag and impress them.

At noon, Kai's parents arrived with Benedict and his family.

After Kai led them into the private room, Stella scanned the surroundings and pursed her lips. "You're staying in such an impressive mansion, yet you bring us to a place like this for lunch? It's clear that you don't think of us as your relatives."

Kai's cousin, Gianna Chance, shot a scornful look toward Kai before saying, "Mom, we were talking about it earlier! Have you forgotten it so soon? They're only borrowing it for a little while. It's not like they own the place. A mansion like that easily costs one hundred million, so how could they possibly afford to buy it?"

Stella snickered. "Oh, dear. I can't believe I forgot that!"

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Soon, everyone was seated at the table.

While Kai's family was forced to sit in the corner, Benedict sat at the head of the table with an impassive expression.

There was a hint of disdain in his eyes, probably stemming from his perceived self-importance due to his position as an office administrator in a government department.

Seated to his left was Stella. She was dripping with jewels, and her heavy makeup was unsightly with blood-red lipstick.

Her son, Javier Chance, sat next to her. He was only a few months younger than Kai. Kai's and Javier's grandfather was the one who named them back then, and

he came up with the idea of giving both of them names beginning with the letter J.

Unlike Kai, Javier was an idle person and was still a bachelor. If Kai had not gone to jail, he would have been happily married by now.

A young man dressed in a suit and exuding an arrogant air sat on Benedict's right. He was Simon Moore, Kai's cousin-in-law. His father was the chief of some ministry and was Benedict's immediate superior.

As for Gianna, she sat on the other side of Simon. She looked like the epitome of a rich man's wife with her designer clothing and long, manicured nails.

"Kai, when did you get to know such a wealthy friend? She has such a big mansion on Dragon Summit, and she's so generous to lend it to you. A friend like that is definitely someone you should introduce to me. I heard your mother mention that your friend is a girl. Which family is she from? Perhaps we could set her up with Javier," Benedict stated in a pompous tone once everyone had taken their seats.

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Kai's brows furrowed, and his expression darkened at Benedict's words.

Gary noticed the grim look on his son's face and quickly interjected, "Benedict, we're here to have a meal as a family. Why are you bringing up Kai's friend? She won't be interested in Javier at all!"

Although Benedict looked down on Gary and his family, the latter was still his older brother. Hence, he dared not retort.

"What do you mean, Gary? What's wrong with Javier? The way I see it, he's better than Kai. At least Javier hasn't been in prison and isn't an ex-convict," Stella piped up, displeased at Gary's jibe about Javier.

Benedict may not have the guts to say it, but I fear nothing!

"You..."

Gary flushed angrily. However, he could only remain silent since there was no denying that Kai had been in prison.

A faint sneer played on Benedict's lips when he saw how furious his brother looked. Finally, he said, "All right, that's enough. Let's not argue. We should hurry up and order some dishes. I still have some matters to attend to later, so I can't stay long."

Hannah passed the menu to Benedict. "Why don't you take a look at the menu and order whatever that is to your liking?"

Without even glancing at the menu, Benedict pointed at a page and said, "Let's order everything on this page, then. I've heard that the food here is quite delicious."

His response stunned Hannah. Is he serious about wanting to order all the dishes on that page? How much is all that going to cost? What's more, there are only a

few of us here. We'll never be able to finish all that food!

Gianna covered her mouth and tittered at Hannah's reaction. "Are you not able to afford it? If so, just be frank and tell me. I don't mind paying for this meal."

Hannah went scarlet but did not say anything. If they're going to order all that, I really can't afford it!

"Those few dishes? That won't cost a lot at all." Kai took the menu and gestured for her to sit down. Then, he turned to the waiter and ordered all of the dishes on that page.

Benedict and his family sneered in response.

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Javier shot Kai a contemptuous glance and said airily, "Let's make things clear. You were the one who refused my sister's offer to pay for the meal, so don't try to get us to help with footing the bill later. We won't lift a finger to help."

"Rest assured that I won't ask you for money since I've already said that this meal is my treat."

Kai looked as calm as ever, seeming unfazed by his relatives' deliberately snide remarks.

An awkward silence filled the air after he uttered that sentence. Everyone sat quietly, waiting for the dishes to arrive.

Finally, Hannah broke the silence by saying, "Benedict, back at the house, you said something about finding a job as a government official for Kai. Do you think—"

Benedict cut her off and said in a haughty manner, "Finding a job for him will be easy. I can just ask for a favor. After all, slaving away at some random company isn't a long-term solution. I can find him a job that'll guarantee him a stable livelihood his entire life. However, I hope you and Gary will let us have our family's old residence. I plan on building a new house there to stay in after I retire. Even if you have the land, it's not like the two of you will have the money to build a house there."

Hannah glanced at Gary, who had his head lowered all that time without saying a single word. She nodded and replied, "If you can find Kai a stable job, you can have the old residence."

The way I see it, a stable job as a government official is much better than working in some random company. Others will also look at us with respect when they hear about it. If Gary hadn't lost his job, we wouldn't have to ask Benedict to find a job for Kai.

Benedict grinned, delighted by Hannah's reply.

"Mom, I don't want to be a government official! Moreover, we should get our fair share of the family's old residence!" Kai protested at once.

After all, he knew that Benedict's motive for claiming the old residence as his own was not because he wanted to build a mansion there. When he was at Glen's house, he had seen a report that mentioned the area would be undergoing development soon.

"That place is old and rundown, so there's nothing much we can do with it. Hush, keep your nose out of this. Just let your uncle find you a stable job, then you can have a good and peaceful life," Hannah warned with a glare, indicating that Kai should not interfere.

