

## Stay At home 431

### Chapter 431 He Must Be... Feeling Emotional

“Insanely spicy? Sure, please wait for a moment.” A slightly amused smile appeared on Mag’s face. Hehe, you’re the one who placed the order, so don’t blame me. I’m going to make you cry today!

“There’s fish? I love fish! I’ll also get a large insanely spicy grilled fish. This image is so realistic; did you use magic to transform your dishes into images?” Havid was amazed by the quality of the spicy grilled fish image on the menu.

“I only asked an amateur artist to draw them for me,” Mag replied with a smile.

“Please explain to me what you mean by an amateur artist!! The system’s images are all at least at a professional level!!” The system’s indignant voice sounded, only to be ignored by Mag.

“I’ll get a Yangzhou fried rice!”

“I like chicken, so I’ll get a braised chicken and rice.”

Everyone placed their orders, and Mag went back into the kitchen, while Yabemiya was responsible for bringing out all of the dishes.

So he wants insanely spicy, eh? I’ll give him twice that! Mag took a glance at Fox before chopping up the chili peppers on his chopping board into a fine powder.

No one was interested in continuing their discussions any longer. All of them were staring at the kitchen, waiting for more dishes to arrive.

“Uncle Gold Wire, you have to pay for that chair,” Amy reminded.

Jinx looked at the chunks of wood that remained from what was his chair a moment ago, and he scratched his head sheepishly as he said, “The roujiamo was too delicious, so I couldn’t control myself. I’ll be sure to pay for this chair.”

“Here are the 10 roujiamos you ordered. Would you like a new chair?” Yabemiya set down a platter of roujiamos in front of Jinx. She appeared to be a little nervous.

“No need, I’ll just stand while I eat. Otherwise, I’ll just keep breaking chairs.” Jinx shook his head with a smile. He then looked at Yabemiya with a curious expression, and asked, “What dragon bloodline do you have, little girl? Why are you working here as a waitress? We dragons are proud creatures; no matter how good the food is here, we shouldn’t stoop to serving others like this.”

“I...” Yabemiya opened her mouth to reply before lowering her head with a dejected expression as she said, “I don’t know what type of dragon bloodline I have, either.”

“Oh, is that so?” Jinx was a little perplexed as he looked at Yabemiya.

“However, I like my current job. This job gives me pride, and it has never made me feel inferior to anyone. I enjoy my current work and life.” Yabemiya raised her head again, and looked into Jinx’s eyes with an earnest expression.

Jinx looked at the confidence and pride in Yabemiya's eyes, and a hint of surprise appeared on his face. He had seen many half-dragons on the dragon island, and the majority of them had rather low self-esteem. However, he could sense that the pride in this little girl's heart was very genuine.

"I hope you never lose this pride and confidence. I wish you good luck." Jinx smiled as he bit down into his roujiamo, and he was immediately immersed in its delectable flavor.

"I will," Yabemiya replied in a light voice. Her words were a reply both to Jinx as well as to herself.

"Here's your insanely spicy grilled fish." Yabemiya soon went back into the kitchen, and brought out a large grilled fish for Fox.

The massive grilled fish was stewing in red juices, within which were countless chili peppers. Just the aroma of the dish made Fox's throat go dry.

This aroma! How can it possibly be so spicy?! Just smelling it is making me tear up. He lived in Chaos City year-round, so he wasn't unfamiliar with human food. As such, it was not his first time eating spicy food. In fact, he enjoyed spicy food, which was what prompted him to choose the insanely spicy level in the first place.

However, it appeared that this spiciness was different from anything he had ever seen before. Despite its formidably spicy aroma, the smell of the fish was extremely alluring, and Fox picked up his chopsticks almost involuntarily.

A Frost Dragon eating an insanely spicy grilled fish; this place is going to look like a sauna soon. Michael shook his head with a smile. Mag hadn't given any warning to Fox about just how spicy the insanely spicy grilled fish would be, so it appeared that he was exacting his revenge on Fox.

"This fish looks really extraordinary. The scorching aura emanating from it is making my blood boil." Havid looked at the spicy grilled fish that Sally had just presented to him, and his skin began to turn red as if it would burst into flames at any moment.

Wait, I have to move the chair away before I start eating. Otherwise, I'll have to pay for burning the furniture again. Havid picked up his chopsticks, but he quickly remembered to move his chair a safe distance away before digging in. He had learned his lesson from before, and was not taking any chances.

In reality, he was one of the more poverty-stricken giant dragons; as such, he valued money a lot more. Even though the dragon race covered the expenses for this trip, there was no guarantee that they would pay for any damaged furniture.

The two of them took their first bites of fish almost in unison.

"Argh!"

"Roar!"

A howl of anguish and a roar of excitement erupted at the same time.

Fox pressed his hands tightly onto the table as he panted heavily. His face was as red as a monkey's bum, and steam rose from his body amid a crackling sound reminiscent of the sound that dry ice made

when coming into contact with water. Soon, his entire body was enshrouded in water vapor, presenting quite a startling spectacle.

At the same time, Havid's entire body was alight with roaring flames, and his entire body had been set on fire, but the chopsticks in his hand remained unscathed.

"How could there be such delicious fish in this world? It's absolutely amazing! I've never had anything as delicious as this in my entire life!" Havid stared at the grilled fish with a fervent expression before placing another morsel of fish meat into his mouth. As he did so, the flames around his body burned even brighter.

"How... How could there be such spicy chili peppers in this world..." Fox's entire body was drenched in cold sweat, but his chopsticks were involuntarily inching toward the grilled fish again.

No! Stop! I'll embarrass myself if I keep eating! But... my hand won't listen to me! And... am I crying? Are these tears? Fox's eyes widened as he stared at the fish in front of him, and his tears flowed relentlessly. At the same time, he felt as if something was quickly escaping from his body...

"Father, why is he crying?" Amy was rather perplexed as she turned to Mag.

"He must be... feeling emotional," Mag replied with a smile.

#### Chapter 432 Love At First Sight

"Phew..."

After finishing the entirety of his grilled fish, Fox lay sprawled out on the table with his entire body drenched in sweat. All of his energy had been sapped away, and he was unable to even hold his chopsticks any longer, as if he had lost all of his hopes and dreams.

How... How could this flavor be so overpowering? I simply couldn't stop myself! Fox raised his head with difficulty, and he turned to look at the smiling Mag with narrowed eyes. Could it be? Did he spike my fish with something to take revenge on me?

In any case, Fox felt as if he had lost the ability to move. He felt like he had more energy left even after his most grueling battles.

Looks like the two-times insanely spicy grilled fish is too much to handle even for a dragon. Mag wore a cheerful smile on his face at the sight of the sobbing mess that Fox had been reduced

to.

He hadn't forced Fox to eat the fish. He was the one who had devoured the fish in its entirety, so the blame could only be pinned on himself.

Havid slapped his chopsticks onto the table before turning to Mag with an animated expression. "Wow! That was amazing! Get me another large insanely spicy grilled fish! If only there was some liquor to accompany the fish. Boss, do you sell alcohol here?"

“My apologies, the restaurant doesn’t supply alcoholic beverages at the moment.” Mag shook his head in an apologetic manner. He was actually also a fan of coupling spicy grilled fish with beer, but the system hadn’t given him an alcohol-brewing recipe yet.

“That’s a pity.” Havid was a little disappointed. He looked at the menu beside him, upon which his eyes lit up, and he asked, “Wait, I saw something called ice cream on that menu. Is that something that’s made from ice? Can you get me one of those?”

“Ice cream isn’t made from ice, but it’s icy cold. There are four flavors to choose from; which one would you like?” Mag was quite amused at the sight of the flames raging on Havid’s body. He was wondering what it would look like for a burning man like him to eat an ice cream.

“Any flavor is fine. I just need something cold to soothe my throat before I dig into another spicy grilled fish.” Havid waved a nonchalant hand.

“Alright, please wait a moment.” Mag nodded before entering the kitchen.

“This is the blueberry. Please enjoy.” Yabemiya soon made her way over to Havid with an ice cream cone.

“So this is ice cream? It’s a little small; I can eat this in one bite. It does appear to be icy cold, though.” Havid accepted the ice cream cone and began to size it up.

Scorching temperature erupted from his body, and the two balls of ice cream immediately melted.

That’s a little disappointing. Havid’s brows furrowed upon seeing that. He opened his mouth, and prepared to eat the entire ice cream cone in one bite.

“Uncle Fireman, that’s not how you’re supposed to eat ice cream; you’re supposed to lick it instead. If you eat everything in one bite, you won’t be able to taste its flavor,” Amy cautioned.

“Really?” Havid was a little skeptical, but he still did as he was told and licked the melting ice cream.

This sensation!

Havid’s eyes immediately widened. He felt as if snow was slowly melting on his tongue. An icy cool sensation soothed the scorching aftertaste of the spicy grilled fish, giving him a profound sense of satisfaction. He closed his eyes unconsciously, and began to savor the ice cream’s sweet and sour flavor.

He saw a petite purple crystal dragon resting on top of a cliff. She raised her proud head, and sang a gentle song with her eyes half-closed. Her voice was extremely alluring, and even though she was only humming a tuneless song, he was still completely intoxicated with her voice.

However, she was suddenly alerted to his approach, and she looked at him with a hint of wariness and surprise in her eyes before flying away.

That was their first and only encounter. He didn’t even get a chance to ask for her name, and he didn’t know where she lived, either. However, her exquisite purple figure and beautiful singing voice had left a deep impression in his heart.

In that instant, he suddenly understood what he was feeling. Perhaps, this was what people called love. Perhaps, this was the legendary... love at first sight?

“Uncle Fireman, your ice cream is about to melt,” Amy reminded.

Havid immediately opened his eyes upon hearing that before taking another lick of his ice cream. The cool sweet and sour flavor flourished in his mouth, and he wore an expression of pure bliss. He turned to Amy with a smile, and said, “You’re right, little girl. The right way to eat this ice cream is indeed to lick it.”

Even though she’s a purple crystal dragon, I could perhaps pay the purple crystal island a visit to find her when I go back this time. At the very least, I want to ask for her name, Havid thought to himself as he licked his ice cream. A faint blush appeared on his face, but thankfully, his entire body was covered in flames, so no one noticed.

Amy turned to look at Mag, and asked, “Uncle Fireman looks really adorable when he’s eating ice cream. Father, can I have one as well?”

“Of course. Which flavor would you like?” Mag nodded with a smile. Havid’s entire body was alight, but he was carefully licking an ice cream. The stark contrast was indeed a little adorable.

“I want a vanilla one. I still haven’t had the vanilla ice cream yet,” Amy replied.

“Alright, I’ll make one for you right now.” Mag patted Amy’s little head before entering the kitchen again.

Everyone was immersed in the dishes in front of them, and peace once again settled in the restaurant.

Demons and giant dragons were not good cooks. In fact, the vast majority ate all of their food raw.

However, Mag’s food had completely opened up their eyes to a brand-new world. They suddenly discovered just how delicious cooked food could be. It was completely different from anything that they had eaten in the past!

“Burp...”

A loud burp broke the silence in the restaurant. The burp seemed to be contagious as more burps soon followed in the restaurant. Even the two recording officials were burping as they rubbed their bulging stomachs with expressions of bliss and contentment.

“City Lord Michael, is the conference going to continue at this restaurant tomorrow?” Dracula asked.

Everyone else also turned to Michael upon hearing that.

“The city lord’s castle only reserved Mamy Restaurant for tonight, so if the conference continues tomorrow, the venue will no longer be here.” Michael shook his head in response. He then pointed at Mag, and said, “If you want to continue the conference here, then you’ll have to ask Mr. Mag if it can be arranged.”

Chapter 433 A Rental Fee of One Copper Coin

Everyone then turned to Mag in unison.

“My apologies, but the restaurant will be operating as usual tomorrow, so reservation services will be unavailable.” Mag rejected everyone with a smile before anyone could even ask.

“Money is not a problem. Serving us will surely be a lot easier than serving all of the customers that you get throughout the day. We’ll reserve the restaurant for an entire day tomorrow; let’s leave it at that for now.” Jinx was determined to reserve the restaurant.

“My apologies, but the restaurant doesn’t offer reservation services during its normal days of operation. This is a rule of the restaurant, and also a promise that I have made to my customers. If you’d still like to dine at the restaurant, then please come during our business hours tomorrow.” Mag declined firmly, yet still in a polite manner. He then looked at the clock on the wall, and said, “Also, the restaurant is about to close for the day soon. If you’d like to order more food, then please do so before 9pm.”

“Huh?”

Everyone’s expression became a little strained as they looked at Mag. Not only had he rejected their proposal to reserve the restaurant, he was even preparing to kick them out soon!

“Let me get another Yangzhou fried rice and savory tofu pudding.” Dracula looked at the clock on the wall, only to find that it was already 8:40pm.

“I’ll get another spicy grilled fish. Make it a super spicy one this time. The insanely spicy grilled fish was a bit too much... Burp!”

Everyone burped as they ordered more dishes. They were already full, but passing up the opportunity to have more of this delicious food would be like inflicting torture upon oneself.

“Alright, please wait a moment.” Mag nodded with a smile as he re-entered the kitchen. He took a glance at the six representatives, and his smile widened as he thought to himself, Looks like we’ll be getting a definitive result soon.

“Burp... I say we just end this conference right here. We won’t ask for compensation anymore, but we’re not going to apologize, either. We’ll get all of our troops to vacate the island, and no one will have any ownership rights over it. We’ll just release a statement that our armies fought each other to a stalemate and no victor emerged, so both sides decided to retreat, and that’ll be the end of the matter.” Dracula burped as he looked at the three giant dragons, and said, “We can all have some fun in Chaos City in the next few days. It’s not often that we get to come here, and I don’t want to have to spend any more time looking at your ugly mugs. I’d much rather go look at the pretty little girls on the streets, and come and dine at Mamy Restaurant. That’s the kind of life I want to live.”

Fox struggled to his feet and adopted a serious expression. “How can you treat such an important conference in such a farcical manner?! The giant dragons have always dominated this battle, so what’s this nonsense about a stalemate? I firmly disagree with=”

“I agree! Let’s sign the relevant documents tomorrow! I have some urgent matters that I have to attend to, so I need to go back soon. I fully approve of Dracula’s proposal.” Havid raised his hand and cut off Fox’s words of objection.

“If we can’t continue the conference in Mamy Restaurant, then we wouldn’t be able to eat their delicious roujiamo. That is a true tragedy. As such, I also approve of Dracula’s proposal. Let’s just end

the conference here, and all of our warriors can go back for a well-deserved rest.” Jinx raised his hand, and turned to Fox—who wore a thunderous expression on his face—as he said, “Fox, we’ve decided before coming here that in the case of an internal disagreement, we’d settle this with a vote. The vote stands at two to one, so it’s decided.”

“You!! You’re responsible for our dragon race! I’m going to reveal all of this to everyone; you two will have a lot of explaining to do once we get back!” Fox was absolutely furious, and his hands trembled as he glowered at Havid and Jinx.

“Fox, you may have a big mouth, but don’t forget that we have two mouths on our side. Do you think everyone will believe you or choose to trust the two of us? I know what you’re thinking—the Frost Dragons have indeed contributed a lot to this ongoing battle, but the best course of action for the entire dragon race is to put a stop to this battle as soon as possible.” Havid looked at Fox with a firm expression.

Fox looked deeply into Havid and Jinx’s eyes, and even though he was still unwilling to accept this result, he had no choice but to concede.

As expected of Mr. Mag. If he wasn’t running this brilliant restaurant, I would hire him as my chief advisor no matter how much money it would cost me to do so. A smile appeared on Michael’s face as he leaned back into his chair. This was the fastest and most efficient conference that he had ever hosted; his job would be made a lot simpler if all future conferences could follow this example.

The two recording officials from the city lord’s castle had only just brought out their pens and paper, but the conference was already over.

Dicus had also been present throughout the course of the conference, and he wore a stunned expression on his face. He then turned to Mag with a look of admiration in his eyes.

Theoretically, the city lord was the one who was hosting the conference, but the one who had been controlling the rhythm and direction of the entire conference was actually Mag.

The city lord had accepted all of Mag’s conditions, including his proposal to postpone the conference to a later time, and Dicus had been quite skeptical of that decision. However, the city lord had achieved everything that he had set out to achieve by accepting those conditions, and the conference had concluded in record time.

Both sides were clearly well-prepared, so as soon as they entered the actual negotiation phase, everything progressed relatively smoothly. An agreement had basically been established, and there were only a few minor details that had to be ironed out before the relevant documents could be signed the next day.

“Before coming here, I was told that the conference would be a really difficult and long-winded process. Things progressed a lot smoother than I expected.” Dracula adjusted his clothes with a cheerful expression.

“My thoughts exactly. You demons aren’t as bad as I thought. We’re most likely going to have to fight again in the future, but I really enjoyed dining with you guys today.” Jinx nodded in agreement, and everyone burst into laughter upon hearing that.

After the final round of dishes were brought out and consumed, everyone departed from the restaurant. Fox had finally recovered somewhat, and he walked out the door with a slightly unnatural gait. As he left, he narrowed his eyes with a sinister expression, and murmured to himself, "Just you wait! I'm going to repay you tenfold for all of the humiliation you've inflicted upon me!"

"Mr. Mag, thank you for significantly speeding up the conference today." Michael looked at Mag, and extended his hand with a smile as he said, "I had a look at the plot of land in front of the restaurant. Even if you set up a few tables and chairs out there, it won't have any negative impact on the Aden Square. As such, you are free to set up your outdoor dining area, and the rent will be one copper coin. The relevant documents will be delivered to you tomorrow."

Chapter 434 Too Innocent

"Fox, Jinx, Havid, and three powerful demons. Who would have thought that the conference would be held at Mamy Restaurant this time?" Outside the restaurant, Elizabeth was hiding on a large tree, and she peeked out from between the branches with a slightly surprised expression.

Looking at Fox's expression... Is he holding a grudge against this restaurant? That half-dragon girl, Yabemiya, is also working here. Could it be... that Fox is onto her? Elizabeth thought to herself with furrowed brows. She didn't know how she had ended up here, but when she saw this restaurant, the first person that sprang to her mind was Yabemiya.

That shouldn't be the case. Her blood didn't react with mine, and there was no reaction from the golden dragon pearl, either. But if Fox is onto her, maybe I should keep an eye on her as well. Elizabeth shook her head, and she looked on as Fox departed with difficulty through the use of a spell formation. Her eyes lit up upon seeing that, and she thought to herself, Fox seems to be really feeble at the moment, so perhaps this is the perfect opportunity to sneak into his living quarters. There might be more information about Father there.

A white large white snowflake appeared beneath her feet, and a white light flashed, upon which she instantly disappeared.

After everyone had departed, including Sally and Yabemiya, Mag closed the door of the restaurant before carrying the sleeping Amy and Ugly Duckling upstairs.

"Phew... That sure was an eventful day." Mag smiled as he looked at two little fellas that he had just tucked into bed. A sense of exhaustion washed over him, and he made his way over to the bathroom.

Mag closed his eyes in the warm bath that he had drawn for himself, and he said internally, "System, I've secured the land, so the mission has been completed, right?"

"The rental contract has yet to be signed, so you don't have the right to use that land yet. As such, the mission has not been completed." The system's serious voice sounded in response.

"Alright, then let's wait for tomorrow." Mag wasn't in a hurry. He could afford to wait for a day.

Mag bathed in silence for a while before asking, "By the way, system, what tier is my power level at the moment?"



The system contemplated in silence momentarily before delivering its verdict. "Your situation is a little complex. Your physical properties are only comparable to a normal person's, but your swordsmanship is comparable to a 4th-tier knight's, your speed is comparable to a 2nd-tier knight's, and your overall power level is somewhere around the pinnacle of 2nd-tier knights. You can briefly display explosive power comparable to a 4th-tier knight's."

Mag thought about this evaluation for a moment before asking, "So this is my interpretation. I can crush all 2nd-tier knights, I can put up a fight against 3rd-tier knights, but I might not win, and if I encounter a 4th-tier knight, I have no chance of victory unless the battle takes place at really close quarters. Is that correct?"

"That's a good assessment. If you don't want to die, then try not to engage opponents above the 3rd-tier in battle," the system replied.

"I'm just a chef, so there's no way I'd end up fighting a 3rd-tier knight. The more renowned I become as a chef, the fewer the people who will draw the connection between me and Mag Alex, and everyone will think that I'm just an ordinary chef with no combat prowess to speak of." Mag raised his head, and a smile appeared on his face as he continued, "To be able to refine a certain craft to the extreme requires wholehearted dedication. Back then, Alex refined his swordsmanship to the extreme, so no one would believe that his sword-wielding hands would be holding chef's knives instead. Cooking is the perfect way for me to defend myself."

In the city lord's castle, Vivian was holding onto Luna's hand with a smile on her face as she said, "Luna, it's so late already, so why don't you sleep at my place. I'll tuck you in."

"I can't, I still have lessons tomorrow." Luna shook her head, and looked at Vivian with a stern expression as she said, "Besides, your symptoms have only gotten better recently, so you have to rest. Once you're completely cured, you'll be able to eat and do whatever you want, so just stay home and focus on recovery for now."

"Tsk, you used to hold me and call me little sweetheart, but now, you're pushing me away like a heartless lover. Have you found a boyfriend to replace me?" Vivian refused to let go of Luna's hand. Her eyes narrowed as she inspected Luna's face, and she said, "Have you fallen in love with Boss Mag? I can see your eyes sparkling whenever I mention him! When I think about it, though, he's pretty handsome. He's a little thin, but he's quite tall, and his cooking is out of this world. He's really kind and well-spoken, with good IQ and EQ. With the way his restaurant's going, he must be really rich as well. He's perfect in every single way, isn't he?"

"Stop spouting nonsense! How could I have fallen in love with Mr. Mag? I only admire him for his personality and cooking skills. There's nothing going on between us." Vivian chuckled as she gently slapped the back of Vivian's hand.

"Really?" Vivian fixed her skeptical gaze on Luna for a while longer, but it appeared that the latter wasn't lying. Thus, a smile reappeared on Vivian's face, and she said, "That's a real pity. If you became his wife, as your best friend, I'd be able to get free food from his restaurant every day, and he might even let me eat a second helping of tofu pudding!"

“You sure have an active imagination!” Luna flicked Vivian on the forehead before releasing her hand as she said, “Alright, I have to go back now. It’s going to get dark soon.”

“That’s alright, I’ve already spoken to our coach driver, and he’ll take you home. My Young Mistress Luna is so beautiful, I wouldn’t let you go back on your own in the night.” Vivian smiled as she latched onto Luna’s hand again, and the two of them walked out the room.

After Luna got onto the carriage, Vivian looked at her with a cheeky smile, and teased, “Luna, you’re the young mistress of the Field Family, so you can’t just go falling in love with anyone. I’m the only one for you.”

“You can laugh now, but when you’re cured, your father is probably going to start setting you up on dates again.” Luna chuckled.

“If that’s the case, then I’d rather never be cured! When the suffering becomes unbearable, I’ll just go to Boss Mag’s restaurant for a grilled fish, and I’ll be able to live on.” Vivian clasped her hand over her heart with a pained expression.

“Don’t say that!” Luna glared at Vivian before stroking her hair with a sympathetic expression. A sweet smile then appeared on her face, and she said, “I don’t have any lessons on Tuesday afternoon, so I’ll go with you to eat some spicy grilled fish on that night.”

“It’s a date, then! I’ll go pick you up on Tuesday!” Vivian was immediately revived, and she turned coach driver as she said, “Charlie, take Luna back to the dormitory. You have to watch her go upstairs with your own two eyes before you come back.”

“Yes, Young Mistress,” the middle-aged coach driver responded before urging the horses into motion.

“Luna is perfect in every way, but she’s too innocent. I really do worry about her sometimes...” Vivian heaved a faint sigh as she looked on at the departing carriage.

### **Chapter 435 It’s Completely Different From What I Imagined As A Kid**

The next morning, Mag woke up early to prepare ingredients. He then woke Amy up, had breakfast with her, and accompanied her to Chaos School for lessons with Krassu.

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After entering the magic room, Amy immediately rushed over to Krassu with a purple crystal in her hand, and asked, “Teacher Krassu, can I put this purple crystal onto my wand?”

“That’s just a normal purple crystal. I’ve already added the eye of a 9th-tier Purple Gold Blaze Bird onto your wand. It can allow you to see everything in a radius of five kilometers around you in the form of projections, and it’s much prettier than this little crystal.” Krassu shook his head before placing the little crystal back into Amy’s hand. He smiled as he said, “The wand is almost complete. I’ll be able to give it to you tonight.”

“But this is not just an ordinary crystal. Jessica gave it to me, and it’s the most precious thing that her father gave to her.” Amy looked up at Krassu with an earnest expression.

Krassu looked into Amy's eyes for a while, and a benevolent smile appeared on his face. He patted her little head, and nodded as he said, "Alright, then Master will add this precious crystal onto your wand as well."

"Thank you, Master Krassu!" Amy was very elated as she turned to Mag, and asked, "Father, Jessica will be really happy if she sees this, right?"

"I think she will be." Mag nodded with a smile, casting a grateful glance at Krassu.

Krassu stowed away the purple crystal, and smiled as he said, "Arthur and the other little brats from the Magus Tower should arrive in Chaos City today. They were apparently sent here to congratulate me on accepting a disciple, but I'm sure those old farts don't have any good intentions in mind. They most likely sent those brats here to challenge Little Amy."

"They're going to challenge me? Master Krassu, does that mean some bad people want to fight me?" Amy looked up at Krassu with a curious expression.

"Master Krassu, Amy has only been learning magic for a short time; won't she be in danger?" Mag was a little concerned. It appeared that Krassu wasn't a very popular figure in the Magus Tower.

"Don't worry about that. Those old guys are shameless, but not that shameless. They're not going to send their direct disciples to challenge Amy. Otherwise, they'd become the laughingstock of the entire continent. As for those little brats, let them come! Amy has only been studying magic for about half a month, but she's my disciple, so she'll have no issues taking care of them." Krassu waved his hand nonchalantly.

"Don't worry, Father, I'll definitely defeat all of them." Amy also looked up at Mag with an earnest and confident look on her little face.

"I believe in you, Amy." Mag nodded with a smile. Krassu's words were a great relief to him. If he was sure that Amy would be fine, then she was most likely ready.

Thus, Mag left the magic room, and he bumped into Hydle as soon as he made it to the school gate.

Hydle's eyes lit up at the sight of Mag, and he immediately made his way toward Mag as he said, "What a coincidence! We meet again, Mr. Mag. I wanted to go and find you today, but who would have thought that I would bump into you here? Do you have some time now? I want to discuss some details about the steam engine with you."

"My apologies, Principal Hydle, but I have to go back to the restaurant to prepare some ingredients, so I don't have time to talk at the moment. However, if you have some

questions, you can come over during the restaurant's recesses. I might not be able to provide much help, but I'm happy to offer my opinion if required," Mag replied with a smile. Hydle's hair was a little disheveled, and his eyes were quite bloodshot, indicating that he had not been sleeping

very well lately.

"I see. Alright then, I'll leave you to it. I don't have any lessons this afternoon, so I'll come to your restaurant to find you." Hydle nodded with a smile, and didn't force the issue.

“Sure. I’ll see you then.” Mag nodded before exiting the school.

He rode on his bike slowly toward his restaurant. The Aden Square wasn’t a very lively place this early in the morning. Many shops were still closed, and there was an occasional bleary-eyed pedestrian that had come out to buy breakfast.

The marble surface of the square shimmered under the light of the rising sun, and the evergreen trees in the square were still full of vitality despite the fact that autumn had arrived.

Everything was very peaceful and tranquil.

This is a little different from the alternate world that I imagined as a kid. But this is not bad. A smile appeared on Mag’s face as he rode on his bicycle, occasionally greeting the customers that he recognized on the streets.

He parked his bicycle in front of the restaurant, and extended a greeting toward the customers lined up outside. Aside from Yabemiya and Sally, Dicus was also waiting for him with a stack of documents in his hand.

“Mr. Mag, I’ve been sent here by the city lord to present this rental contract to you. After signing this contract, you’ll be able to use the plot of land in front of your restaurant as an outdoor dining space.” Dicus smiled as he looked at Mag, and his gaze lingered on his bicycle momentarily.

“Sure, please come in, Mr. Dicus.” Mag opened the door with a smile to allow Dicus to go in first. He didn’t think that the city lord’s castle would do things so quickly and get Dicus to deliver the contract this early in the morning

“Boss Mag rented the plot of land in front of the restaurant? Is he going to expand the restaurant?”

“He’s not planning on making an outdoor dining area, is he? It’s a little strange eating on the street.”

“That doesn’t matter to me. If I can eat Boss Mag’s food, I’d be more than happy to even squat outside his restaurant to eat.”

“That’s not the point here. Boss Mag managed to successfully rent that plot of empty land in the Aden Square; that’s something that no one has been able to achieve in the past. As expected, Boss Mag is no ordinary man.”

All of the customers lined up outside the restaurant were discussing spiritedly among each other; they were curious what Mag was planning on doing.

“Boss, are you really setting up an outdoor dining area? You requested to rent this plot of land just because of my suggestion the other day?” Yabemiya was very touched by

Mag’s gesture.

“Mr. Mag, you can have a look at the rental contract first. The rental period will be three years, with a fee of one copper coin per year. I hope you can keep this contract confidential as there are no precedents of renting parts of the Aden Square to businesses, and your restaurant will be the only one with an outdoor dining area.” Dicus placed a contract onto the table, and looked at Mag with a smile on his face.

### **Chapter 436 Hairdresser Apprentice**

“I’ll be sure to keep this confidential.” Mag nodded with a smile, before carefully reading through the contract.

The contents of the contract were actually quite simple. The terms stated the two parties involved, the area that was being granted to Mamy Restaurant, and the things that they were allowed to do in that area.

Aside from that, there was a non-disclosure agreement and a three-year rental contract. One copper coin per year was virtually nothing, so the plot of land was essentially being rented to Mag for free.

There were no issues with the contract, so

Mag signed it.

“Mr. Mag, your performance last night was truly brilliant. If you wanted to, you would make a brilliant politician.” Dicus picked up the contract, and extended genuine praise toward Mag.

“I’m just a chef.” Mag shook his head with a smile. He looked at Dicus, and asked, “The restaurant is going to open soon. Are you going back to the city lord’s castle right away or would you like some breakfast first?”

“I came here on an empty stomach,” Dicus replied with a smile.

“Alright, please come in and have a seat. The restaurant will be open soon.” Mag nodded with a smile.

“By the way, the reservation fee for last night will arrive after the application goes through our finance department, so it should be here today,” Dicus added.

“No problem.” Mag nodded with a smile. He wasn’t worried about the city lord’s castle refusing to pay him. Furthermore, he felt like he deserved the 300,000 copper coins. After all, he had expended a lot of brainpower to facilitate the successful conclusion of the conference the night prior.

As soon as the clock struck 7:30, Mag opened the restaurant door with a smile, and greeted, “Welcome, everyone. Today, our

restaurant will be releasing a new product.

It's called ice cream, and there are four flavors that you can choose from. As the name suggests, ice cream is quite cold, so it's not suitable to be consumed on an empty stomach. As such, I suggest everyone try it for dessert after your main course. The ice cream will be limited to two per person per meal."

"Another new product? Long live Boss Mag! This rate of new releases is awesome!"

"I don't know what ice cream is, but I'll be sure to order one today. Boss Mag has never disappointed us."

All of the customers' eyes lit up upon hearing that, and they discussed spiritedly among themselves as they walked into the

restaurant.

"B-Boss Mag, long... long time no see." A tall and broad figure made its way over to Mag with a bashful smile. Mag turned around, only to discover that it was Haga, whom he hadn't seen for a long while, and Habeng was trailing along behind him.

"Haga, is your arm alright?" Mag faltered

slightly upon seeing him before his attention was drawn to Haga's arm, which was in a crude sling.

Haga hadn't visited his restaurant ever since he'd gone back to fight in his race's civil war. He had heard from Habeng that the war had recently concluded, and that Haga had led his brethren to victory, but it appeared that the victory had come at a price.

"... I'm fine. It's just... a minor injury." Haga shook his head with a bashful smile. His common language still wasn't very fluent. He then began to look around the restaurant as if he were looking for something.

"Amy is attending lessons in Chaos School. She was talking about you just a few days ago; she would be really happy to know that you're back," Mag said with a smile. Haga and Haga were among his first customers, so Amy had a strong impression of them.

"Oh, I see. Studying... Good, good." Haga scratched his head and nodded. He then discovered that he was blocking the line of customers behind him, and hurriedly strode into the restaurant.

"Boss Mag, congratulations on getting all five of your dishes into the top 100 on the Aden Square food competition rankings. That's something that has never been done before." Bernice stopped at the door, and turned to Mag with a dainty smile.

"You're far too kind, Boss Bernice. I heard that your restaurant has made it into the top 10 this time. In comparison, Mamy Restaurant is still far inferior." Mag shook his head with a smile. Bernice was the owner of one of the restaurants in the Aden Square-she was part of the group of restaurant owners who had come to sample his food together. After that, she would occasionally visit his restaurant, so they gradually became familiar with each other.

“You’re making me blush, Boss Mag. If your restaurant weren’t limited by its scale, then all of your dishes would be able to make it into the top 10.” Bernice shook her head with a smile as she said, “Also, I heard that the Catering Association is preparing to change the rules of the Aden Square food competition. They’re no longer going to use customer votes as the only decisive factor on the rankings, so perhaps Mamy Restaurant will dominate the rankings next month.”

“Thank you for your kind words. Please come in, Boss Bernice.” Mag shook his head with a smile. Even though she was delivering glowing praise, he didn’t get complacent. If it weren’t for the system’s mission, he wouldn’t have spent as much as a single copper coin on tickets. He didn’t care about things like rankings.

“Another new product? Last time, Master Marsh told me that the sweet tofu pudding was really delicious, but I just overheard the other customers say that all of the other dishes are also really good. Which one should I eat?” Kenny patted his bulging wallet with a conflicted expression on his face.

Kenny was an apprentice from the nearby Lace Hair Salon. He was 15 years old, with a thin figure and a head of soft blonde curls.

He had been an apprentice for over three months, and the hairdressers supplied him with food and shelter. He was responsible for washing the customers’ hair; in the beginning, he had been scolded by the customers for things like using water that was too hot and being too rough, but he had since become a lot better at his job. In fact, he had even been praised by a customer the day before.

There was another half a year to go until he could officially start learning hairdressing skills from his master, and the job was a little arduous, but Kenny was determined to persevere. If he could become a hairdresser, then he would have the option of staying at his current workplace as a hairdresser or going back to his village to open a hair

salon. That was his dream.

He had received his salary the day prior, and sent most of it back home, but he wanted to give himself a little reward as well. As such, he decided to visit this restaurant that sold Master Marsh’s favorite sweet tofu pudding. Apparently, just one tofu pudding would cost 200 copper coins; that was roughly half a month of wages for him.

Kenny gripped his wallet tightly in his hand, and even though it was quite hefty, there were only copper coins in it—a total of 200.

He took a deep breath, and made up his mind as he strode into the restaurant. There were two gorgeous waitresses at the door, and he was momentarily stunned by their beauty before immediately bowing his head

in a shy manner. He had never seen such beautiful big sisters before.

Soon, his attention was drawn to the luxurious decor in the restaurant. The

dazzling crystal chandelier, the exquisite artwork on the walls... all of it was slightly overwhelming to him. It was his first time coming to such a lavish place.

Yabemiya looked at Kenny with a smile, and said, "There's an open seat over there. Here's a menu, you can have a look and order what you'd like to eat."

"Oh... Oh, thank you." Kenny looked at Yabemiya's warm smile, and his nerves were instantly soothed a little. He opened the menu, and his eyes immediately lit up.

"Is this the tofu pudding? It looks really delicious!"

"And this roujiamo dish looks really awesome too!"

"This fish... I've never had fish before; it also looks super delicious!"

### **Chapter 437 10th-Tier Giant Dragon**

After looking at all of the dishes on the menu with an excited expression, Kenny then turned his attention to the prices, upon which he immediately fell silent.

With 200 copper coins, I'll only be able to get the tofu pudding or the ice cream. Master Marsh says the tofu pudding is really good, so it must be really delicious, but if I get the ice cream, I'll be able to taste the ice cream before Master Marsh does. That way, I'll be able to join in on their conversation when they talk about Mamy Restaurant again. Kenny was struggling to choose between the tofu pudding and the ice cream.

An elderly man sitting beside him wore a smile on his face as he said, "Young fellas like you should be experimenting with new things."

He then proceeded to order a sweet tofu pudding for himself.

"I'll get a chocolate ice cream," Kenny said to Yabemiya as he closed the menu. Chocolate was something that he had never heard of, and it seemed to be more mysterious than the other three flavors.

"Sure, please wait a moment." Yabemiya nodded at Kenny with a smile on her face. She didn't ask any questions, as she saw a shadow of her younger self on Kenny, so there was no reason to ask why he only ordered a single ice cream.

"Thank you." Kenny was feeling quite flattered. He then saw the smiling Yabemiya attend to all of the other customers in the restaurant, and his eyes gradually lit up.

He suddenly understood why he wanted to become a hairdresser, and what he should do after becoming a hairdresser. He was going to stay at Chaos City, and at Lace Hair Salon. He was going to become the best hairdresser at Lace Hair Salon, and save up money so he could open his very own hair salon in Chaos City.

One day, I'm going to sit here like everyone else, ordering whatever I like, not limited in choice by the paltry 200 copper coins in my wallet. Kenny slowly clenched his fists, and a confident smile appeared on his face.



“You’re back, Haga! What happened to your arm?” Mobai had also come to the restaurant for breakfast, and he was quite surprised to see Haga and Habeng.

“Yes, last night... just came back. Arm is fine; just broken. It will be good after a while,” Haga replied with a smile. He extended his hand toward Mobai in a grateful manner, and said, “Th... Thank you, Boss Mobai. It was thanks to the weapons you supplied that we won this war.”

“There’s no need to be so polite. I thought you would inherit the tribe’s chief’s position this time; who would have thought that you’d come back to Chaos City so soon?” Mobai smiled as he shook Haga’s outstretched hand.

“My father wanted him to inherit the position, but he didn’t want to. If I were in his shoes, I wouldn’t want to, either. If he becomes the tribe’s chief, his freedom will be restricted, and he won’t be able to come dine at Boss Mag’s restaurant very often.” Habeng chuckled.

Haga also put on a bashful smile.

The three of them chatted for a while before Haga looked around him with a curious expression, and asked, “Conti Nicolas? How

is he?”

“You mean that donkey-rider? I haven’t seen him for a long time. Last I heard, he was going to a rural town in the north to find a giant dragon. He’s been gone for about half a month; I haven’t seen him since. With his power level, it would be alright if he didn’t encounter a giant dragon, but if he did, he most likely wouldn’t be able to come back.” Habeng shook his head with a forlorn sigh.

Mobai smiled, and said, “Conti could be more powerful than we imagine. I’ve seen many knights in my life. Usually, the more powerful they are, the less talkative they are. The talkative ones are usually the ones who die the quickest; knights like him often live for quite a long time.”

“Clip clop, clip clop-“

Right at that moment, the sound of

approaching donkey hooves was heard, and a silver-gray figure straddling a donkey approached the restaurant. He got off the donkey before tying it to a nearby tree.

“What do you know? There he is! Looks like he didn’t encounter a giant dragon this time.” Habeng smiled as he looked at the approaching Conti.

Conti walked through the door of the restaurant, wearing his usual smile on his face. He was a little surprised to see so many customers in the restaurant, but his eyes soon fell upon the only open seat which was at Habeng’s table-and he began to make his way there.

“Hey there, donkey-riding dragon-slaying warrior, did you encounter a giant dragon this time?” Habeng greeted him like an old friend.

All of the customers turned their attention

to Conti with curious expressions upon

seeing that. Dragon-slaying warrior was a very special title on the Norland Continent. The last person who was able to do that title justice was Mag Alex, a man who stood at the very pinnacle of the Norland Continent. He was practically bathed in dragon blood during his meteoric rise, and no other knight could compare to him.

There were disparities in power levels even among giant dragons. As such, many knights had been able to slay dragons in the past few years, and many of them prided themselves on killing an evil-doing giant dragon.

Of course, in the past three years following Mag Alex's death, no knight in the entire Norland Continent had been able to slay a 10th-tier giant dragon.

"L-long time no see." Haga nodded and smiled at Conti.

"Long time no see. Let me show you guys something." Conti didn't immediately answer Haga's question. Instead, he began to rummage around in his pocket before quickly pulling out a small black cloth bag. He tipped the bag over, and a faint golden dragon scale fell onto the table, glittering with a soft sheen under the light.

"This is..." Habeng had a careful look before exclaiming, "The scale of a 10th-tier Giant Winged Dragon?!! Donkey-rider, did you really kill a 10th-tier Giant Winged Dragon?"

"Really?" Haga was completely stunned.

All of the customers also gathered around to have a look upon hearing that. Many people were on the outskirts of the huddle, and were trying to squeeze through the crowd for a better look.

Dragon-slaying warriors were rare, and 10th-tier giant dragons were even rarer. If he really did slay a 10th-tier giant dragon, then that would make him the first knight to achieve the feat after Mag Alex. Just that accolade alone would be enough for his name to resound across the entire Norland Continent.

Conti really slew a 10th-tier giant dragon? Mag was also quite curious. He had always wondered about Conti's power, but he had never seen him in action. However, he could see that Conti was very serious about dragon-slaying, though it was a little unlikely that his donkey steed would be able to even catch up to a giant dragon.

A dragon-slayer? Yabemiya was struck by an instinctive sense of fear when she looked at Conti. She didn't think that such a benevolent-looking middle-aged man would be so terrifying

"This is indeed the scale of a 10th-tier Giant Winged Dragon." Conti wore a calm and collected smile despite all of the attention that he was receiving.

"It really is a 10th-tier giant dragon!"

Cries of surprise instantly erupted within the restaurant. All of the customers looked on with astonishment etched on their faces. Initially, they had thought that perhaps Habeng had falsely identified the scale. However, even Conti himself had admitted that it was indeed the scale of a 10th-tier giant dragon.

Could it be that this man really was the first knight after Mag Alex to slay a 10th-tier giant dragon?

Everyone stared at Conti with shock and reverence on their faces. They felt as if they were witnessing the rise of another legend.

### **Chapter 438 I'll Die Without Ice**

Cream

"But I only picked it up." Conti stowed away the scale on the table with a wistful expression as he said, "I was too late again. When I arrived on this scene and found this dragon scale, the battle was already over. It was most likely a battle between two giant dragons."

"Sigh..."

All of the customers heaved a collective disappointed sigh as they sat back down in their seats. They were just about to raise their hands in applause, but they all put their hands back down again.

They had thought that they were going to witness the birth of a new legend, but the reality was completely different.

"Jeez, you had me all excited for nothing." Habeng rolled his eyes with a speechless expression.

Haga still wore a bashful smile on his face, seemingly unperturbed by the fact that he had just been fooled.

Conti untied his sword from his waist, and leaned it against the side of the table as he turned to Yabemiya with a smile. "I'll get a Yangzhou fried rice and a roujiamo, thanks."

What an interesting man. Mag shook his head with an amused smile. He wasn't anticipating an ending like that.

"It's a pity that Alex died. Otherwise, we'd hear about his legendary dragon-slaying exploits from time to time. The fact that the Norland Continent is so peaceful has a lot to do with the fact that he slew so many wicked dragons." Storyteller Carl heaved a forlorn sigh.

"Old man Carl, why don't you tell a dragon-slaying story about Alex next? I've really loved listening to your stories as a child, and he's the knight that I revere the most; he's a true man!" Jimmy turned to Carl with an expectant gaze.

All of the other customers also turned to him upon hearing that. Legends about Alex were very popular on the continent, but they were usually just stories of him slaying wicked dragons in different locations, and no one actually knew any specific details about those battles.

Carl was the best storyteller in Chaos City. He had told some of Alex's legendary dragon-slaying stories, and all of those stories managed to bring in a full house of

listeners.

However, it had been three years since he had told a story about Alex. Now that Jimmy had mentioned it, everyone else was hoping that Carl would agree to his request.

“The legend has already passed away, so we should commemorate him in our hearts. I don’t want to make money telling stories about a deceased legend; that would be disrespectful.” Carl shook his head with a smile as he said, “I want to tell another story about a dragon-slaying warrior before I pass away, but I wonder if I’ll get an opportunity to do so. If I do, I wonder what kind of person the protagonist of that story would be.”

There had been no dragon-slaying warrior that had received widespread acknowledgment on the Norland Continent for three years, so it really wasn’t looking likely that another one would emerge anytime soon.

Don’t worry, you’ll get your chance. Mag smiled as he took a glance at Carl. There was still a Frost Dragon waiting to be slain by Amy. Hopefully, he would be a 10th-tier giant dragon by then.

Kenny’s ice cream was the first one to be served. Everyone stared at the ice cream cone in Yabemiya’s hand, and discovered that it was identical to the one on the image in the menu. There were two brown balls sitting on an edible cone, and frosty air was emanating from it. It appeared to be quite

appetizing, and everyone was wondering what it would taste like.

“Here’s your chocolate ice cream. Enjoy.” Yabemiya handed the ice cream cone over to Kenny, and smiled as she said, “The best way to eat ice cream is to slowly lick it.”

“Alright, thank you.” Kenny carefully held the ice cream cone in both hands as he focused his gaze on it.

Frosty air wafted toward him with rich milky undertones and another aroma that he was unable to identify—most likely the so-called chocolate. He was immediately intoxicated with the ice cream’s delectable aroma.

The two little frosty balls were very intricately made, seemingly with a completely even and smooth texture. Kenny wondered how something so fine and smooth could be made.

“Is that ice cream?” Everyone’s attention was drawn to the ice cream in Kenny’s hands. All of the new products released by the restaurant received widespread attention, and they were trying to gauge Kenny’s reaction to see if it was worth trying.

Kenny gulped in a slightly nervous manner. He hadn’t eaten anything in the morning, and his stomach was already beginning to grumble. He took a deep breath before taking his first lick of the ice cream.

As his tongue came into contact with the ice cream, he was struck by a cool sensation. The ice cream then began to slowly melt on the tip of his tongue, and a rich sweetness

flowed into his mouth. The rich alluring

flavor of milk coated his tongue, and it felt

as if a gentle hand were caressing his cheek before slowly stroking down his neck.

What an incredible flavor! The milky taste is coupled with an exquisitely sweet flavor, and the two combine to create such a delicious mix! After swallowing his first lick of ice cream, Kenny stared at the ice cream cone in his hands with an incredulous expression, and he couldn’t help but take another lick.

He closed his eyes and savored the incomparable flavor, licking the ice cream in a gentle manner as if he were delicately caressing a priceless treasure.

It looks really delicious. Should I get one as well? Jimmy looked at the ice cream cone in Kenny's hands, then patted his own wallet, and fell into deep thought. He had only just received his spending money for the month, and he had to be conservative if he wanted

to make it last an entire month. He had

already ordered a tofu pudding, and if he were to order an ice cream as well, he wouldn't be able to dine at Mamy Restaurant the next day.

A young man raised his hand, and said, "TIL

get the same flavor ice cream as him. Bring it to me after I finish my Yangzhou fried rice."

"Father, I also want to eat ice cream! Can you get one for me? Pretty please?" A little loli wheedled as she latched onto her father's arm, looking up at him with an expectant gaze in her large eyes.

"No. Your mother says that cold stuff can't be eaten in the morning." The father shook his head with a stern expression.

"Waaah, but I want it! I want ice cream." The little loli immediately burst into tears upon hearing that. Tears began to flow down her cheeks, putting on a pitiable display.

"Don't cry, baby. Daddy will ask mommy later to see if I can get an ice cream for you for lunch. Otherwise, both of us are going to be

punished." The father immediately tried to console his daughter. He picked up the sweet tofu pudding on the table, and said, "Here's your favorite sweet tofu pudding. Come on, let's have some of this."

"I'm going to die without ice cream..." The little loli slumped in her chair, and closed her eyes to play dead. However, after smelling the delicious aroma of the tofu pudding, her little mouth opened involuntarily to accept the spoonful of tofu pudding. After swallowing, her eyes were still tightly shut as she murmured, "Even tofu pudding won't be able to revive me."

### **Chapter 439 Outdoor Dining Area Construction Package!**

All of the nearby customers looked at the little loli with benevolent smiles on their faces. She was so chubby and adorable that it was impossible not to like her.

The little loli opened one eye surreptitiously to check on her father before immediately closing it upon making the discovery that her father was looking right at her. A resigned smile appeared on the man's face as he turned to look at the ice cream cone in Kenny's hands. He hesitated momentarily before conceding, "Alright, eat this tofu pudding, then have this small bowl of fried rice, and daddy will get you an ice cream."

"Really?" The little loli immediately opened her eyes.

"When has father ever lied to you?" The man looked at her with a doting smile.

“Yay! Thank you, Father!” The little Toli immediately sat up in her seat, and took the spoon from her father’s hand before scooping a large spoonful of tofu pudding into her little mouth.

Thope I won’t have to kneel on the washboard when I get back. The father heaved a resigned sigh at the sight of his adorable little daughter. He could never refuse her, so she always got what she wanted.

So this is what a 200 copper coin ice cream tastes like. It’s completely different from the biscuits that are sold for one copper coin each. There really are foods that are indescribably good in this world. If I had enough money, I’d eat 10 more of these. After devouring the entire ice cream cone, Kenny looked at the paper cone in his hand with a slightly wistful expression. He pulled out his wallet before raising his hand to indicate that he was ready for the bill.

“Here are 200 copper coins.” As Sally made her way over to him, Kenny handed over his wallet with a slightly nervous expression. There was probably no other customer in the restaurant that would pay with so many copper coins.

“Sure.” Sally took the wallet, and began to count the copper coins within. After that, she tipped all of the copper coins into a little bag, and nodded at Kenny as she said, “There are exactly 200 copper coins here.”

“Thank you.” Kenny nodded before taking back his empty wallet, and exiting the restaurant. He looked back at the restaurant with a smile on his face, and earnestly said to himself, “I’m going to become the best hairdresser in Lace Hair Salon, and then the best hairdresser in Chaos City. When that time comes, I’m going to have all three meals here every single day.”

After making that promise to himself, Kenny departed, and quickly strode over to the hair salon that he was working at.

After breakfast, many customers

also wanted to try the ice cream, and they were soon won over by this sweet and icy dessert. Even though cold foods were inadvisable in the mornings, they simply couldn’t stop eating!

As Dicus was paying for his meal, he turned to Mag, and asked, “Mr. Mag, I want to take an ice cream cone back for my son. Would I be able to buy one for takeaway?”

“It’s possible if you’re an ice magic caster, but ice cream will melt very quickly in the normal temperature, so we don’t sell it as a takeaway. You can bring him here on your day off.” Mag shook his head with a smile.

“I see. Looks like I’ll have to do that, then.” Dicus nodded with a hint of disappointment on his face. He then gave Mag a thumbs-up, and said, “Mr. Mag, your restaurant will definitely become the most popular one in the Aden Square.”

“You’re far too kind.” Mag gave a modest smile in response. He was already desensitized to compliments of this nature.

After the breakfast service, Sally and Yabemiya left the restaurant as they had plans to go shopping for clothes together.

Mag pushed open the door, and looked at the plot of vacant land outside as he asked internally, "System, the plot of land in front of the restaurant is mine now, so I've completed the mission, right?"

Mamy Restaurant was situated in

the westernmost corner of the

Aden Square, and was separated from the Bastie Prison by a wall that was close to five meters tall.

Of course, even though they neighbored the Bastie Prison, there was still some distance between the two buildings. The restaurant was about 20 meters away from the aforementioned wall, and two rows of trees were planted next to the wall, thereby making it less apparent that the restaurant was right next to the prison.

As for security, directly within the tall wall was a moat that was 10 meters deep, and in it were countless lethal traps. Beyond the moat were five more walls, encircling the Bastie Prison within.

Furthermore, the Bastie Prison was split into the first floor section and an underground section. The first floor section housed some low-level criminals who had committed relatively minor crimes. All of the powerful criminals or those who had committed more heinous crimes were locked up in the underground section. As for just how deep underground the deepest part of the prison was, that was something that only the warden and the city lord knew.

However, one thing was certain even powerful 10th-tier beings would find it almost impossible to escape if they were locked up in the Bastie Prison. Furthermore, it was said that the amount of 10th-tier criminals in the Bastie Prison was no less than a two-digit number. Most of them were war criminals from the war among species, while others were criminals who had made severe

breaches of the law in more recent

years.

No one on the entire Norland Continent dared to treat the laws of Chaos City as a joke, and the main reason for that was all of the 10th-tier criminals that had been locked up for many years in the Bastie Prison.

15 years ago, Lord Rolan of the Gray Temple led a team of 10 elders to chase down a 10th-tier criminal from Chaos City. They chased him all the way to the dragon island, where the criminal was killed, but the team of elders was subsequently surrounded and trapped on the island.

City Lord Michael mobilized all of his forces in the entire city to attack the dragon island. The army was led by him and Principal Novan, and the dragon island finally caved in to the pressure, and was forced to release the team of elders from the Gray Temple.

After that event, the laws of Chaos City became renowned throughout the entire Norland Continent, and no one dared to look down on it.

After that, a rule was implemented in Chaos City, stating that all giant dragons below the 9th-tier had to assume their human form when entering Chaos City. They were not allowed to revert to their dragon forms unless extraordinary

circumstances arose. Otherwise, they would be evicted from the city, and receive an eternal ban.

Mag turned his attention away from the walls of the Bastie Prison. It could be said that all of the main leaders in Chaos City at the moment were idealists. Regardless of whether it was the city lord, who wanted to implement absolute equality, the palace lord, who wanted to make the city a safe haven, or the principal, who wanted to bring education to everyone, all of them were far more guided by their ideals and beliefs rather than practical considerations. As such, everything they did was inexplicable to the rest of the world.

I have to admit, though, that without these people, Chaos City wouldn't be such an attractive place. A smile appeared on Mag's face.

Even with the small groove beside the prison wall, there was a path of about five to six meters in width in

front of the restaurant, which

would be enough space to place four four-seater tables.

"Ding! Congratulations on securing the right to set up an outdoor dining area! You have satisfied the requirement of a 16-seat capacity, so the mission has been successfully completed! Mission reward: an outdoor dining area construction package!" The system's voice sounded.

There was no one around anyway, so Mag instructed internally, "Alright, then construct it for me right now."

"Sorry, the restaurant is of too low a level, so expansion cannot be facilitated." The system's obnoxious voice sounded.

#### **Chapter 440 A Plan**

"Holy f\*ck! Didn't you tell me to do this mission because the restaurant's level was too low?" Mag felt as if he had been played for a fool.

"Yes, but the problem is, the restaurant is of too low a level, so you don't have the right to use the outdoor dining area construction package. If you'd like to gain access to the package, then please upgrade the restaurant as soon as possible!" The system gave a very earnest reply.

"For f\*ck's sake." Mag massaged his glabella with an exasperated look, and took a deep breath to calm himself down before saying, "System, show me my remaining balance."

"Restaurant's remaining balance: 4,710,021 copper coins." The system gave a fast reply.

"So we're only missing the reservation fee from the city lord's castle." He was still about 30,000 gold coins away from being able to upgrade the restaurant, but he didn't have any plans to make a large purchase in the near future aside from purchasing a strength point.

The price for a second strength point was 50,000 gold coins, and purchasing it was imperative for him. His top priority was to become more powerful, so he had to save up the money



Mag sat in a chair to sunbathe at the restaurant's entrance in a leisurely manner, and asked, "System, what benefits do I get from upgrading the restaurant? If it's just a simple renovation, then I'm not going to buy the upgrade."

In any case, he would be able to upgrade the restaurant after purchasing the strength point, and the outdoor dining area would also be in the bag.

"There are many benefits to upgrading the restaurant. You can unlock the outdoor dining area construction package, as well as many other rights. There's also an upgrade package waiting for you to collect, so this is an unmissable opportunity. Hurry up and upgrade as soon as possible!" The system immediately launched into a vehement introduction.

"I see. But I'm not in a hurry at all. In fact, I want to take a nap." Mag stretched lazily under the warm sun. If the restaurant upgrade was going to result in major changes, then it was clearly better to implement the upgrade at night.

In comparison to all the other aforementioned benefits, Mag was more interested in enhancing the restaurant's defense system. After all, his and Amy's safety was imperative to him.

No one could remain on high alert for 24 hours a day, not even a powerful 10th-tier being.

Furthermore, if he had to constantly look out for all types of hazards every day, then his quality of life would cease to exist. He didn't want to live in constant fear and apprehension.

As such, his ultimate goal was very simple—he wanted to upgrade the restaurant's defense system to the 10th-tier. In that case, the restaurant would become a fortress that could guarantee absolute safety, and he would even be able to reveal his identity to the world without any fear of repercussions.

Furthermore, back when Mag Alex perished, it wasn't like he had made the entire world his enemy.

In fact, he was a highly revered figure in the Roth Empire's army, even to the extent that he was glorified as a legendary figure. That was most likely the main reason why the Roth Empire didn't launch a thorough investigation into that event.

Of course, those considerations were very distant for the current Mag. He had to grow stronger away from the public eye to avoid being hunted down by those people in Rodu. At the same time, he had to accumulate more wealth. Only with both wealth and power could he ensure his safety in this world.

Mag Alex was a perfect example of power alone being insufficient to guarantee one's survival. He'd arguably been the most powerful being on the entire continent at his peak, but he still couldn't escape his eventual fate of dying.

He was too much of a lone wolf. He didn't control the armies, nor did he try to befriend any officials. All he had by his side were Irina and his purple-striped griffin.

A powerful yet uncontrollable individual would inevitably be seen as a threat by those who were in power. Mag Alex was too volatile and unpredictable, so they had no choice but to kill him.

Tragic. Mag Alex was the hero of the Roth Empire, but he was killed by his own people.

As such, Mag didn't want to be a lone wolf this time. Of course, the most direct way to enhance overall power was to gather powerful comrades, and create a force to be reckoned with.

However, Mag didn't want to do that. He really enjoyed playing with Amy every day, and living a leisurely lifestyle of a chef. He didn't want to give up this life to become the commander of some army.

Furthermore, it was impossible to create an army that could oppose the Roth Empire in a short time. Even with a 10th-tier knight or magic caster leading the charge, it would still be an impossible task.

Of course, there were many other ways to skin a cat. Mag's thought process was that he was going to tie many powerful forces to himself by establishing relationships of mutual profit. The more such forces he could tie to himself, the more influential he would be.

| At present, Chaos City appeared to be a good option. It was a colossal force, and it had the power to oppose the Roth Empire if required.

Most importantly, Mag really liked Chaos City, so he would be happy to see it become a better place.

However, Mag wasn't the lord of the Gray Temple, after all. Even if he were to recover all of his power, he still couldn't make the entire Chaos City stand behind him. He wasn't delusional enough to believe that he would be able to command Chaos City as long as he returned to his former glory.

Mamy Restaurant's delicious cuisine was a tool he could use to attract the attention of the higher powers in Chaos City. However, that wasn't enough. A seasoned politician wouldn't oppose an entire empire just for a restaurant.

Mag's true trump card was actually the steam engine. That was an invention that could revolutionize the entire continent, and usher in a

new era.

As the economy continued to develop, production from manual labor was no longer enough to satisfy the growing demand from consumers. Races who had superior stamina or could use magic held a significant advantage in production, but as the market continued to grow, consumer demand would only continue to increase. Furthermore, the economy of the entire continent still had immense potential for growth, so an industrial revolution was inevitable in order to satisfy the demand of a rapidly expanding market.

At present, there still wasn't anything that could replace manual labor and increase the rate of production. If steam engines could be invented, then it would definitely accelerate the Norland Continent's advance into the industrial revolution era. That was why the city lord's castle was willing to throw their support behind Hyde's team.

Steam engines, coal, and steam. Those were the three main factors that contributed to the realization of the industrial revolution. The Norland Continent already had the latter two elements, so whoever could master steam technology would be the one to push the entire

world into the steam era. All of the

relevant knowledge was sitting in Mag's mind.

All he had to do now was to devise a way to maximize profit from inventing the steam engine. Not only did he have to sell them for as high a price as possible, most importantly, he also had to be one of the irreplaceable pioneers ushering in this new era.

Only then would he be able to avoid a repeat of the tragedy from three years ago. After that, he would be able to run his restaurant and play with Amy every day. That was the type of life he wanted.