

The Ashes 371

Chapter 371 Natasha asked with uncertainty in her voice, Darling, is this... some kind of miracle pill? Andrew replied calmly, Indeed.

Its called the Blood Surge Pill, capable of temporarily boosting a fighters physical and mental strength, allowing them to surpass their normal limits.

Dylan exclaimed with excitement, Mr.

Lloyd, arent these rare items usually only available to elite martial arts academies and old money families ? Andrew shrugged casually, Its not that dramatic.

While the pills are difficult to create and their formulas are closely guarded by powerful organizations, there are more players in Holtrien than just the academies and old families.

Natasha grabbed the small vial eagerly and admired it.

These medicines are practically impossible for regular people to get their hands on.

I saw one at an auction once, and a basic one costs nearly a million dollars, with limited availability. Even with money, most people wouldnt know where to buy one.

Andrew answered straightforwardly, I didnt get it from anywhere.

I made it myself.

Natasha rolled her eyes and said playfully, You made it yourself? I dont believe that ! Only miracle doctors or those legendary alchemists know how to create these elixirs.

Dont try to fool me ! Andrew responded, Youre right that only miracle doctors or alchemists can create these medicines

And I happen to be both a miracle doctor and an alchemist! Natasha laughed dismissively and said, Whatever you say.

In her mind, she could not believe Andrew could be an alchemist.

If that were true, it would be ridiculously unfair as if the universe had opened every door for this man without closing a single window.

How could anyone compete with that? Dylan remained silent, not joining the conversation.

He believed everything Andrew said and even things Andrew had not said

Dylan was clear about his position now he was completely content being Andrews loyal assistant. Natashas eyes gleamed with curiosity as she probed further.

Darling, Mr.

Yates and Mr.

Thatcher personally came to your rescue today.

You must have some serious connections

Tell me, whats your relationship with these two Jayrodale powerhouses? Andrew smiled mysteriously,

Are you sure you want to know the truth? Natashas expression became uncertain.

Indeed, even if Andrew were willing to tell her, she was unsure she wanted to know.

Both Mark and Marvin were major players she preferred to keep at a respectful distance.

Sometimes, knowing too much could be dangerous

She huffed, Fine, if you dont want to tell me, just say so.

I was just making conversation anyway.

I dont really care about your business! Andrews expression turned serious.

Alright, Ive helped you with what you needed here.

You said you knew where to find the rare medicinal herb Im looking for.

Its time to tell me.

Natasha chuckled

I knew you couldnt wait.

Well, Ive already invited the person Andrew frowned.

Shouldnt you be the one handing the herb over to me? who has it, Natasha explained apologetically,

The person insisted on knowing who wanted the herb

They wont hand it over without meeting you in person.

Andrew scoffed

Are you telling me that even as the West Ends leader, you couldnt purchase this herb from them?

Chapter 372 Seeing Andrews displeasure, Natasha quickly explained, Darling, please dont be upset. Ive done everything I could

She took a deep breath before continuing, The person who has the rare medicinal herb is Ernest Ramsey from Blumedale

Then, she added, The old bastard insists on knowing who needs the herb, or he wont sell it.

I know what hes really after hes trying to leverage this opportunity to network with someone important

from Jayrodale ! Andrews expression softened slightly as he asked, Who exactly is he? Dylan spoke up gravely, Mr.

Lloyd, I know about this old man.

Hes the third son of the Ramseys from Blumedale.

Hes made quite a name for himself around Gabo Creek, networking with both martial artists and businesspeople

Because of his connections, he often gets his hands on rare items

Natasha scoffed, Without the Ramseys backing him up, Ernest would be nothing nobody would give him the time of day

Hes notorious for never doing anything unless theres profit involved, and hes both a womanizer and a money grubber.

If he didnt have the herb you needed, darling, I wouldnt even bother with him Andrew stood up and said, If he wont sell it through you, III meet this Ernest myself.

Natasha, please come with me.

Dylan, prepare for tonights operation.

Dylan nodded firmly, Understood, Mr.

Lloyd ! Soon after, Natasha accompanied Andrew to another room where Ernest was waiting.

He was a middle aged man with a bald head, wearing a gold Rolex watch and designer clothes, and with a prominent belly the typical image of new money.

Upon seeing Natasha, Ernest immediately displayed a sleazy smile.

Natasha, so youve been.

hiding away with this pretty boy, huh? I really dont understand your taste how could some inexperienced kid compare to a mature, wealthy gentleman like me who knows how to treat at lady right? He chuckled at his own joke, revealing a set of stained teeth.

Natasha forced a smile and replied, Oh Ernest, you know I adore mature gentlemen like yourself. However, this isnt just some pretty boy this is Mr.

Lloyd, the one I mentioned who wants to purchase the rare medicinal herb

Ernest narrowed his eyes as he sized up Andrew, then sneered dismissively. Get lost, kid

Youre nobody important enough to do business with me.

Do you even know what this rare medicinal herb is? Youre not worthy unless you bring a high ranking official or corporate CEO to negotiate with me.

From the moment Ernest saw Andrew, he had taken an Instant dislike to him. He thought, Damn, so this is why the beautiful Natasha had disappeared to meet with this pretty boy.

the one w Learning that Andrew was to buy the rare medicinal herb made him even more contemptuous. Natasha frowned and said, Ernest, please do this as a favor to me.

Mr.

Lloyd genuinely wants the herb you have.

If you're willing to sell, both Mr.

Lloyd and I are open to negotiation.

Ernest tilted his nose up and snorted sarcastically, Natasha, you seem quite protective of this pretty boy

Unfortunately, the more you favor him, the less inclined I am to help

I've been coming to West End for quite some time now, and you know what I want.

If you agree to be with me, I'll hand over the herb right away without hesitation.

Chapter 373 Natasha felt both ashamed and furious but kept her composure and forced a smile

Ernest, It's my honor that you'd even consider someone like me, an old widow past her prime.

But our personal matters shouldn't mix with Mr.

Lloyd's business

Let's stick to discussing the rare medicinal herb you have.

Ernest was completely unmoved.

He shot a condescending glance at Andrew and sneered, I've already said it this kid is a nobody.

I would never stoop so low as to do business with someone beneath me.

It would ruin my reputation.

But if you still want my rare medicinal herb, there's only one option: Natasha, agree to be with me, and I'll hand it over for free.

Natasha's beautiful face flushed red, though it was anger, not embarrassment.

With her personality, she would have told Ernest to get lost without hesitation.

However, since Andrew needed that herb, she had no choice but to hold back.

More importantly, Ernest was backed by the powerful Ramsey family of Blumedale, and Natasha did not want to escalate things unnecessarily.

Andrew finally spoke, his tone calm and unbothered, with a faint smile tugging at his lips.

Ernest, have you looked in a mirror recently? You're practically ancient, half your teeth are missing, and yet here you are, shamelessly thinking you can win over Natasha.

You're just plain delusional.

Ernest froze for a moment, thinking he had misheard.

Immediately after, he erupted in rage.

You little punk, what did you just say to me? Do you even know who I am? If I told you, you'd be scared out of your wits! He had dismissed Andrew as irrelevant from the start, but now this kid had the audacity to insult him right in his face.

Andrew stayed calm and replied, I don't care who you are, Ernest.

But if I've come to get your rare medicinal herb, it means I'm prepared.

Just name your price.

Ernest scoffed, laughing coldly

Name my price? Youve got some nerve, kid

Too bad youre not even qualified to ask about my stuff.

Andrews expression did not change as he said flatly, Id have to disagree with you there, Ernest.

In this world, theres nothing that cant be negotiated

If something seems untouchable, its only because the offer isnt tempting enough.

Ernest let out a bark of laughter, his anger boiling over.

You cocky little brat, you think you can outsmart me? Fine, you want my rare medicinal herb ? Sure give me one billion dollars.

Lets see if you can afford that! Andrew chuckled faintly.

A billion dollars, huh? Thats quite a sum.

I could probably manage it.

But lets be honest, Ernest, does your herb really have that kind of value ? Ernest burst into loud, mocking laughter.

Pretending to have money when you dont ! Kid, stop embarrassing yourself.

When I was your age I was already running circles around punks like you! Andrew clicked his tongue in mock admiration.

Wow, Ernest, your mouth sure is impressive

The way you spew garbage so freely is almost admirable

He continued, No wonder youve got that unique stench about you years of swallowing your own nonsense mustve really seeped into your bones.

And yet, the funniest part is how you still think youre some dashing stud.

Honestly, your face is rougher than the surface of the moon! Ernests face turned a deep red as he jumped to his feet, his eyes bloodshot with fury

You little punk, are you trying to get yourself killed? Ive been giving you face, and this is how you repay me? Keep it up, and I swear, you wont live to see the sunrise tomorrow!

Chapter 374 Ernest was genuinely baffled

He wondered where on earth this brazen kid came from, daring to challenge him over and over. Andrews eyes glinted coldly as he said calmly, And what if I said I dont believe you? Ernests lips twitched with rage as he turned to Natasha with a scowl.

Natasha, are you going to rein in this punk or not? If you wont, III call my men right now and make sure hes left for dead in the street! Natasha shot Andrew a quick glare.

This troublemaker of hers was certainly bold, comparing Ernest to garbage and calling him old and washed up it was a direct attack on his pride

If Andrew wanted that rare medicinal herb so badly, it would make more sense to hold back and endure a little

Forcing a smile, Natasha turned to Ernest and said, Ernest, please dont be angry.

Mr.

Lloyd is young, and sometimes he can be a little impulsive.

III apologize on his behalf.

She gave him a placating smile, trying to diffuse the tension.

Yet, Ernest's frustration was not so easily soothed

He jabbed a finger in Andrews' direction, his cigar bobbing between his fingers.

Ernest grumbled

You're lucky Natasha stepped in for you, kid.

Otherwise, I'd teach you a lesson you wouldn't forget! He was arrogant and determined to show Natasha his dominance.

He wanted her to see that compared to this young punk, he was the real deal, the one with power and authority.

Natasha forced another smile.

Ernest, since you're willing to let it slide, how about we focus on the rare medicinal herb you have? Mr. Lloyd is truly interested in purchasing it.

Just name a fair price, and we'll gladly meet your terms.

Ernest sneered, his expression smug.

Fine, Natasha, since you're asking so sincerely, I'm not an unreasonable man.

I won't even ask you to be with me anymore.

Just spend one night with me, and I'll sell the Aurora Lotus to this punk.

Of course, it won't come cheap at least 50 million.

Anything less is a no go! Natasha's face darkened immediately.

Ernest, we can talk about the money.

In fact, we're even willing to increase the offer.

But as for your other condition, I'm sorry, I simply can't agree to that.

Perhaps we can negotiate a different arrangement? Ernest blew a ring of smoke and chuckled sinisterly.

Do I look like someone who's short on money, Natasha? To be clear, I'm not here for the cash.

I've got my eyes on you, widow, and I'm not letting it go until I get what I want.

Natasha fumed inwardly, infuriated that this old pervert was still lusting after her.

Yet, with Ernest's wealth and influence, outright rejecting him was not wise.

On top of that, Andrew still needed that Aurora Lotus.

At that moment, Andrew finally lost his patience. Pointing toward the door, he said coldly, Enough.

If you're done, the door's right there.

Feel free to leave.

Ernest's face turned dark as he snapped, What do you mean by that? Are you saying you don't want the Aurora Lotus anymore? Andrew smirked.

Don't worry, I'll get it from you.

And when I do, you'll be on your knees begging me to take it.

Ernest froze for a second before bursting into wild laughter.

You little punk, are you trying to kill me with laughter? You think I'm going to kneel and beg? Who do you think you are? Some hotshot? You're just a nobody! Natasha was just as stunned, wondering what nonsense Andrew was saying now.

Ernest groveling and handing over the herb willingly? That would be about as likely as pigs could finally fly.

Chapter 375 Andrew's voice turned cold as he said, You old pervert, you don't even realize you're terminally ill.

If you don't get the right treatment within three days, you'd better start picking out your coffin.

Ernest scoffed

Are you trying to intimidate me? You probably don't know that I've trained in martial arts since childhood my muscles are harder than steel

Terminally ill? You must be out of your mind.

Andrew replied calmly, Believe it or not, in three days, you'll be suffering horrible pain, wishing you were actually dead

Natasha caught on quickly and chimed in, Ernest, you might not know this, but Mr.

Lloyd is a doctor

If he says somethings wrong with your health, there must be a serious issue.

You should probably hear him out whats the harm in that? Ernest seemed to have wavered.

He had initially dismissed Andrews words as nonsense, but besides his greed, womanizing, and vanity, Ernest had one other defining trait he was terrified of death.

At the slightest health concern, he would spare no expense on treatment, believing that as long as he stayed healthy, he could continue living his luxurious lifestyle

Ernest reluctantly conceded, Hmph, although I still dont buy what youre saying, kid.

Ill give you one chance.

Tell me whats wrong with my health Andrew explained, From my initial observation, your complexion shows signs of impending disaster

As for the specific illness, Ill need to examine you to be certain.

Ernest frowned, growing more concerned.

He grumbled, Fine, examine me then.

But dont think Ill believe your nonsense without proof.

Andrew responded calmly, Ernest, Im offering to examine you for free.

What do you have to lose? Ernest grunted and gestured for Andrew to proceed.

Andrew stepped forward, checked his pulse, and shook his head gravely.

This is bad.

You have a severe illness

You dont have much time left

Ernests forehead twitched, but he remained silent as cold fear crept into his heart.

Andrew continued, Im going to check a few vital points on your body using therapeutic massage. Bear with me.

Without waiting for a response, he quickly pressed several points on Ernests body.

Natasha played along, her eyes twinkling with amusement.

Mr.

Lloyd, is Ernests condition really as serious as you say? Andrew replied solemnly, Its worse than I thought.

Ernests condition... Seeing Andrews hesitation and apparent concern, Ernest could not help but burst out, Kid, why are you sighing? Just tell me straight whats wrong! Andrew looked at him intently and said

, Ernest, my initial observation showed you were dying, but after this examination, Im certain you dont have much time left.

You should return to Blumedale and notify your family.

Cold sweat broke out on Ernests face as his thick lips trembled.

Notify them about what? Just spit it out !! Andrew sighed again and said, To prepare for your funeral arrangements, of course.

Chapter 376 Ernests face turned ashen before he forced a cold laugh.

He sneered, Kid, I almost fell for your tricks.

You're putting on quite a show, but do you really think I'm that gullible? Andrew shrugged casually and said, Whether you believe me or not, Ernest, you'll find out in three days.

Ernest's heart pounded as his confidence wavered.

When misfortune struck, it usually hit hard and fast, and if what this young man said about a terminal illness was true, he would be in serious trouble.

Following the principle of better safe than sorry, Ernest hastily bid farewell to Natasha and rushed out of West End with his men.

Natasha laughed behind her hand.

What a fool to believe such a story! He's probably heading straight to the hospital for a checkup.

Darling, you really got him good! Andrew replied calmly, You're wrong.

I wasn't trying to scare him.

Everything I said was true.

Ernest really does have a serious illness.

Natasha scoffed.

He's gone now, and you don't have to keep pretending.

Even if he was sick, how could you possibly know it would strike in exactly three days? Andrew responded with a slight smile, Didn't you see me tap several points on his body during the examination? I stimulated specific pressure points that would trigger his existing condition.

Within three days, he'll be in excruciating pain.

Natasha stared in amazement

So, when you offered to examine him, you were actually setting this up? Andrews expression turned cold.

That pervert needed to be taught a lesson for his attitude.

It would have been a waste not to give him one.

Natasha could not help but laugh delightedly.

Darling, youre delightfully devious! The more cunning you are, the more I like it! Andrew remained unmoved as she stepped closer

You should go rest and prepare yourself.

Tonight, we have a major battle ahead.

Natasha bit her lip and turned to leave.

Fine, Ill go then.

Dylan and I need to take down Atlas tonight! With the Blood Surge Pills enhancement, Dylan and Natashas combined strength should be more than enough to defeat Atlas

Andrew had done his part to help them, and if they could not succeed with these advantages, they would not be worth keeping around

Then, all that remained was waiting three days for Ernest to hand over the Aurora Lotus.

Andrew had nearly collected all the initial rare medicinal herbs he needed

Once the time was right, he would regain a portion of his former power enough to defeat most opponents.

His ultimate goal lay in Chetvine, the thousand year old noble house.

After many years, was time for the crown prince of the Lloyd family to announce his return to the world.

Chapter 377 Ernest left Jayrodale General Hospital with his two personal bodyguards, looking relieved. Phew, that brat really had me worried for nothing I almost fell for his trick! Ernest had just completed a comprehensive checkup at Jayrodale General Hospital.

While there were some minor issues, nothing serious, let alone life threatening conditions, was found. Being cautious about his health, Ernest requested seeing the hospitals best doctor.

However, the staff informed him that their top physician, Andrew, was not currently available but could be scheduled for an appointment.

Ernest immediately left.

He believed that someone of his status should not lower himself to make appointments.

The female bodyguard smiled and said, Mr.

Ramsey, youre as healthy a horse.

That kid was clearly trying to deceive you.

The other bodyguard chimed in, In my opinion, this hospital isnt that great anyway.

They found some minor issues like fatigue and other mild conditions.

Mr.

Ramsey, isnt that ridiculous? With your lifestyle and year round premium healthcare, you couldnt

possibly have any health issues! After confirming his good health, Ernest felt incredibly relieved and said

, Well, I suppose they have a point about taking better care of myself.

Dad has repeatedly advised me to slow down since Im not getting any younger.

Ive always ignored it, thinking I was still young.

The female bodyguard remarked playfully, Mr.

Ramsey, you always say youll take it easy, but never do.

Ernest laughed before his expression turned cold.

Natasha and that pretty boy can forget about getting the Aurora Lotus from me.

Ive made my terms clear either Natasha agrees to my conditions, or theres no deal.

The female bodyguard suggested with a smirk, Mr.

Ramsey, didnt that kid say youd fall ill in three days? Lets wait and see.

When nothing happens, we can use that against them both.

Ernest's eyes lit up as he grinned.

Thats exactly what well do ! As evening fell, the lights of Jayrodale began to twinkle.

Andrew had planned to return to Moonlit Sanctuary to rest, but Francesca called and invited him to meet at a riverside.

restaurant.

Since Andrew had not driven his G Wagon to West End, he took a taxi to the restaurant.

When he arrived, he found Francesca wearing a floral dress, lost in thought as she held a cup of coffee. Andrew sat across from her with a smile and said, Fran, whats wrong? You seem preoccupied.

Francesca managed a small smile and asked, Andrew, youre here. What would you like to drink? Andrew replied with a smile, Ill have black coffee with sugar.

Chapter 378 Francesca smiled and joked, Smart people tend to like sugar, and youre exceptionally brilliant, so you have an even bigger sweet tooth than I do.

You seem distracted

Has something happened? Andrew asked while studying her expression.

Francesca hesitated before sighing

Its nothing major, but Grandpa and Simon had a huge fight.

Grandpa threatened to expel him from the family practice.

Andrew nodded silently, feeling it was not his place to comment on the Aickers family matters.

Francesca continued, When our whole family rushed to rescue you at the police station earlier, Simon strongly opposed it and kept arguing with Grandpa and me

After you were saved, Grandpa went home and scolded Simon, but Simons reaction was extreme, which led to their big argument.

Andrew responded, Mr.

Aicker has quite a temper I could tell.

Fran, you might not like hearing this, but Simon seems to have questionable intentions.

Francesca nodded in agreement.

You're right.

I've noticed it too.

Especially after you cured my condition, his attitude toward me became increasingly uncomfortable.

Last time, he even snuck into my room with bad intentions

If you hadn't returned unexpectedly, I don't even know what I could do to save myself! Do you have any feelings for Simon? Andrew asked directly.

Francesca blushed and quickly shook her head.

Not at all

I've never had romantic feelings for him.

Though we grew up together, and I've always respected him as my senior, I've only ever seen him as a brother figure.

you.

And Andrew analyzed.

But clearly, while you don't like Simon, he has feelings for unrequited feelings, when left unresolved for too long, can make people do foolish things

Im guessing hes been showing signs of wanting to get closer to you? Francesca looked impressed and lowered her voice.

Youre exactly right, Andrew

Actually, theres something else I havent told you.

Another reason for the fight was that Simon openly asked Grandpa for my hand in marriage.

Grandpa tried to deflect at first, but he flat out refused when that didnt work.

And after being rejected, Simon got angry and upset, leading to the argument with your grandfather? Andrew asked.

Francescas expression showed disgust as she continued, Thats exactly what happened.

I told Simon directly that I didnt have feelings for him and asked him to stop pursuing me.

I said we could continue being like siblings and pretend none of this happened.

Let me guess he didnt take it well? Andrew smiled knowingly.

Francesca nodded, her fair, delicate face flushing with anger.

He said I could only ever be his woman and wouldnt give up until he had me.

And then he mentioned you... She suddenly stopped, glancing at Andrew before looking away, her face showing a mix of embarrassment and unease.

Chapter 379 Andrew replied calmly, Simon has always had issues with me, so Im not surprised he brought me up.

Im guessing he complained about me to Cedric and you? He didnt complain because I wouldnt let him speak ill of you, Francesca answered awkwardly.

He just asked if you were the reason I wouldnt be with himf, and what our relationship was like. Andrew found himself momentarily at a loss for words.

Looking at Francescas innocent face, he smiled and asked, So what do you think about all this? Francesca stammered, caught off guard by his directness.

W What do you mean? Im asking what you think about the situation

We could use this to help solve your problem with Simon, Andrew clarified with a gentle laugh. Francesca turned away, pretending to look at the riverside scenery to hide her flustered expression. Her heart was racing as she tried to calm her breathing.

Andrew explained carefully, You misunderstand.

Im not asking if you have feelings for me.

In fact, I have an idea that might help stop Simon from pursuing you.

Francescas eyes lit up with curiosity

Tell me ! If it can help me deal with Simon, Id be so grateful

Andrew hesitated before continuing, Hear me out completely before deciding.

Its just a temporary solution.

Francesca nodded eagerly, saying, Go on! Youre much smarter than me; surely you great idea.

have a Andrew replied, You can tell Simon that you and I are seeing each other, and that Mr. Aicker approves.

He might be angry at first, but having no hope might help him move on.

Francesca pretended to glare at Andrew.

Why do I feel like you're taking advantage of this situation? Andrew quickly backtracked.

If you feel that way, just forget I suggested it! Then, Francesca broke into a smile.

No, I think it's a good plan.

Simon is 33 now it's time for him to find someone else.

Once he gets over me, Grandpa can help him find a suitable match, and everything will work out. Andrew smiled back.

I'm glad I could help! Francesca looked at him with a gentle gaze.

Andrew, thank you.

You really are kind.

I was feeling down earlier, but talking with you has brightened my mood.

Andrew joked lightly, My help usually comes with a price, you know.

To his surprise, Francesca puffed out her chest, her tone both bold and playful.

Fine! Go ahead and name your price and I'll see to it that you're compensated.

I'll even let Lauren know I'm giving it to you willingly.

I promise not to complain or cause any trouble, and III even put it in writing and sign it! Andrew nearly spat out his coffee

He could not help but think to himself: It was not the innocent looking ones with killer curves you should

fear it was the ones who played coy and knew exactly what they were doing

The evening breeze swept across the riverside, bringing with it a refreshing mist from the water.

Chapter 380 Andrew checked the time it was already 8.30 p.m.

He wondered if Natasha and Dylan had made their move yet, though he knew he would hear about it in the morning.

Just then, a group of people sat down nearby, their laughter carrying across the space.

Aspen, you're absolutely brilliant! I can't believe you managed to strike a deal with Atlas Giordano, the king of the Northern District! Yes, yes! Aspen, you're truly worthy of being from the main Stevens family branch.

Even here in Jayrodale, you're already dealing with all the major players as equals.

I'm truly impressed! The fawning voices sounded familiar to Andrew.

Glancing over, he recognized Leroy and Irene.

At their table sat the two beauties, Christina.

Aspen and Aspen replied with practiced modesty, Please, Leroy, Aunt Irene, you're too kind.

Atlas is just a street thug anyone with enough money can work with him.

Though Im new to Jayrodale, with Christies help and the Stevens family influence, most people are willing to work with me, Andrew almost laughed.

While Aspens words seemed humble, they dripped with the arrogance of a Stevens family heiress. Only social climbers like Leroy and Irene would grovel so shamelessly.

Aspen, dear, Christie mentioned you invested ten million in your partnership with Atlas ? Irene probed. Aspen nodded.

Yes, Atlas will be my biggest partner in Jayrodale.

Through him, the Stevens family will make our grand entrance here one that will shock everyone ! Leroy exclaimed excitedly, Aspen, everyone knows Atlas is the most powerful underground boss in Jayrodale. You really have an eye for partnerships! Aspen laughed condescendingly.

Oh, little boy, your vision is still limited.

I didnt choose Atlas just because hes currently the strongest.

I chose him because hes about to unite all of Jayrodales underworld! And Ill be his exclusive business partner for all his territory.

Leroy drew in a sharp breath of admiration.

I understand completely! Aspen, your foresight is incredible.

Im absolutely floored by your brilliance ! Christina frowned.

Leroy, thats enough.

Dont you think its pathetic for a grown man to grovel like this? If you really admire Aspen, learn from her instead of just spouting empty praise.

Leroy protested.

Christie, who says I'm not learning? Aspen, I have two million dollars it's all I have left.

Can I invest in your business? Irene jumped in eagerly.

Don't forget about me, Aspen dear! I want to invest too.

Just throw a few million my way later for my retirement fund Her cackling laugh made Andrew's stomach turn