

The Ashes 451

Chapter 451 Andrew handled the attacks with remarkable ease

Though seemingly chaotic, his footwork followed an intricate pattern that left observers mesmerized. Despite Ivans relentless offensive maneuvers, he could not land a single clean hit on Andrews body. Andrew said calmly, I think weve played enough.

By your founders standards, Mr.

Lincoln, your technique barely made the cut.

Perhaps another 20 years of practice would do you some good.

With lightning speed, Andrew brought his right hand down, striking Ivans wrist bone.

Ivan let out a painful roar as his wrist trembled violently as if he had been bitten by a venomous snake. Before he could counter, Andrews knee was already driving upward.

Ivans eyes blazed with fury as he prepared to take the hit head on, believing his physical prowess would allow him to withstand the impact while simultaneously launching a lethal counterattack to Andrews head. These thoughts had barely crossed Ivans mind when he felt a searing pain around his neck, like an invisible noose tightening around it

From below the ring, Rodney jumped to his feet in shock, exclaiming, T This is impossible! The other spectators were even more stunned as they watched Andrew lift Ivan by the throat as easily as if he weighed nothing.

Meanwhile, Ivans face turned from red to blue as he desperately gasped for air, his throat becoming increasingly parched.

Soaring Dragon... followed by the final move, the Abyssal Dragon! Ivans fighting spirit completely crumbled, replaced by pure terror.

Through his dizziness, he stammered, "Who are you? How do you know these two ultimate Northern Inner Martial Arts techniques?" Andrew casually tossed Ivan off the ring like a rag doll.

Dusting off his hands, he explained matter of factly, "Soaring Dragon breaks your lower defenses, while

Abyssal Dragon shatters your focus and seizes your lifeline, your throat.

"I know what you were planning," he continued, his tone casual yet piercing.

"You wanted a mutually destructive counterattack, aiming to crush my head while taking a hit.

"That's a nice idea, but also a fatal mistake.

"If I wanted to kill you, your head would already be hanging by a thread.

Andrew stepped down from the ring and walked over to Lauren, who was beaming with pure joy.

Dr.

"Lloyd, we won! You're the champion!" Lauren exclaimed, more excited than Andrew himself as she gave him an enthusiastic thumbs up.

Andrew smiled silently and turned his attention to help Ivan to the recovery room.

Having this distinguished guest of the Madblade by a seemingly ordinary opponent was not just to both Rodney and the Academy's reputation.

"We... lost," Rodney finally managed to force out. He stared at Andrew with a mix of anger and a hat expression was deep-seated fear.

After all, Rodney Ivan, yet Ivan had been completely outmatched himself as she gave him an enthusiastic thumbs up.

Andrew smiled silently and turned his attention to Rodney, who was directing his students to help Ivan to the recovery room

Having this distinguished guest of the Madblade Martial Academy defeated at their own venue by a seemingly ordinary opponent was not just embarrassing it was a devastating blow to both Rodney's and the Academy's reputation.

We... lost, Rodney finally managed to force out the words.

He stared at Andrew with a mix of anger and hatred in his eyes, but what dominated his expression was deep seated fear

After all, Rodney himself could not last one round against Ivan, yet Ivan had been completely outmatched by Andrew.

Chapter 452 By that logic, Rodney was about as formidable as mere ant compared to Andrew's capabilities.

Mr.

Sanford, do we still need your permission to reclaim our 60 million now? Andrew asked with a subtle smirk.

Rodney's face twitched at the question.

The thought of someone needing his permission would have been understandable before, but now it made his heart race

He gritted his teeth and said, Mr.

Lloyd, your martial prowess is truly admirable, and the Madblade Martial Academy respects your skill. Dean, return the 60 million we owe to Rhodes Corporation.

Dean was already terrified out of his mind.

He could not even beat Jerry, who had nearly died at Ivans hands, and Ivan had just been thoroughly defeated by Andrew.

The comparison made Dean realize he was not even in the same league as Andrew.

J Just a moment... Ill transfer the money right away! Dean stammered, offering no resistance this time. The hundreds of martial arts students had lost their fighting spirit, too afraid to even make a sound.

Only fellow martial artists could truly comprehend how terrifying Andrew was to have thrown Ivan off the ring so effortlessly.

Once Lauren confirmed the 60 million had been transferred, she gestured to leave.

Lets go ! Jerry, looking ashen, managed a bitter smile and said, Miss, Mr.

Lloyd, I wont be returning to headquarters.

I need to go back to Rhodes residence to recover.

Lauren nodded sympathetically at his severe injuries and replied, Go ahead, Jerry.

Since you were injured on company business, Mom will surely provide you with the best medicine for recovery.

I failed by not heeding Mr.

Lloyds warning, and I dont deserve Mrs.

Rhodes medicine, Jerry said, shaking his head.

Whether these injuries heal or not, theyll serve as a lifelong lesson

Andrew spoke calmly, Your injury is in the energy core area, one of a warriors vital points.

It needs immediate treatment, or it could end your martial arts career.

Your words ring true, Mr.

Lloyd.

If only I had listened sooner, Jerry responded bitterly.

Andrew remained silent, showing no intention of helping Jerry recover.

The mans arrogance and previous hostility toward Andrew meant he saw no reason to help anyone beyond Lauren in the Rhodes family

The elite Rhodes family bodyguards accompanying Jerry stood in shame, staying silent.

Their previous contempt for Andrew had been replaced by the humbling realization that they were nothing more than clowns in comparison.

Jerry, victory and defeat are part of a martial artists path.

Go home and focus on your recovery, Lauren said kindly before leaving for Rhodes Corporation with Andrew

While 60 million was not an astronomical sum for Rhodes Corporation, recovering it from the remaining forces in the Northern District sent shockwaves through the company.

After all, few had believed Lauren could actually get the money back.

Chapter 453 Ms.

Rhodes, youre amazing! I cant believe you actually got the money back, Eunice exclaimed with admiration

Lauren shook her head and replied, I didnt get the money back Dr. Lloyd did

Eunices excitement froze as she looked at Andrew in disbelief, who was casually sipping tea on the couch.

She wondered how this man, whom Tiana had always looked down upon, had not only become Rhodes Corporations fifth director in minutes but had also helped recover 60 million dollars that seemed impossible to retrieve.

Just as doubt began creeping into Eunices mind, she quickly dismissed it

Tiana was someone she unconditionally admired and respected if Tiana said Andrew was just a gold digger, then it must be true.

Ms.

Rhodes, congratulations! The company really needs you ! Ms.

Rhodes, we old timers arent worth a fraction of your talent.

Solving this buge problem right after your return we must report this to the board and get you recognized! Ms.

Rhodes, we all noticed what youve done for the company.

We cant wait for you to be our CEO and lead us again! Marcus led a group of employees who were not aligned with Michael to offer their congratulations.

Everyone in the company knew this was a power struggle between the CEO and the Vice CEO, or more bluntly, internal friction between Rhodes Corporation family members.

Michael envied Laurens talent and influence, while Lauren had always looked down on her cousin.

Now, employees of Rhodes Corporation were faced with a delicate choice.

For the sake of their future careers and financial prospects, they had to decide whether to side with

Michael or show loyalty to Lauren a decision that required careful calculation

After dealing with a stream of well wishers, Lauren dismissed the last of them and slammed her office door shut.

Locking it firmly, she strolled over to the couch.

Andrew smiled and said, It looks like you have quite a few supporters in your company.

Most are truly on my side, but some are Michaels spies

I dont have the patience to deal with them, Lauren replied with a hint of annoyance.

Andrew frowned.

Hearing you say that, I cant help but wonder why does the Rhode familys leadership allow this infighting

? Wouldnt it be better for everyone if you and Michael worked together to grow the corporation?
Lauren rolled her eyes

If only everyone thought like you.

The truth is, my rivalry with Michael reflects a deeper battle among the familys higher ups.

Andrew shook his head.

Big family politics sounds exhausting.

Laurens lips curled into a playful smile.

They might be, but Im not.

Im carefree, Dr.

Lloyd, because all I care about is you.

She then gracefully settled herself on Andrews lap, wrapping her arms around his neck as her perfume wafted toward him.

Andrew froze, his body stiffening.

Was she really planning on starting an office romance ? Andrew began awkwardly, Ms.

Rhodes, this is your office.

Dont you think this might be... inappropriate ? Lauren leaned in until their faces were nearly touching and whispered, Dont worry, I locked the door.

Dr.

Lloyd, why are you trembling? Is this your first time? Andrew coughed, trying to appear composed. Straightening up, he forced a confident tone.

Im no rookie.

Ms.

Rhodes, on the other hand, youre giving off major beginner vibes.

Chapter 454 Lauren bit her lip playfully, her voice turning husky as she said, Really? Then why dont you prove it to me? Its simple help me take off these stockings.

Remember, you won, so theyre yours now.

Andrew was left speechless, his eyes widening in surprise.

Meanwhile, in another office on the same floor of Rhodes Corporation, Michael violently slapped Cindys bottom as she rose from his lap

Cindys face showed a mix of pain and resentment as she complained, Mr.

Rhodes, whats making you so angry? Youve been different ever since Ms.

Rhodes returned.

Michael snarled, Shut up! Havent you seen how many people are sucking up to that little bitch since she came back? Im the CEO and spokesperson of Rhodes Corporation, not Lauren, yet these idiots still flock to her !! Cindy tried to calm him down, saying, Sir, try to look at the bright side.

Ms.

Rhodes did manage to recover that 60 million for the company.

To be honest, that was quite an achievement nobody else could have done it.

Michael let out a cold laugh and sneered

Oh? So youre on Laurens side now? You think shes so impressive? Cindy whispered, Im not supporting her

Its just that, as a woman, I admire her capabilities.

And Mr.

Lloyd beside her is quite remarkable too.

I heard he personally forced Madblade Martial Academy to return the money.

Michaels gaze grew colder as he grabbed Cindys dress, yanking it up with a sneer.

His hand roughly slid underneath as he spat venomously, So what now? Dont think I didnt notice how you were eyeing that Andrew during the meeting earlier

He added, Youre not falling for him, are you? Hoping hell take you to bed? If thats the case, I might as well let you be his woman.

He laughed and mocked cruelly, But come on, do you really think someone like Andrew would give you the time of day? Compared to Lauren, youre nothing! His cruel words and rough treatment brought tears to Cindys eyes.

Yet, she did not dare resist

Being Michaels personal secretary meant enduring both physical and emotional abuse, acting as his punching bag when he needed to vent The only consolation was the generous compensation. Whenever Michael had his fill and entered his calm period, he would leave her with a stack of cash. To Cindy, it was worth it

After all, compared to her friends some toiling endlessly as nurses in overcrowded hospitals, others slogging away at dead end office jobs for measly pay, or even those selling drinks and themselves at nightclubs her situation felt like blessing

Madblade Martial Academy isnt someone to mess with, Michael muttered after pushing Cindy away. For that good for nothing Andrew to get 60 million from a psycho like Rodney, he must have some real skill

Andrews support of Lauren had created an invisible threat to Michaels position.

He recalled Andrews earlier warning about putting him in his place something Michael had dismissed at the time, but now he could not help but feel concerned

Michael pulled out his phone with a dark expression and called Jerry.

He needed to know why Jerry had not used the Madblade Martial Academy situation to eliminate, or at least seriously injure Andrew when he had the chance.

Chapter 455 Jerry, I need an explanation about what happened at Madblade Martial Academy, Michael demanded as soon as the call connected.

Explanation ? I don't have any, Jerry replied, his voice weak Ms.

Rhodes and Andrew got that money back through their own abilities, fair and square.

Michael flew into a rage.

I don't give a damn about their abilities! I want to know why you didn't take the opportunity to eliminate that Lloyd guy! Jerry let out a bitter laugh and said, Eliminate him? How exactly was I supposed to do that? He had barely escaped alive from Madblade Martial Academy.

Michael said darkly, Jerry, your attitude is very concerning

Don't forget that both Rhodes Corporation and the entire Rhodes family might end up in my hands.

If you keep wavering like this instead of choosing the right person to follow, how do you expect to achieve that comfortable retirement you've been dreaming of ? Jerry snapped, Mr.

Rhodes, spare me the talk about the future.

I don't care who ends up running Rhodes Corporation.

I'm done participating in your feud with Ms.

Rhodes

And heres some advice stop messing with Andrew, or you might end up six feet under, Rhodes heir or not

Michae shouted, Jerry, you better think this through! Without my sun nothing in the Rhodes family! youll be left with Jerry replied coldly, Michael, youre overestimating yourself.

The future of this massive Rhodes family is far from decided.

Even if Ms.

Rhodes doesnt want the position of family head, it certainly wont go to you.

Youre not even in the same league as her, and as for Mr.

Lloyd ? Youre probably worth as much as rat droppings to him he wouldnt even want to dirty his shoes by stepping on you

After this ruthless verbal assault, Jerry hung up before Michael could respond

Previously, Jerry had sided with Michael due to promises of future benefits once Michael took control of Rhodes Corporation

However, the incident at Madblade Martial Academy opened Jerrys eyes to many truths.

Following Michael was a dead end now that the mysteriously powerful Andrew was in the picture. While Lauren might eventually marry and leave, Andrews presence changed everything.

Jerrys decision to cut ties with Michael was not about supporting Lauren it was purely out of fear of Andrew.

The thought of someone who could toss around a senior grandmaster like a ragdoll terrified him, and Jerry knew that someone with such power at such a young age was destined for greatness.

Michael smashed his phone in rage, cursing, Jerry, you worthless dog! He could not believe Jerry had not only abandoned him but had also humiliated him so thoroughly before seemingly defecting to Laurens side

Anyone who tries to take my CEO position is dead! Michael snarled, his twisted expression making Cindy cower in the corner.

Meanwhile, news of Rhodes Corporations recovered 60 million had somehow spread throughout Jayrodale.

Chapter 456 The news spread like wildfire through Jayrodale.

Many unfortunate creditors with outstanding debts with the Northern District rushed to Madblade Martial Academys doors, demanding their money back.

Dean, pay up! Dean, youre Atlass senior and the Northern Districts second in command.

If you pay, you can join him six feet under ! dont Give us our money back, you crook! Large red banners were unfurled at the academys entrance as angry crowds gathered, hurling insults

The academy remained unfazed as students came and went, completely ignoring the protesters while luxury cars continued pulling up to the entrance.

The academys response was simple.

Want your money? Ask Northern District or the dead Atlas

Madblade Martial Academy never defaults on payments, and we wont tolerate these circus acts

Soon, a Volkswagen Beetle pulled up to the academys entrance, and two striking figures stepped out Christina and Aspen.

The creditors immediately swarmed around them.

Ms.

Christina, you must be here to collect from Dean too! Please help us get justice ! Ms.

Christina, youre Jayrodales most respected female CEO

Please have mercy and help us get our money back! Madblade Martial Academy is too arrogant they dont even see us as human beings.

Please, Ms.

Christina and Ms.

Aspen, stand up for us! Christina frowned, reluctant to get involved in matters that did not concern her. However, Aspen smiled and said, Everyone, rest assured.

III speak up for anyone who has legitimate.

claims against the Northern District.

The creditors showered Aspen with praise and respect.

Ms.

Aspen truly lives up to her family name her compassion is like that of a saint ! With Ms.

Aspens education and status backing us, well definitely get our money back! From now on, if Ms.

Aspen ever needs help in Jayrodále, just say the word! Aspen, we might not even get our billion back,

let alone help these people, Christina warned

Are you sure you want to stick your neck out like this? Aspen smiled confidently and replied, No, Christie, youve got it wrong

Having more people gives us leverage against Madblade Martial Academy.

These people are victims, and while Im not really here to help them, simple folks like these are always the easiest to use.

What if Madblade Martial Academy still refuses uncomfortable with the situation

Aspen scoffed, Theyll have no choice but to pay Lauren could get back Rhodes Corporations

What if Madblade Martial Academy still refuses to pay? Christina asked, feeling uncomfortable with the situation.

Aspen scoffed, Theyll have no choice but to pay, or at least hand over Dean.

If Andrew and Lauren could get back Rhodes Corporations 60 million, why cant I get my money back?

Chapter 457 Christina nodded thoughtfully and said, True, while Rhodes Corporations 60 million isnt at small amount, it pales in comparison to your billion.

Even if Madblade Martial Academy is greedy, they wouldnt dare keep such an enormous sum.

Of course not, Aspen replied coldly.

Now that Im personally involvet!, III bring in the media and the police to make their lives hell if they continue acting like common thieves.

Lets see how Mr.

Sandford handles that kind of public pressure

The two women put on their sunglasses and strode through Madblade Martial Academys gates, surrounded by the crowd of creditors

Inside the academy, Rodney and Dean wore grim expressions not because of the people demanding money, but because Ivan was still unconscious from his severe injuries.

Damn it, Andrew turned out to be one tough son of a bitch! Rodney cursed

Despite his young age, he had achieved the rank of junior grandmaster through rigorous training, making him a prodigy even by Canraville standards.

Rodney had always considered Harvey and Michael beneath him, and he had always looked down on being grouped with the other Jayrodales Most Eligible Bachelors.

However, witnessing Andrews abilities humbled him significantly, as he realized there were some mountains he could never climb.

Gathering Dean and several instructors, Rodney gritted his teeth and said, Today, our academy was humiliated when someone stormed in and defeated us.

Mr.

Lincoln lies unconscious, and now we have these vermin protesting at our doors.

As the heir of this academy, I cant tolerate such disgrace and Im sure none of you can either? No one answered as Dean and the four instructors kept their heads down in silence.

Rodney exploded in anger, Have you all gone mute? Im asking if we need to get payback for Andrew trashing our place! Dean reluctantly said, Mr.

Sanford, we definitely need to recover from the embarrassment for both you and your father.

Before Rodney could feel satisfied with this response, Dean cautiously added, But dont take it too hard. Theres always someone stronger

out there, and Andrew ... well, I don't think we can handle him.

Rodney's face darkened as he asked, 'Can't handle him? Are you afraid?' Dean's face flashed with anger before deflating into resignation.

I spent half my life in the underground world, living by the blade, and I've never feared anyone.

He added bitterly, 'With Mr.

Lincoln's capabilities, he could easily overpower both of us.

Yet

Andrew... he's not normal

He's a demon, something beyond human comprehension.

I started martial arts at three and made my first kill at seven.

By 12, I had made a name for myself in Gabo Creek's martial arts community.

Chapter 458 as Dean explained, 'In all my years in Gabo Creek, I've never seen anyone as extraordinary as Andrew.'

What's even more terrifying is that he clearly wasn't using his full strength against Mr.

Lincoln.

Watching his spine-chilling moves, I can't help but wonder if he might have had something to do with Atlas' death.

Before Dean could continue, Rodney cut him off with an angry roar, 'Shut up! No wonder you're a lost dog; you're completely useless, building up others while tearing down our own reputation!'

Depending on Rodney's hospitality, Dean could not protest the insults, but a venomous glint flashed in his eyes. Rodney seethed.

I've never been humiliated like this in my life.

And it's obvious Lauren has a thing for Andrew

I've pursued her for years without getting so much as a glance, while she probably can't wait to jump into his bed

While Rodney stewed in anger, a student hurried in and said, Mr.

Sanford, the debt collectors.

have arrived

Rodney's face twisted with rage.

Throw them out! Beat them to a pulp if you have to! They're just a bunch of nobodies! The student hesitated before adding, Mr.

Sanford, there are two women leading the group, and they seem pretty formidable.

Rodney frowned

Two women? Who are they? One says she's Aspen Stevens from Bridgefields, and the other is Christina Stevens, the renowned CEO from Jayrodale

Hearing their names, Rodney's eyes lit up as he licked his lips.

Well, well, it seems fortune is on my side today.

Let's go meet these lovely ladies.

If they're not here for anything important, maybe I'll suggest they play a little two women, one man game with me! The crowd of his cronies erupted into lecherous laughter as they followed him out.

In the academy's main hall, Aspen and Christina stood casually, ignoring the offered seats and taking in the decor.

Christina frowned and said, Aspen, Madblade Martial Academy has always operated in the gray area between legal and illegal.

Mr.

Sanford has a pretty bad reputation.

The fact that he hasn't shown up yet feels suspicious.

Do you think they're plotting something? Aspen continued studying the painting on the wall and smiled. Christie, you worry too much.

It's broad daylight, and given our status, handling a brute like Rodney would be child's play, despite his reckless nature.

Rodney entered with his group, wearing a broad smile.

Ladies, what brings you to our humble academy? His eyes lingered inappropriately on their striking features.

Aspen did not even glance at Rodney.

She continued admiring the painting, her tone calm but commanding.

Mr.

Sanford, I'll cut to the chase.

Im here for one reasorr only either hand over Dean or return the money you owe me .

She turned slightly, her gaze sharp as steel.

Ill say it once.

Think carefully before you answer.

Her confidence and no nonsense attitude were palpable, leaving no room for argument or negotiation.

Chapter 459 Rodney's smile turned cold.

So, you ladies aren't here to pay respect, but to collect a debt? If that's how you want to see it, Aspen replied, finally turning to face him.

Christina said diplomatically, Mr.

Sanford, we had a billion dollar deal with the Northern District.

When Atlas met his unfortunate end, that money vanished

Since Dean is now with your academy, we're hoping you can help us recover our investment.

She explained the situation with a composed and respectful tone, assuming Rodney would act reasonably now that the facts were clear

However, Rodney looked at her contemptuously and sneered, They call you the Ice Queen CEO of Jayrodale, supposedly brilliant and beautiful.

But I see you're just a pretty face without any real substance.

Christinas face flushed with anger.

Mr.

Sanford, what exactly are you implying? Rodney laughed coldly.

You marched in here with this mob demanding money.

Do you really think the Madblade Martial Academy is some common establishment where anyone can

walk in and make demands? Christinas expression darkened

She had known this place would be trouble but had not expected Rodney's attitude to be so openly hostile and crude.

Mr.

Sanford, you should be more careful with your words, Aspen warned coldly.

Rodney turned his gaze toward her with a predatory smile.

Unlike those insignificant players

out there, I'm the heir of Madblade Martial Academy.

I can say and do whatever I please in my domain.

He leaned back, his smirk growing wider as his voice dripped with arrogance

I can eat what I want, say what I want, and, most importantly, lick what I want.

He chuckled darkly

If you ladies want your billion dollars back, its simple just put on some stockings and spend a night with

me

Do that, and I'll return every penny, no questions asked.

Rodneys laughter echoed through the hall, crude and shameless, like a dog in heat.

His crew, emboldened by his behavior, joined in with vile cheers.

Mr.

Sanford is the man! Two beauties at once, hes surely living the dream! Tonights your big night, Mr. Sanford! You get to explore two women at once.

It doesnt get better than this! Theyre both stunning beauties ! Mr.

Sanford, dont forget to leave us some scraps after youre done! The crude laughter filled the room, leaving Aspen and Christina with anger and shame

Christina clenched her fists, her pride stung deeply.

She despised anyone making jokes about her looks or body, but this was not her company or her territory

it was Rodneys turf, and Madblade Martial Academy was not a place the Stevens family could afford to cross lightly.

Aspens voice turned colder than ice as she snapped, Rodney, your filthy behavior is a disgrace to Madblade Martial Academy

You're tarnishing your own reputation and dishonoring your martial heritage.

Chapter 460 Rodney smirked shamelessly.

Ms.

Aspen, as long as you surrender yourself to me, I wouldn't mind letting these people go

How about that? Aspen's calm and composed demeanor finally cracked.

She exploded, shouting, Screw you, Rodney! If this were Bridgefields, someone would've dumped your corpse in the wilderness by now for speaking to me like this! Rodney's face darkened as he waved a hand, barking, Close the doors! The sound of the heavy doors slamming shut echoed through the hall. He sneered, Damn it! Two bitches daring to stir up trouble in my academy? Tonight, you're leaving here soaked, one way or another! Knowing Rodney's ruthless reputation, the debt collectors accompanying them began to panic.

They feared he might truly lock them in and unleash violence.

Christina's face turned pale

Aspen, we need to call the police immediately.

Aspen gritted her teeth.

No need.

I want to see what this little scumbag thinks he can do to me.

She fixed Rodney with an icy stare, her voice filled with disdain.

Rodney, you're nothing but a coward, abusing your position in your family's academy to bully others. But I'm not someone you can intimidate.

And just so you know, Ive already contacted my people in Bridgefields, and journalists are on their way here right now.

Her head held high, Aspen exuded confidence, though deep down, she felt a pang of unease.

She did not want anyone to see her vulnerable side, especially not here.

Rodney let out a sinister laugh

Journalists? So what? With hundreds of fighters here in my academy, not a single one of them is stepping foot inside

He continued, And Aspen, when those journalists show up, the only thing theyll hear is your moaning

and screaming as I send you to paradise! Aspen trembled with fury, her chest heaving as she struggled to contain her rage.

She could not believe this scum had the audacity to not only threaten her but also dismiss the media so easily.

Rodneys face twisted into a malicious grin.

What are you all standing around for? Teach these guests a lesson ! He pointed at the group of debt collectors

These women came to offer themselves up fine, Ill deal with them later, But you worthless nobodies? Youre not welcome here

Beat them to a pulp ! At his command, the academys fighters descended upon the debt collectors like wolves attacking sheep.

The hall was soon filled with screams and cries of pain. Ms.

Christina ! Ms.

Aspen ! Help us! Please, save us ! Ms.

Christina, youre the CEO of Stevens Corporation, Jayrodales most powerful woman! Are you really going to stand there and let us be beaten ? Ms.

Aspen, you brought us here, but now youre just standing by as we get attacked? Youre nothing but a useless fraud ! Bloodied and bruised, the debt collectors turned their anger toward Aspen and Christina, blaming them for their suffering.

Christinas face was flushed with frustration and anger.

She had warned Aspen not to get involved, but now they were caught in a disaster, with even those they tried to help turning against them

Aspen shouted furiously, Rodney, if youre really all that, why dont you take on us instead of beating on helpless people? What kind of martial artist are you? Rodney grinned wickedly.

I never claimed to be a hero

Im just a man whos about to make you spread your legs for me! Aspen felt a wave of regret crash over her.

If only she had listened to Christina and avoided walking into this lions den alone.

Rodneys depravity and boldness far exceeded anything she had anticipated.