

## The Ashes 481

Chapter 481 Andrew stopped Marcus from kneeling and said, I helped you because youre my friend. This kind of gesture would change that relationship.

Lauren chimed in with a smile.

Mr.

Chapman, please get up.

Youre almost 20 years older than Dr.

Lloyd it wouldnt be right! Marcus stood up awkwardly and said, Youre right, Ms.

Rhodes

I apologize for being too impulsive.

The three of them immediately headed to the Jayrodale Police Department in Andrews G-Wagon. When Donald heard of Andrews arrival, he hurried his heavy frame to greet them.

He asked, Mr.

Lloyd, what brings you here today? Just ust wanted to thank you for your hospitality last time, Mr. Warren, Andrew replied with a grin.

Donald was skeptical someone as powerful as Andrew, who controlled half of Jayrodale, would not come just to thank a mere police commissioner

After a few minutes, the West End team arrived with four bound suspects wearing black hoods, who were pulled from a van.

Andrew turned to Donald, asking, Mr.

Warren, can you identify if these men are wanted criminals? Donald quickly had his officers check, and they confirmed, Mr.

Warren, these four are indeed on our most wanted list.

They committed multiple kidnappings and robberies two years ago Mr.

Thatcher was furious and demanded we solve the case quickly.

Donald was overjoyed.

Take them into custody! Finally, I can give Mr.

Thatcher a report he'll actually be happy with ! He approached Andrew gratefully and said, Mr.

Lloyd, thank you I can't believe you really meant it when you said you came to show gratitude. When have I ever lied to you, Mr.

Warren? I followed through when I said I'd deal with last time, didn't I? Andrew chuckled.

you Donald's smile turned awkward, and he nervously laughed.

You've got quite the sense of humor, Mr.

Lloyd ! I'm just trying to keep up with your wit.

Lauren could not help but smile.

Andrew's way of talking was definitely sharp, and only someone as thick-skinned as Donald could handle

it.

Andrew said, Mr.

Warren, your people can take credit for capturing these suspects.

But I need to question them first there are some things I need to find out.

Donald straightened up, pretending to be stern.

Mr.

Lloyd, technically, only authorized officers are allowed to question suspects.

Civilians are strictly prohibited from participating.

He then cracked a wide grin.

That being said, youre no ordinary civilian.

Please, be my guest! Andrew chuckled.

Looks like youre learning, Mr.

Warren

Donald replied quickly, Not at all, Mr.

Lloyd

Youre the real genius here.

Im just trying to follow your lead! Lauren watched Andrew banter with Donald, her eyes sparkling with admiration.

She thought to herself, Hes not only powerful and skilled, hes also so effortlessly witty.

If only hed show a little more interest in me... maybe rip a few of my stockings for fun.

Thatd make him perfect! Just then, Marcus approached with Lucy.

Ms.

Rhodes, Lucy is safe not a scratch on her! I cant thank you enough for this! The relief of reuniting with Lucy had given Marcus a renewed energy.

She was his world, the most precious thing in his life, and losing her would have been unimaginable.

If Andrew had not come to their rescue, Marcus would not have stood a chance against Harvey, Lauren patted Lucys head and smiled, saying, Im glad shes okay.

Now, do you believe what Dr.

Lloyd said that when no one else could help you, he could ? Mr.

Lloyds abilities are truly extraordinary beyond anything Ive ever seen! Marcus said with deep respect. Words cannot express my admiration! Lauren giggled softly.

Lets head inside.

Dr.

Lloyd is about to start the interrogation.

Inside the police departments interrogation room, Andrew sat at the center of the table with Donald beside him.

A few officers stood at the back of the room, along with Lauren and Marcus.

Across the table, the four fugitives sat in cuffs, their expressions masked by exhaustion and defiance.

Donald glared at the suspects and said, Youll answer every question Mr.

Lloyd asks you.

Chapter 482 Cooperate, and things will go smoothly.

If not, there will be consequences, Donald warned.

One of the fugitives, with a dark mole at the corner of his mouth, sneered.

Are you trying to scare us, Mr.

Warren? The police department has no right to interrogate us.

The bald fugitive with the scorpion tattoo laughed coldly.

If it werent for Dylan and Natasha searching everywhere, you useless cops wouldnt have caught us!

Donald shouted, Watch your mouth, you little punk! Want me to crack that skull of yours? The bald man smirked

Empty threats wont work on us, Mr.

Warren.

If you've got the guts, do it. Don't just sit there talking. Donald turned to Andrew furiously and asked, Mr.

Lloyd, do you mind if I teach them a lesson? I could use a little warm up.

Are you sure that's wise in the interrogation room? Andrew raised an eyebrow.

Donald grinned menacingly.

Mr.

Lloyd, you're the only person I'd ever tiptoe around.

But anyone else who sets foot in my territory learns real quick why they call me the Butcher.

After wrapping a belt around his hand, Donald walked behind the four suspects.

The law will judge your crimes, but first, I'll get some justice for your victims, he declared before unleashing a series of brutal punches.

His strikes were precisely targeted, causing pain and fear without inflicting permanent damage. Andrew watched briefly before commenting, You must have trained with the military, Mr. Warren.

How did you know that, Mr.

Lloyd? Have you been investigating me? Donald asked, removing his bloodied belt. Andrew scoffed.

Why would I waste my time investigating you? Donald smirked sheepishly.

You're sharp, though.

I did have some specialized military training.

But how could you tell? Andrews tone was casual

Because Ive been in the military myself.

Donalds heart skipped a beat, though he tried to laugh it off

From what I know, anyone whos served in the military is tough as nails

So, Mr.

Lloyd, which unit were you with? He did not expect an answer.

After all, Andrew seemed more like a member of the privileged elite than someone who had endured grueling military life.

However, Andrews next words left him stunned

I spent time with the Eangs, did a stint with the Predators, and had some fun with units like Thunderbolt and the Serpents

Donalds jaw nearly hit the floor.

He knew enough about these units to understand their elite reputations.

Each name Andrew casually dropped represented near mythical status, places revered by those in the know

What Donald was unaware of was that Andrew had not just trained with these units he was actually there to train them

Moreover, he was paid millions for a single day of training

Meanwhile, the fugitives, now cowed and battered, were finally ready to talk.

Andrew leaned forward.

The Weller family hired you to kidnap Lucy, didnt they? The bald man nodded quickly.

Yes, it was the Weller family.

Was it Harvey who contacted you directly? Andrew asked.

The bald man shook his head.

No, it was their butler.

Andrew smirked and turned to Lauren and Marcus.

You heard that, right? Harveys getting smarter.

Laurens eyes narrowed, her voice cold

Hes learning, alright.

If things go south, hell throw the butler under the bus to take the fall.

Andrew stood and dusted off his hands.

Alright, thats all I needed to know.

Now its time to set the trap and give the Weller family a real taste of justice.

He paused, his eyes gleaming with a dangerous light.



Its been too long since we reminded Harvey whos in charge.

Lets make sure he wont forget it this time.

Chapter 483 Marcus hesitated.

Mr.

Lloyd, Harvey isnt an ordinary man.

Hes in charge of the entire Weller family now, and going after him wont be easy! Andrew smiled.  
Lets head back to the company for now.

Well find out soon enough if its really hard to deal with him.

Donald chuckled.

Mr.

Lloyd, allow me to escort you.

Andrew waved him off.

No need, Mr.

Warren

These fugitives are tied to serious cases go claim your credit instead.

Donald rubbed his hands together and grinned sheepishly

Well, I feel bad about it! Next time you catch anyone like this, please send them my way

III owe you big time! Andrew glanced at him but said nothing, heading back to Rhodes Corporation with the others.

Donald stood there, looking puzzled, unsure if Andrew had agreed or not.

After mulling it over, Donald slapped his forehead.

He muttered, Im such an idiot! A man like Mr.

Lloyd wouldnt just help me score points for no reason.

I need to show my sincerity next time.

Damn it, from now on, wherever Mr.

Lloyd points, Ill lead the charge without hesitation ! Donald knew full well how powerful Andrews control over Jayrodales underground network was.

If he wanted to catch criminals or solve cases, he would have to rely on Andrews influence.

In the car, Marcus looked troubled.

As long as I stay in the pharmaceutical division at Rhodes.

Corporation, Harvey has me cornered.

Im not afraid of him or the Weller family, but Lucy is my weakness.

Im terrified that monster might hurt her again! He glanced down at Lucy, who was peacefully asleep in

his arms, his expression soft and full of fatherly love.

Lauren asked gently, Mr.

Chapman, what about Lucys mom? Marcus gave a bitter smile.

Lucys never had a mom.

Ive raised her on my own since she was a baby

Lauren and Andrew exchanged a quick look, sensing that Marcus did not want to talk about Lucys mother

Respecting his privacy, they did not press the issue.

Andrew reassured him

Mr.

Chapman, dont worry.

Once the Weller familys people are arrested, the authorities will be all over Harvey.

With the police watching him, he wont dare touch you or Lucy again.

Marcus nodded, relieved.

Hearing that from you, Mr.

Lloyd, puts my mind at ease.

When they arrived back at Rhodes Corporation, Andrew suggested Marcus and Lucy rest for a while Lauren teased him with a smile.

Dr.

Lloyd, you seem to have a soft spot for daughters.

Andrew froze.

Whats that supposed to mean? Lauren grinned.

Youre so eager to help Mr.

Chapman and Lucy.

Plus, youre great with her.

I bet youd prefer having a daughter over a son.

Andrew looked baffled.

And so what? Lauren spoke with complete certainty.

So, Ive decided III give you a daughter one day.

That way, you can be a doting dad.

Andrews face was full of disbelief.

Seriously? Youve already planned whether well have a boy or a girl? Lauren nodded thoughtfully, her eyes sparkling.

Maybe this is just what love feels like

When Im with the man I adore, I cant help but think about giving him a family

Realizing how bold and revealing her words were, Laurens cheeks flushed a lovely red, making her even more stunning

Thankfully, Marcus returned to the room, breaking the charged atmosphere between them.

Andrew cleared his throat and smiled.

Mr.

Chapman, how are you feeling now? Marcus returned the smile.

Im fine, Mr.

Lloyd.

Just tell me what you need me to do.

Andrew replied, Its simple.

Contact someone from the Weller family and tell them youve secured the pharmaceutical divisions formula

Let them know they can come and pick it up.

Marcus frowned.

Even if they agree to meet, Harvey probably wont come himself.

It'll most likely be his uncle, Brad.

Chapter 484 Marcus sald grimly

He called me earlier and gave me a heavy warning.

He threatened that if I tried anything foolish, the Weller family wouldnt spare me or Lucy. Andrews gaze turned icy.

It doesnt matter who shows up as long as theyre part of the Weller family.

Harveys ruthless enough to use his own uncle as a pawn hes truly despicable. Without further hesitation, Marcus pulled out his phone and dialed a number. Its me, Marcus

Ive got the formula.

When are you going to release Lucy? On the other end of the line, Brad chuckled darkly.

Marcus, youve been awfully quick about this, havent you? Dont worry, Hand over the formula and your precious daughter will be returned to you safe and sound

Marcus demanded, Why should I trust the Weller family? What if I give you the formula, and you dont bring her back? Brad snorted coldly

Do you even have a choice, Marcus? Unless you want Lucy gone for good, you should cooperate. Grinding his teeth, Marcus replied, Fine.

Tell me the location for the exchange, and I'll bring the formula.

Brad sounded pleased.

Thats the spirit.

Meet me at Dillons Bar by the river.

Dont try anything funny that bar belongs to the Weller family.

Any trouble, and III vanish before you know it, and youll never see your little girl again.

Marcus hung up and turned to Andrew and Lauren.

The meeting point is Dillons Bar, down by the river.

Its one of the Weller familys properties

Brads being extra cautious, afraid we might pull something.

Andrew smirked.

It doesnt matter if its their property.

Now that weve got a time and place, catching him will be a breeze.

Lauren frowned slightly.

If we act on our own and catch Brad, we could end up in a direct conflict with the Weller familys top enforcers.

Andrew let out a cold laugh.

We wont act alone.

Well let the police handle it.

No matter how bold or influential the Weller family thinks they are, they wont dare openly defy law enforcement

With that, Andrew immediately called Donald.

He said, Mr.

Warren, your chance to shine has come again

Donald did not hesitate and quickly gathered a team of officers, packing two full vehicles with enforcement personnel ready to roll.

He said cheerfully, Mr.

Lloyd, youre my lucky star.

With these back to back cases, I wont have to worry about my performance reviews this year!  
Donald was ecstatic, his admiration for Andrew growing by the minute

Even the time Andrew had punished him by cutting off a finger seemed like a blessing in hindsight.

To him, that ordeal marked a turning point, a sign that he was destined for a fresh start.

If anything, he felt grateful to Andrew now.

Running through Jayrodale was a massive river, its banks home to the citys bustling downtown

Dillons Bar, a well known establishment, was owned by the Weller family and had everything from drinks and DJs to late night parties.

Brad sat at the bar, sipping drink after drink until he felt a pleasant buzz.

Harvey, you little bastard, he muttered under his breath.

One day, Ill take Serena away from you.

The thought of Harvey and Serena together made Brad seethe with jealousy.



Truth be told, Brad did not even love Serena

Like Harvey, he was simply infatuated with her beauty.

To Brad, Harvey and Serenas relationship was a scandal that could never be made public because of their family ties

However, he thought his situation was different.

With his older brother dead, Brad saw himself as the rightful guardian of his widowed sister in law.

Over time, he figured he could naturally claim Serena as his own, making the relationship seem perfectly reasonable and acceptable.

Chapter 485 Just thinking about how Serena had dismissed him with such disdain earlier that day made Brad seethe with frustration.

He thought she was ungrateful.

After all, he had been nothing but genuine toward her, yet she still dared to fantasize about staying with Harvey.

Brad was determined not to let that happen.

Serena was going to be his, no matter what.

It was not about love or promises; it was about his pride as a man and the thrill of conquest.

Losing the fight for the family headship to Harvey had already been humiliating enough, but if he could

not win Serena over, Brad figured he might as well crawl into a hole and die.

Behind the bar, the bartender glanced at him while mixing a drink.

Mr.

Brad, maybe you should ease up on the drinks youve got business to handle later.

Shut the hell up! Brad snapped, his voice slurred with irritation.

Who the hell do you you are, telling me what to do? The bartender flinched and backed off, deciding it was not worth arguing.

Just then, a couple a man and a woman walked up to the bar.

think Two cocktails, on the rocks, the woman said with a snap of her fingers, her tone confident and carefree

The bartender glanced up at her, momentarily stunned.

She was absolutely gorgeous, the kind of beauty that could make a man forget all logic.

He thought to thought to himself that he would gladly break his back working if it meant he could afford to take care of someone like her

Then, he looked at the man beside her handsome, charming, and wearing a laid back smile like some kind of Prince Charming

The bartender sighed inwardly.

Those TV dramas had it all wrong; the princess always ends up with the prince, leaving guys like him, with a paycheck that barely covers the rent, out in the cold

The woman said flirtatiously, Sweetheart, if were drinking, I cant go home tonight

Why dont you take me back to your place ? Uh... that might not be the best idea, the man replied hesitantly.

Were not even officially dating yet.

Oh, come on! Its the 21st century! Who cares about labels ? As long as youre serious about me, Im willing to do anything! Listening to their lovey dovey banter only deepened Brads bitterness.

Another couple flaunting their happiness, rubbing it in his face

He wondered if the kids these days were unaware that public displays of affection never end well. Brads thoughts wandered back to Serena

He wished she would act coy and affectionately with him like that.

If she did, he would feel like he had been given a whole new lease on life.

The alcohol, combined with his pent up frustration, made his head buzzed.

Nonetheless, Brad did not forget the reason he was at Dillons Bar to retrieve the stolen formulas from

Rhodes Corporations pharmaceutical department.

Thinking of that reminded him, once again, of Harvey.

Brad felt a complicated mix of admiration and jealousy

The little bastard was shrewd, managing to infiltrate Rhodes Corporation like this

If Harvey succeeded in securing the companys key pharmaceutical formulas, the Weller family would dominate Jayrodales medical industry.

For a moment, Brads thoughts turned dark.

What if he took those formulas for himself, broke away from the Weller family, and started his own business? The possibilities were endless fame, fortune, Serena.

He could have it all

However, the fantasy did not last.

Brad shook his head, forcing the dangerous idea out of his mind.

If he dared to betray the Weller family, Harvey would hunt him down without hesitation.

Lost in thought, Brad nearly jumped when someone tapped him on the shoulder.

He blinked, his alcohol blurred vision trying to focus

When he looked up and saw who it was, his body instantly tensed.

Chapter 486 The person patting him on the shoulder was none other than Marcus

Brad asked, Wheres the formula? I have it right here, but I need to make sure Lucy is safe first!  
Marcus said in a low voice, adjusting his baseball cap.

Brad glanced around the dimly lit bar.

At the counter where he sat, there was no one except for a couple getting cozy nearby.

Meeting here proved the old saying true the most obvious place was often the most secretive one, as

nobody would pay attention to someone sitting at the bar counter.

Marcus, you better wise up and hand over the formula, Brad replied, setting down his glass and sneering

If you cooperate, I'll order them to spare Lucy.

But if you keep stalling like this, I can't guarantee Lucy's safety.

Brad saw Marcus's face twist with a mix of anger and defeat.

He laughed inwardly, thinking Marcus was no match for playing games with the Weller family. Fine, here's the formula.

Marcus finally handed it over obediently

As soon as Brad took it, Marcus immediately asked, Now, will you order them to let Lucy go? Brad laughed heartily, saying, Marcus, smart people know when to yield.

The Weller family wasn't wrong about you.

He paused before continuing, As for Lucy, I'm sorry, but I don't know where she's being held.

We'll decide what to do after I return to the Weller family.

Marcus's face immediately darkened

So you're going back on your word? With the formula in hand, Brad felt untouchable and arrogantly

replied, So what if we are? Marcus, you're just a pawn in our hands.

We can squeeze you however we want.

To his surprise, instead of getting angry at his words, Marcus just smirked.

Is that so? Why dont you check if the formula in your hand is real or fake? Brads heart skipped a beat as

he quickly unfolded the papers, only to find two blank sheets

Marcus, how dare you trick me! Dont you care about your own daughters life? Brads drunken haze instantly cleared as rage consumed him.

Marcus calmly answered, Brad, the Weller familys evil deeds will catch up to them.

Ive already reported this to the police.

Get ready to rot in prison

Brads face contorted, veins popping as he growled, Do you really want to watch Lucy die ? Also, this is Weller family territory.

Even if the cops come, Ill still slip away! Just then, police sirens wailed outside.

Donald burst in with the police enforcement squad, shouting commands.

Brad was shocked

He did not expect that Marcus would actually call the police on this

He cursed, Marcus, get ready to collect your brats corpse ! Then, he turned to flee.

The bar had a secret escape route, and he believed there was no way the police could catch him.

Yet, Brad did not expect that just as he turned to mm, someone tripped him, causing him to fall face first onto the floor.

As he got up groaning, Brad roared angrily, What the hell are you doing? Are you blind? The couple next to him had tripped him, and Brad saw clearly that the man had stuck out his foot.

Chapter 487 Why are you running, Mr.

Brad? Didnt you hear the police coming to arrest you? asked the strikingly handsome man from the couple, a slight smile playing on his lips.

Brads eye twitched as he cautiously asked, Who are you? How do you know who I am? And how do you know the police are here for me? This time, it was the beautiful woman from the couple who answered

She said with a smirk, Well, were the ones who called the police.

And Mr.

Chapman is working with us to catch you, so of course, we know everything thats going on! Brads mind went blank as realization hit him, and he pointed at the couple while backing away.

He stammered, Y Youre Lauren Rhodes, the heiress of the Rhodes family

And y- youre Andrew Lloyd, the one who beat up our familys elder ! The pretend couple was indeed Andrew and Lauren.

Lauren was dressed in trendy club wear with striking makeup, looking every bit the queen of the night scene.

Meanwhile, Andrew was sporting a tailored suit with slicked back hair, giving off a sophisticated bad boy vibe.

The dim bar lighting combined with Brads alcohol consumption had initially prevented him from recognizing them.

Lauren, Andrew how dare you set me up on Weller family territory? Youre asking for death! Brad scrambled to his feet in panic, spitting out the curse before turning to flee

He had finally realized he had fallen right into their trap.

However, he had barely taken two steps when he felt a sharp pain in the back of his head, as if he had been hit with a blunt object.

Brad internally cursed, Shit, before everything went black.

Andrew lowered his hand and said flatly, I came personally because I knew you'd have tricks up your sleeve.

If I let you escape, I might as well quit my job.

Donald entered with his team and immediately arrested Brad.

The bar manager stepped forward angrily, saying, Mr.

Warren, Mr.

Brad is with the Weller family.

Mr.

Weller won't let this random arrest slide ! Donald scoffed

Go tell Harvey that the Weller family is under investigation for kidnapping and extortion.

I'll be paying him a personal visit soon

The manager watched as they were about to load Brad into the police car, his eyes turning fierce as he moved to intervene

He knew that Harvey's position as the family head could be compromised if Brad was arrested.



Yet, before he could act, Donalds backhand sent him crumpling to the floor unconscious

He shouted, How dare trash like you try to obstruct justice! Then, he commanded his team, Move out !

He left with a satisfied smile, mission accomplished.

Lauren spoke firmly, Mr.

Warren, Brad extorted Mr.

Chapman from Rhodes Corporation.

You know how serious this is we trust youll handle this case properly.

Donald replied gravely, Rest assured, Ms.

Rhodes

Brad wont see daylight for several years, and the Weller family wont escape accountability.

Both you and Mr.

Lloyd will get the justice you deserve.

Lauren nodded with a smile.

Thank you for your hard work! Andrew walked over to Marcus and patted his shoulder, asking, How do you feel, Mr.

Chapman ? Marcus grinned.

Much better.

Its satisfying to see the Weller family get what they deserve.

After being oppressed by the Weller family for so long, Andrews support helped him feel.

vindicated, lifting a weight off his chest.

Lauren sighed, Its just a shame we couldnt catch Harvey in the act.

That man is truly despicable.

Chapter 488 Andrew scoffed

Once Brad faces trial, Harveys true colors will show.

We just need to sit back.

and watch the show unfold.

After leaving Dillons Bar, the three of them returned to Rhodes Corporation.

Marcus was ready to throw himself back into work now that Lucy was safe and sound.

However, as soon as he returned to his department, devastating news spread.

Mr.

Chapman, effective immediately, you are no longer the head of the Pharmaceutical Division.

Mr.

MacAfee will be taking over your position, announced Michaels secretary, Cindy.

Marcus struggled to contain his anger as he demanded, I deserve an explanation! Cindy replied haughtily, Theres nothing to explain

These are direct orders from Mr.

Rhodes! If you have any objections, take them up with him.

With that, she sauntered away, swaying her hips.

Marcus stood frozen, his earlier joy completely vanishing.

With a bitter smile, he muttered, Just as one wave settles, another rises

His face showed the weight of his troubles as he added, I could understand the Weller family coming after me, but Michaels betrayal is truly disheartening.

Laurens voice turned cold

Lets go confront Michael

I need to ask this worthless piece of trash what he thinks hes doing.

The Pharmaceutical Division thrived under your leadership- hes clearly plotting something by putting his own person in charge ! Andrew chimed in, Mr.

Chapman, its not a big deal.

Lets go check it out together.

Michaels underhanded move had caught even Andrew by surprise.

As Lauren had mentioned, Rhodes Corporations Pharmaceutical Division was crucial it was their most profitable department.

Such a golden goose would naturally tempt Michael.

Since Marcus had always sided with Lauren, Michaels power play made a twisted kind of sense.

When the three arrived at Michaels office, they found him with a pockmarked elderly man

The elderly man completely ignored Lauren and Marcus, maintaining an air of mystery while his brownish

, sinister eyes focused solely on Andrew as if trying to see through him.

Andrew met his gaze calmly but with slightly furrowed brows, sensing this elderly man was no ordinary person.

The elderly man gestured invitingly toward Andrew.

Im Bane Eslinger from the Advanced Medical Institute.

Would you care to sit down for a chat ?

Andrew replied, Lets skip the formalities.

The Advanced Medical Institute is the birthplace of Holtrien medicine, a sacred institution in the medical world with an international reputation.

Mr.

Eslinger, you must be quite the distinguished physician to come from there.

Bane let out a raspy laugh filled with arrogance.

Distinguished physician? Thats nothing.

Even the great doctors of Chetvine must address me as their senior.

In fact, the renowned Dr.

Cedric Aicker from Jayrodale is my junior apprentice.

Andrew responded with a simple Oh before adding, You and Dr.

Aicker must be quite close then.

Bane sneered, What nonsense! Cedrics mediocre medical skills are nothing compared to mine.

Its an insult to even be mentioned in the same breath as him absolutely disgraceful.

Andrew chuckled

Is that so? Then I apologize for my earlier mistake in mentioning you alongside Dr. Aicker.

Rest assured, I wont mention Dr.

Aicker in your presence again.

Banes face darkened

You say you wont mention him, yet you just said his name twice in one sentence. Youre doing this on purpose, arent you?

Chapter 489 Andrew apologized profusely, Im so sorry, truly sorry.

Now that I know you dislike any mention of Mr.

Aicker, I absolutely wont mention Mr.

Aicker

again

My clumsy tongue betrayed me by mentioning Mr.

Aicker twice more I deserve death for this transgression.

Please forgive me, Mr.

Eslinger

Banes face was not just dark anymore it had turned ashen.

He slammed his hand on the desk and pointed at Andrew, shouting, I see what youre doing! Youre

apologizing, but is that really an apology? You mentioned Cedric three more times its infuriating! Andrew shrugged at the enraged Bane and said, Youre right, I am deliberately mentioning him.

If you dont want to hear it, you dont have to listen, but III say what I want thats my right.

Bane sneered, I heard from Mr.

Rhodes that you were quite the troublemaker, but I didnt expect such insolence even in my presence.

You clearly dont understand how terrifying people from the Advanced Medical Institute can be.

Andrew did not even glance at him as he replied flatly, The Advanced Medical Institute may be the pinnacle of medical excellence in Holtrien, but so what? Others might fear the Advanced Medical Institute, but I dont .

Besides, Mr.

Eslinger, can you represent the entire institute alone? I doubt it

Banes face fluctuated between pale and dark as he growled, I wanted to test your potential, to see if you were worth cultivating

But youre clearly just blind with arrogance and beyond help.

Mark my words when our paths cross again, youll experience the Advanced Medical Institutes poisons firsthand.

Andrew scoffed, Poison games? Bring it on, Mr.

Eslinger.

I wont flinch call me a coward if I do! Bane stood up and stormed out in a rage.

Lauren smirked at Michael.

Keeping such a dangerous character around arent you afraid of karma? Michael replied with a cold smile , Mr.

Eslinger is a master of poisons, a legendary figure from the Advanced Medical Institute, unmatched in both medicine and combat.

Lauren, I must question your judgment if you call such a remarkable individual dangerous.

Lauren gritted her teeth and demanded, Cut the nonsense why did you remove Mr.

Chapman from his position? Michael responded indifferently, First, as head of the Pharmaceutical Division, hes achieved nothing while watching the Weller familys health products grow and steal our market share- that shows his incompetence.

Second, Ive received reports of his frequent meeting with the Weller family even Harvey himself

What does that tell you about his loyalty? Michaels face turned grim as he continued his accusation, It shows that Marcus has rebellious intentions.

Should I wait until he betrays Rhodes Corporation to take action? He spoke with such righteous indignation that he made Marcus sound like an unforgivable criminal.

H Mr.

Rhodes, I only contacted the Weller family because they kidnapped my daughter, Marcus exploded, his eyes red with anger.

I even asked for your help, but what did you say? You told me to handle it myself because it was my personal problem, and you couldnt help!

Chapter 490 Michael waved dismissively and said, That was your personal matter.

Of course, I couldnt help! Lauren spat out a laugh and sneered

Michael, dont you realize how stupid you sound right now? One of our own employees was being harassed by the Weller family, and you have the nerve to say such nonsense! Are you even fit to be CEO? Michaels face darkened as he replied, If Im not fit to be CEO, you think you are? If you were so qualified, why am I sitting in this chair instead of you? Lauren took a deep breath and retorted contemptuously, We both know how you got this position.

If the family hadnt interfered, youd still be nothing but a lackey under me.

Michael sneered.

Youre right, Ill admit that.



But what does it matter? You'll soon be married off from the Rhodes family.

Lauren, no matter how capable, beautiful, or how many followers you have, there's still no place for you in the Rhodes family

Your only path is to be a sacrifice! His venomous words struck Lauren's core, causing her face to turn pale as sorrow flickered in her eyes

Michael's silent laugh showed his immense satisfaction.

Marcus, either follow orders or pack up and get out.

Rhodes Corporation won't miss you either way! Michael immediately turned his attack to Marcus after seeing Lauren at a loss for words

Fine, since you put it that way, I have nothing more to say.

I quit ! Marcus let out a bitter laugh, completely disheartened.

Hold on, Andrew suddenly interjected.

Michael narrowed his eyes and sneered.

Andrew, what are you trying to do? Stirring up trouble again? Andrew replied, Mr.

Rhodes, you're talking like an idiot.

How am I stirring up trouble? Mr.

Chapman is a core member and veteran of the company you can't just fire him without my approval as a shareholder.

Michael gritted his teeth and said, You have no right to interfere with company personnel matters.

I make the decisions, understand? Andrew responded calmly, Mr.

Chapman isn't just any employee.

I've read the company rules.

Someone of his seniority requires unanimous approval from the board and top five shareholders for termination isn't that right? Michael's face darkened as he said, Fine.

If you want to keep him, I won't object.

But Marcus can't stay in the Pharmaceutical Division let's see how you handle that.

Andrew smiled before saying coldly, How will you handle it? Just watch him make your life a living hell.

And Michael, one more thing: your days as CEO are numbered, I'm going to knock you back down to where you belong

Michael was furious but scoffed

He'll wait and see what you've got ! As a member of the Rhodes family and CEO of Rhodes Corporation with powerful allies like Bane, Michael could not understand how this pretty boy got the confidence to challenge him.