

Rising from the Ashes (Andrew and Lauren)

#Chapter 61 - Read Rising from the Ashes (Andrew and Lauren) Chapter 61

Chapter 61 There was a moment of silence on the phone.

Then, Dylans furious voice exploded in Michaels ear

Refund? Go to hell! Michael, you son of a bitch, you almost got me killed! Dylan roared.

Im lucky I didnt make the biggest mistake of my life! If I had gone down, Id make sure I drag you with me damn it! The line went dead after his outburst

Michaels face turned dark as he muttered angrily, Dylan, you may rule South City, but the Rhodes family isnt afraid of you.

How dare you insult me and keep my money? Youll have to answer for this! Not understanding Dylans sudden rage but furious about both the failed job and the lost money, Michael immediately tried calling back to demand an explanation.

However, he discovered he had been blocked.

Michael stared at his phone in disbelief before hurling it against the wall with a roar.

Between the 15 million dollars that Andrew had cost him and the three million dollars he had just lost to Dylan, he could have spent years living the high life

1 % His face contorted with rage as he mumbled, This isnt over ! Dylan and Andrew, Ill make sure you both pay for this! The next morning dawned bright and clear

Andrew was practicing martial arts in a courtyard atop Moonlit Sanctuary, with his upper body bare His tall, lean frame displayed perfectly proportioned muscles across his chest, arms, and abdomen.

An intricately detailed black dragon head tattoo sprawled across his chest, fierce and majestic.

Unlike typical tattoos, this one was a deep, vivid black with blood red eyes.

Any expert would have been shocked to see it, as this particular design represented one of the most powerful families in Holtriens

After finishing his morning workout and freshening up, Andrew received a call from Lauren.

Dr.

Lloyd, its your day off, and the weathers beautiful.

Lets meet up, she said cheerfully.

Without waiting for his response, she continued, Its settled then! Fran tells me youre neighbors, so shell pick you up

Dont be late! Lauren hung up so quickly that Andrew could not even refuse.

At the entrance to the residential complex, Francesca was already waiting, leaning against a red BMW convertible.

Andrew, this must be your first time attending a high society event with Lauren in Jayrodale. Remember, youll be meeting Jayrodales wealthiest and most powerful people.

Try not to embarrass Lauren! Chapter 61 The red BMW sped toward an exclusive club on the east side of town

Luxury cars filled the parking lot as Jayrodales elite young heirs and heiresses arrived.

Lauren stood in an elegant, pleated dress, surrounded by several admirers.

Yet, her face only truly lit up when Andrew stepped out of the car.

Dr.

Lloyd, over here ! Before Andrew could respond, the door of a nearby Bentley opened.

Christina stepped out in a white dress, looking surprised.

She exclaimed, Andrew, what are you doing here? Harvey stood beside her with an arrogant expression

, while another fashionably dressed couple looked at Andrew with obvious disdain.

Chapter 62 Andrew replied flatly, Whats so strange about me being here? If Ms.

Stevens can be here, why cant I? Christina frowned

Andrew, Im just warning you that this place is expensive, and you need a members recommendation to get in

Lauren walked over and linked her arm to Andrews.

Lets go inside.

By the way, Ive already arranged a lifetime membership for you.

Enjoy yourself however you like! Christina turned away without saying another word, thinking Andrew was still as pathetic as always a hopeless case who would never amount to anything.

Harvey smirked

Before returning from abroad, heard rumors that Lauren had lowered herself to keep a worthless boy toy

I thought it was just gossip, but now ... He shook his head in mock disappointment, implying that having Andrew around diminished Laurens status.

The young man next to Harvey sneered

Lauren, our circle has so many worthy young men.

Why keep such a useless parasite ? I really dont understand your thinking.

Lauren smiled calmly.

Thats none of your business.

Dexter Combss face darkened

Lauren, Im just trying to give you a friendly warning because I dont want you to make any mistakes. You dont have to be so rude

Laurens smile vanished as she stared at him coldly.

Dexter, who do you think you are to meddle in my personal life? And what are you going to do about my rudeness ? Dexter was the heir to the prestigious Combs family.

Yet, he could only hold back his anger.

dared not confront Lauren, as the Combs family was not influential enough to challenge the Rhodes family.

Come on, Lauren, Dexter means well, Harvey intervened smoothly.

Lets stop arguing.

Since weve all run into each other, why dont we hang out together? Since the Weller and Rhodes families were equals in Jayrodales social hierarchy, Lauren had to show Harvey some respect

She smiled and said, Well, thats not my decision to make its up to Andy! Harvey and Dexter frowned, wondering how this nobody had such a hold over Lauren.

Dexter mocked, Listen, we play elite sports here.

If you cant handle it, get lost! Harvey raised his hand, feigning concern.

Dexter, dont scare Andrew.

Everyone has to start somewhere.

Then, he turned to Andrew with a smirk.

Come on, Andrew, join us

With dont want to Christie, Lauren, and the other ladies watching, surely you look like a coward ? Andrew could tell Harvey was trying to provoke him, but he had no interest in playing with Chapter 62 these small fries.

Just as he was about to refuse, Francesca jumped in.

Thank you for the invitation

Wed love to join everyone! Harvey and Dexter exchanged knowing smiles, both with malicious gleams in their eager to humiliate this nobody.

eyes- Francesca turned to Andrew and whispered urgently, I know youre not good at any of this, but you cant embarrass Lauren

Come on, just watch Mr.

Weller and learn from them.

Chapter 63 The so called elite sports these wealthy heirs and heiresses enjoyed were not anything too exotic just some expensive hobbies like golf, fencing, and indoor climbing.

After half an hour, Andrew was already bored and ready to leave.

Meanwhile, Dexter, wearing gloves, sparred in a flashy taekwondo match with Harvey.

Christina and Dexters date sat below, snacking and clapping excitedly.

Francesca was equally captivated.

While she was not exactly smitten with Harvey, she could not deny his allure as a wealthy young man from a prominent family.

In contrast, Andrew sat off to the side, looking more like a bystander than a participant.

Francesca assumed he probably did not even know what taekwondo was and would just swing wildly if he tried

Worried that he would try to slip away, she reminded him, Lauren just stepped out to handle something, but shell be back soon

Even if youre bored, you need to wait for her.

Dont you dare leave! Up on the mat, Harvey and Dexter finished their sparring match with theatrical flourishes, removing their gloves and bowing to their female audience.

Christina smiled proudly.

Harvey was her chosen prince charming, and everything seemed perfect.

The only flaw was that her ex, Andrew, happened to be there too, eyesore.

a minor but irritating Harvey, your taekwondo skills have improved tremendously during your years abroad.

You must be close to professional level now! Dexter exclaimed.

Harvey chuckled modestly.

Well, between my studies, I managed to reach an eighth degree black belt.

Its nothing too special.

Dexter gasped.

Eighth degree? Thats incredible! No wonder I could only last two rounds against you! You must be tougher than most professionals! Harvey laughed.

Dont sell yourself short, Dexter.

At least you held out for two round With my rank, Im probably as good as it gets in Holtriens.

1 Harvey, youre just amazing a black belt at such a young age! Thats unbelievable, Dexter gushed. Andrews head was spinning from their ridiculous mutual admiration.

Their amateur moves hardly warranted such excessive praise.

Dexter glanced at Andrew and addressed Francesca

Fran, maybe your friend should give it a try.

He looks bored just sitting there! Francesca hesitated.

Maybe not ! Andrews not trained.

I wouldnt want him, to cause trouble for you both.

1/2 Chapter 63 Dexter threw a few dramatic air punches and replied, No worries! Ill teach

him the basics, but there are no guarantees he wont get a few bumps and bruises.

Ill just show if hes a real man or ... something else.

Harvey stood with his hands in his pockets, smiling.

Let him spar with Dexter, Fran.

Whats there to be afraid of? Ill even give him some pointers.

He might not beat Dexter, but hell learn something! Francesca forced a smile.

Alright, Ill ask him.

But please go easy on him.

She went to Andrew and said, Theyve invited you, so just humor them for a bit.

Dont worry

Ive asked them not to hurt you.

Andrew looked thoroughly unimpressed.

Im not interested in these childish games.

Childish games? Francesca frowned

Didn't you hear? Harvey is an eighth degree black belt! Don't embarrass yourself by underestimating

them!

Chapter 64 Andrew smirked.

Eighth degree black belt? Is that supposed to impress me? Francesca gritted her teeth at his ignorance. Harvey had been one of the top young fighters in Jayrodale even before going abroad, training in martial arts since he was a kid.

Sure, Andrew had taken down South City's Bobby, but Harvey was in a different league altogether. Dexter taunted from the mat, Are you that scared, kid? Don't worry, I won't humiliate you too badly just enough to send you crawling home like a dog! Francesca pleaded desperately, Please, Andrew, even if you get beaten, take it like a man.

Don't embarrass Lauren and me

Do you want Lauren to seem inferior to Christina? Andrew sighed, already feeling annoyed. Nonetheless, he gave in and stepped up to the stage with a relaxed stride

He looked at Dexter and said, Since accidents can happen, let's take things easy and have a friendly match.

Dexter was caught off guard by his remark, but he quickly burst out laughing

You're asking for mercy before we even start? You really are a coward! Harvey turned to Christina with a smile

Christie, didn't you say Andrew was quite skilled and had saved you before? He seems rather different now

He's clearly frightened.

Christina sighed quietly, unsure how to respond.

She had seen Andrew fight impressively before, but it seemed like he was no match with a skilled opponent like Dexter

Francesca stomped hard, her face twisted with frustration.

Andrew, you're seriously pathetic! Before even throwing a punch, you're already asking to take it easy? What was the point of talking tough just now? Dexter let out a battle cry

and launched into a flying kick. Andrews casual stance and apparent lack of defense filled him with contempt.

He planned to knock this nobody off the mat and break a few ribs

Christie, better call the medical office to prepare for a stretcher, Harvey stated out of disinterest.

Just then, a sharp smack echoed through the room, followed by a howl of pain.

On the mat, Dexter clutched his swollen face.

You bastard, how dare you hit me ! Watch your language, Andrew warned.

Besides, I told you we should have a friendly match instead of going all out.

Dexter exploded in rage.

You worthless piece of trash.

If you want me to go easy on you, get on your knees! Chapter 64 Andrew shook his head.

If were not keeping it light, then lets get this over with.

He stepped forward and threw a straight punch at Dexters face.

Thats not how taekwondo works.

Go to hell! Dexter shouted, aiming a powerful kick at Andrews chest.

Instead of following through with his punch, Andrew suddenly struck downward.

There was a crack as his fist hit Dexters thigh, bringing tears to the mans eyes.

Before Dexter could curse, Andrews hand whipped across his face repeatedly.

With blood streaming from his nose and mouth, Dexter staggered backward and tumbled off the mat.

Francesca, Christina, and the other women screamed in shock.

The medical staff rushed in to carry away Dexter, who sported a swollen and bloody face.

Chapter 65 Harvey jumped onto the mat with a dark expression and growled, Dexter was clearly going easy on you, and you took advantage of his courtesy to hurt him! Andrew, your behavior disgusts me. You've violated the spirit of taekwondo, so I need to teach you a lesson ! Dexters poor performance surprised Harvey, but that did not matter

He had been waiting for a chance to put this loser in his place Francesca pleaded anxiously, You're an eight degree black belt.

Andrew doesn't stand a chance against you! Please don't do this! Christina added her concern, Harvey, go check on Dexter instead

Don't hurt anyone ! Harvey smirked at Andrew.

I didn't want to fight you since it would seem like bullying, but you seriously injured Dexter after agreeing to keep it light.

Even if Christie and Lauren get angry, I have to teach you about martial arts honor! Andrew frowned.

I gave him a chance and asked if we were having a friendly match.

Yet, he fought dirty and insulted me, so why should I have shown mercy? Harvey snapped, Stop making excuses.

Fight me if you're a man.

Andrew shook his head. Let's not

Someone might get hurt.

Harvey sneered

If you're scared, just say so

For Lauren and Christie's sake, I'll go easy.

enough to avoid seriously injuring you

I meant I'm worried about hurting you, Andrew replied calmly.

Harvey laughed in disbelief.

Christie, Fran, did you hear what he just said? Christina spoke coldly, Andrew, you've hurt someone, and now you're being arrogant.

Apologize, and we can move past this

Andrew, apologize to Harvey right now! If you fight him, I won't be responsible for what happens! Francesca chimed in, unable to understand how Andrew would have the audacity to suggest he might hurt Harvey.

After all, Francesca thought Harvey was unlike Dexter, and that Andrew would be badly injured in a real fight.

Yet, Andrew remained unfazed

Apologize? Why should I apologize when I've done nothing wrong? He was getting tired of these women always assuming he should apologize.

They had no idea he would never be one to back down.

Harvey's face darkened

Then don't blame me for showing no mercy! Then, he executed three perfect advancing steps before launching a lightning fast punch at +25 BONUS Chapter 65 Andrew's chest.

Andrew frowned slightly, noting how Harvey was aiming for his heart.

If that was how he wanted to play, Andrew would not hold back either.

He raised his hand and threw a simple counter punch.

Compared to Harvey's elaborate technique, Andrew's move looked basic and crude.

Francesca covered her eyes, bracing herself for Andrew's inevitable bloody defeat.

Soon came a loud crack, followed by the sound of fists colliding.

Harvey felt his arm bone crack as if struck by a steel bar.

Sweat broke out on his forehead from the intense pain, but he clenched his teeth to avoid showing weakness

Inwardly, he was shocked by Andrew's incredible strength.

Chapter 66 Chapter 66 Harvey, don't you dare bully Dr.

Lloyd! If he gets hurt, you'll have to answer to me! Lauren rushed over, worried that Andrew might be at a disadvantage.

Harvey smirked, seizing the chance to back down gracefully.

Alright, Ill let him off this time.

for your sake, he said with a fake grin.

But dont expect such luck next time! Im not the type to go easy on just anyone.

With a cold snort, Harvey left.

Christina and Francesca both thought Harvey had shown Andrew mercy, unaware that Harveys arm,

hidden beneath his jacket, was already swollen and trembling uncontrollably

If Lauren hadnt arrived in time, you wouldnt have gotten off so easily, Francesca sneered.

Andrew replied calmly, You should say that to him instead.

If Im not mistaken, hes probably rushing to the clinic to get his arm treated right now.

Francesca did not believe him, thinking Andrew was just bluffing

After all, there was no way he could easily defeat an eighth degree black belt like Harvey.

Lauren giggled.

Alright, you two.

Stop arguing.

Lets head to the racetrack its really lively today since several of Jayrodales top figures are there ! was, and sh Francesca was always eager to be where the action immediately perked up at the mention of Jayrodales elite

However, she paused mid step and turned to Andrew with a frown.

She warned him, Andrew, people like Harvey and Dexter might come from prominent families, but the people youre about to meet are the real power players of Jayrodale, so watch your mouth.

Dont get us into trouble.

No one could save you then

Meanwhile, in the clubs clinic, Dexter lay on the bed with his head completely wrapped in bandages, groaning in pain.

Harvey was shocked at the sight.

Dexter, are your injuries really that severe ? ers eyes be dead! blazed with rage as he snarled, If I dont get back at that loser, I might as well Harveys expression darkened as he carefully removed his jacket to treat his arm

His arm was fractured, only a sliver away from having his bones completely shattered.

Dexters eyes widened in shock from beneath his bandages.

He gasped, No way! Y Y Youre even worse off than me? Harveys face turned even grimmer.

I underestimated him.

That bastard hits harder than I expected

1/2 Chapter With an injury this serious, you should go to the hospital, Mr.

Weller, Dexter suggested nervously.

Harvey snapped, Are you an idiot? If I go to the hospital, everyone will know that I was taken down in one hit

And if Christina finds out, Ill be total joke! Half an hour later, Harvey and the bandaged Dexter emerged from the clinic

Are you both alright? Christina asked with concern.

Harvey chuckled, maintaining a casual demeanor.

Of course.

You should be more worried about Andrew.

I had more than ten years of taekwondo training, and he probably couldnt handle the punch I threw. Christinas expression went cold.

He has Ms.

Rhodes to care for him now its none of my business anymore.

Besides, he deserved to be taught a lesson.

Lets stop talking about that loser, Dexters date chimed in.

We should head to the racetrack.

Its quite the scene today.

Not only are Jayrodales crime lords there, but even the mayor showed up! Harvey laughed.

Perfect! Christie, lets go.

Ill introduce you to the mayor.

Since youll soon be part of the Weller family, its time you meet some of Jayrodales top figures! Chapter 67 Chapter 67

Chapter 67 The clubs racetrack was packed with thousands of spectators watching the races.

Horse racing has always been a favorite pastime the wealthy, both locally and internationally, with betting being the most talked about aspect of the sport.

Lauren walked arm in arm with Andrew to the premium viewing deck, with Francesca close behind. This exclusive area was reserved for lifetime club members, and everyone seated there was either wealthy or influential

In the center of the deck, Jayrodales mayor, Mark Thatcher, sat surrounded by his staff, intently watching the races below.

It was common knowledge that while the mayor had many interests, horse racing was his true passion.

Mr.

Thatcher, what a pleasure to see you here! Lauren stepped forward to greet him.

Mark adjusted his glasses and smiled.

Ah, Lauren ! Hows Mr.

Rhodes Senior doing these days? Thank you for asking, Mr.

Thatcher.

Grandpas doing quite well! Mark nodded, but his expression changed to surprise when he noticed Andrew.

Lauren, my dear, when did you start dating? Tell me more about the lucky young man

Which family is he from? Is he a rising star in the industry? Before Lauren could respond; someone behind Mark let out a cold laugh.

Mr.

Thatcher, hes neither from a prestigious family nor worthy of being called an industry prodigy. Surely anyone who caught the eye of Jayrodales most eligible bachelorette must be extraordinary. Dont be shy, Lauren, introduce him to us! Mark urged with a smile.

The man continued his mockery.

Mr.

Thatcher, youre mistaken this time.

Hes nothing special.

Hes just a doctor at Jayrodale General Hospital with no background or achievements.

He just got lucky enough to catch Ms.

Rhodes attention.

Standing behind Mark was none other than Bernard, the deputy chief of Jayrodale General Hospital. Before Andrews group arrived, Bernard had been busy flattering Mark.

When he saw Andrew, his resentment was reignited

Who I choose to be with hardly seems like your concern, Dr.

Hackett, Lauren snapped, irritated by Bernards nasty tone.

Bernard let out a sigh.

My apologies if Ive upset you, Ms.

Rhodes

However, I cant help but think its a pity.

A distinguished lady like you should at least be with Mr.

Thatchers son! Marks expression instantly darkened.

His son had once pursued Lauren, which he had strongly supported, given their equal social standing. However, Lauren had rejected his son without a second thought, a blow to his pride as Jayrodales leader.

Though Mark had eventually accepted the outcome, seeing Lauren with a mere doctor felt like Chapter 67 an insult.

It was as if his son was not even as good Mark said cautiously, Lauren, while we elders sh relationships, given my friendship with the Rho fine to have fun, just dont take it too seriously.

With that, Mark returned his attention to the race Bernard shot Andrew a poisonous glare, his eyes you get for crippling Philip and destroying his fu Chapter 67 an insult.

It was as if his son was not even as good as this mere physician.

Márk said cautiously, Lauren, while we elders shouldnt interfere in young peoples relationships, given my friendship with the Rhodes family, let me give you some advice: its fine to have fun, just dont take it too seriously

With that, Mark returned his attention to the race, ignoring Andrew entirely, Bernard shot Andrew a poisonous glare, his eyes filled with malice as he thought, Thats what you get for crippling Philip and destroying his future!

Chapter 68 After they sat down in a corner, Francesca quickly whispered, Lauren, that sneaky Bernard is clearly trying to drive a wedge between Mr.

Thatcher and your family.

Lauren shrugged.

Let him try.

Hes a nobody.

If not for Mr.

Thatcher, I wouldve slapped him for talking about Andrew like that.

Francesca turned to Andrew with disgust.

This is all because of you! Thanks to you, Mr.

Thatcher probably doesnt think highly of Lauren anymore! Is Mr.

Thatchers approval really that important? Andrew frowned.

Francesca sneered

Are you actually this clueless or are you just pretending? Hes the mayor of Jayrodale ! Havent you noticed all those people waiting with expensive gifts just to curry his favors ? One word from him can make or break someones fortune in this town.

Lauren intervened, Fran, stop it.

The Rhodes family isnt going to lose a connection over someone like Bernard.

If maintaining good relations with Mr.

Thatcher is so important, I might have an idea, Andrew suddenly commented

What idea? Francesca scoffed, clearly doubting Andrew had anything worthwhile to contribute.

Before Andrew could elaborate, Harvey and Christinas group of four approached the viewing deck. Mr.

Thatcher, its been too long! Ah, Harvey, Jayrodales rising star! Now that youre back home, I trust youre ready to help contribute to our citys growth, Mark responded warmly.

Absolutely, Mr.

Thatcher.

Im always ready to serve our community... Watching Harveys easy rapport with Mark, Francesca glanced at Andrew and thought there was no comparison.

She decided she needed to have a serious talk with her best friend about dumping Andrew.

The races reached their climax as Marks favored horse, Number Three, entered the track.

People behind him were eager to stay in his good graces and placed their bets on Number Three with big money, making Mark beam with satisfaction.

Dr.

Lloyd, Fran, lets join in the fun.

Things will get more exciting with some bets involved, Lauren suggested enthusiastically.

Caught up in Laurens excitement, Andrew casually scanned the ten horses and placed his bet on Number Seven

Look at this amateur trying to act like he knows something, Dexter mocked from nearby.

Harvey chuckled condescendingly, Andrew, Number Seven is a mixed breed.

Cant you tell +26 BONUS Chapter 68 that? Those horses are just field fillers.

Mr.

Weller, Mr.

Combs, why waste time on this nobody? Mark my words Mr.

Thatchers pick, Number Three, will take the crown! Bernard chimed in with a smirk.

Everyone around eagerly agreed with Bernard, praising Marks judgment.

Exactly! Mr.

Thatchers got a sharp eye Number Three is a guaranteed win! Ive bet 30 thousand dollars following Mr. Thatchers pick.

Its always smart to stay close to someone as wise as him! With everyones praise, Marks smile only grew brighter.

Come Francesca nudged Lauren.

on, lets bet on Number Three too! Lauren chuckled.

No way.

Im sticking with Dr.

Lloyd and going for Number Seven ! As the gates opened, all ten horses burst forward.

Number Three took an early lead through the first half, seeming to confirm everyones predictions about Marks expertise.

However, in the second half, Number Seven surged from behind, overtaking Number Three and charging toward the finish line

The crowd fell silent in shock as the underdog crossed the finish line first, with the favored Number Three coming in second

Thanks to that bet, Andrew turned his modest 15 thousand dollars into over 300 thousand dollars, walking away with an incredible win.

Chapter 69 Lauren clapped her hands excitedly

Dr.

Lloyd, you're amazing! Number Seven actually won! Her joyful laughter caused Harvey, Bernard, and their group's faces to darken

However, Mark maintained his composure and smiled.

Dont be discouraged, everyone.

Such is the thrill of horse racing you never know who the dark horse will be until the very end! The mayor's words prompted immediate agreement from the crowd.

Well said, Mr.

Thatcher ! Absolutely, Mr.

Thatcher ! Anyone could be the dark horse! Your insights are truly remarkable ! Lets get ready for the next round.

The game isn't over yet! Stick with Mr.

Thatcher, and we'll be in the winners circle! For the next race, Mark confidently selected Number Five. Lauren turned to Andrew and asked, Dr.

Lloyd, which horse should we choose? Lets go with Number One, Andrew replied casually. Bernard could not resist a sarcastic comment

Andrew, are you deliberately going against Mr Thatchers picks? Cant you see how many people trust his judgment? Mark raised his hand, interrupting Bernard, Bernard, everyone is entitled to their own. opinion.

Then, he turned to Andrew with an amused smile.

Young man, you seem experienced

Lets see if your luck holds up this time.

Andrew smiled calmly.

Mr.

Thatcher, if you're still betting on Number Five, I'd suggest changing your pick that horse won't win. The crowd erupted in anger.

How dare you question Mr.

Thatcher's judgment! Who do you think you are? You'll regret your arrogance! Mark maintained his composure, simply laughing it off.

I appreciate young people with different perspectives, but I'm confident about this race.

As the gates opened and the horses charged forward, Mark's pick, Number Five, started strong. However, midway through the race, it stumbled, throwing its rider and tumbling out of the race.

1/2 Chapter 69 Meanwhile, Andrew's choice, Number One, powered through like a bulldozer.

Initially in third place, it surged forward near the finish line, overtaking the lead with ease to claim victory.

Dr.

Lloyd, you're incredible! We won again! Lauren cheered.

Andrew could not help but smile at her genuine excitement.

Harvey, Dexter, and Bernard stood silent, their faces dark.

Mark stared in disbelief as Number Five was carried off the track with a broken leg, and he sighed heavily.

Such is life.

One moment you're on top, the next you're struggling through hardship, Mark commented.

Bernard could not accept defeat.

Mr.

Thatcher, let's try one more race.

Everyone knows you're the best at horse racing in Jayrodale.

Thats right, Harvey and his group chimed in.

A couple of races doesnt mean anything.

Please lead us to victory again, Mr.

Thatcher ! Encouraged by their support, Mark laughed heartily.

Very well, Ill join you for one more match.

Victory comes to those who persevere ! Such inspiring words!, With this spirit, victory is certain ! Nothing could stop Mr.

Thatcher this time! The crowd cheered and applauded enthusiastically.

It was as though they were trying to erase the memory of their two consecutive losses through sheer volume alone.

Chapter 70 Lauren covered her mouth to suppress a laugh, suddenly realizing that these so called Jayrodale elites were not much different from the social climbers they claimed to mock.

Andrew, I challenge you on behalf of Mr.

Thatcher ! Harvey declared.

Dont get cocky.

Your first two wins were just beginners luck.

Fortune wont keep favoring a fool forever ! Bernard chimed in, Well said! Those two wins were nothing but dumb luck.

No one in Jayrodale can match Mr.

Thatcher at horse racing especially not some junior doctor! Mark waved them off with a chuckle.

Come now were not sore losers.

Dr.

Lloyd, if you can win this one too, youll definitely earn my respect! If were playing by the same rules, Mr.

Thatcher then I wont lose, Andrew replied with a calm smile.

The crowd erupted immediately

Such arrogance! This young man doesn't know his place! How dare he speak to Mr.

Thatcher like that! Francesca's heart was racing, She could not believe Andrew dared to speak so boldly in front of Mark

Meanwhile, Christina watched Andrew with newfound interest, surprised to discover this confident, daring side of him.

Mark's tone turned serious as he said, Horse racing can be unpredictable.

But I've never lost three races in a row to anyone.

Young man, you should know there's always someone better out there

Your confidence has stirred my competitive spirit! As the mayor, losing twice was not a big deal.

It was nothing more than a slight blow to his pride.

However, hearing this from a young, unknown doctor brought out a spark of fire in Mark.

He thought that if Andrew believed he could beat him again, the young man would be in for a lesson.

As the host announced the start of the new race over the speakers, ten horses burst onto the track. This time, Mark had chosen Number Two, the club's reigning champion.

The other experienced bettors did not hesitate to place heavy bets, on Number Two.

It was clearly the favorite for anyone who knew anything about racing.

However, Andrew chose Number Four, once again going against the crowd.

Number Four may have been good once, but it's past its prime.

The club plans to retire it this season.

This idiot is definitely going to lose! Harvey thought gleefully.

Mark smiled as he explained, Number Four is well past its glory days.

Number Two is a premium stallion imported from abroad that's worth its weight in gold

Im afraid youve bet on the wrong horse this time ! 1/2 Chapter 70 +18 BONUS As youve said earlier, Mr. Thatcher the race isnt over until its over

Anyone could be the dark horse, Andrew responded confidently.

Dark horse? Sounds more like a dead horse to me, Dexter mocked.

Dr.

Lloyd, dont worry if we lose this one, Lauren reassured him.

Weve already won twice! Mark chuckled.

Lauren, youre as cheeky as ever But this time, victory will be mine!