## The Ashes 611

Chapter 611 Simon let out a sharp cry, tumbling across the ground as blood spurted from his mouth. His entire body trembled in fear, his mind on the verge of collapse.

He could not believe how vast the difference in strength between him and Andrew actually was.

The dark arts he had been so proud of, along with his ambush using deadly poison powder, had not even made a dent.

On the contrary, if Cedric had not spoken up on his behalf out of their old ties, Simon was sure he would already be dead by now.

As luck would have it, a cab.happened to drive by.

Simon threw the door open, jumped inside, and barked, Drive! The driver stared at him in shock.

Dude, are you practicing for Halloween? Why are you covered in blood? Simons face contorted with pain, and he roared, Are you going or not? One more word and III take you out with one strike! Terrified, the driver slammed on the gas and sped off.

Meanwhile, back at the Aicker residence, chaos erupted.

Cedrics apprentices had been released and were visibly tense, fearing Simon might return for revenge. Andrew announced confidently, Relax.

He wouldnt dare come back.

Take Mr.

Aicker to rest and give him the best healing pill youve got.

With that reassurance, the apprentices finally regained their composure and rushed to carry out Andrews order

Cedrics injuries were serious.

Even though Andrew had saved him in time, he still needed rest and treatment, given his age. Francesca, on the other hand, had not suffered any wounds

Yet as she lay feverish and disoriented, her flushed skin glistened.

Andrew felt a headache coming on as her condition was far more complicated than Cedrics.

Andrew... I... I need you... Before Andrew could figure out how to counter the Enthralling Essence coursing through her, Francesca suddenly sprang up from the floor.

With alarming speed, her delicate hands wrapped around Andrews neck, and her lips- soft and burning hot aimed straight for his

In the process, the coat Andrew had draped over her slipped off and fell to the ground

Her curvaceous figure, barely concealed by her disheveled clothes, was now fully on display.

Outside the hall, Francescas junior apprentice kept his head bowed low, not daring to look.

In a trembling voice, he mumbled, Dr.

Lloyd, Mr.

Aicker said... said the Enthralling Essence in Fran can only be neutralized by you.

So... were counting on you! After blurting that out, the young man quickly ran off, too embarrassed to stick around

Andrew cursed under his breath, calling Cedric a sly old fox It was obvious that Cedric knew how potent the Enthralling Essence was

Apart from an intimate union, there was no other way to expel the drug from Francescas system.

That crafty old man had practically handed his granddaughter over to Andrew, leaving him to handle the situation however he saw fit! Andrew, please... I cant take it anymore... I feel like my body is going to explode! Francescas voice cracked with desperation as she clung to him, her body writhing with unbearable heat.

Andrew quickly placed his hand on the back of her neck, trying to restrain her.

If he did not, she would undoubtedly lose all control and press her lips against his.

He attempted several times to wrap her back in the coat, but the Enthralling Essence was relentless.

No matter how many times he dressed her, Francesca would squirm and tear the clothes off again, her body burning up

Andrew... Im burning up... Help me, please! Tears welled in Francescas eyes as she pleaded, her voice cracking with anguish.

She struggled to resist her impulses, but her body betrayed her, instinctively pressing against his. Soon, her hands roamed over Andrews chest and arms.

Chapter 612 Before Andrew realized it, Francesca had torn off every piece of clothing, including her underwear

The rough force she used left faint red marks on her smooth, fair skin.

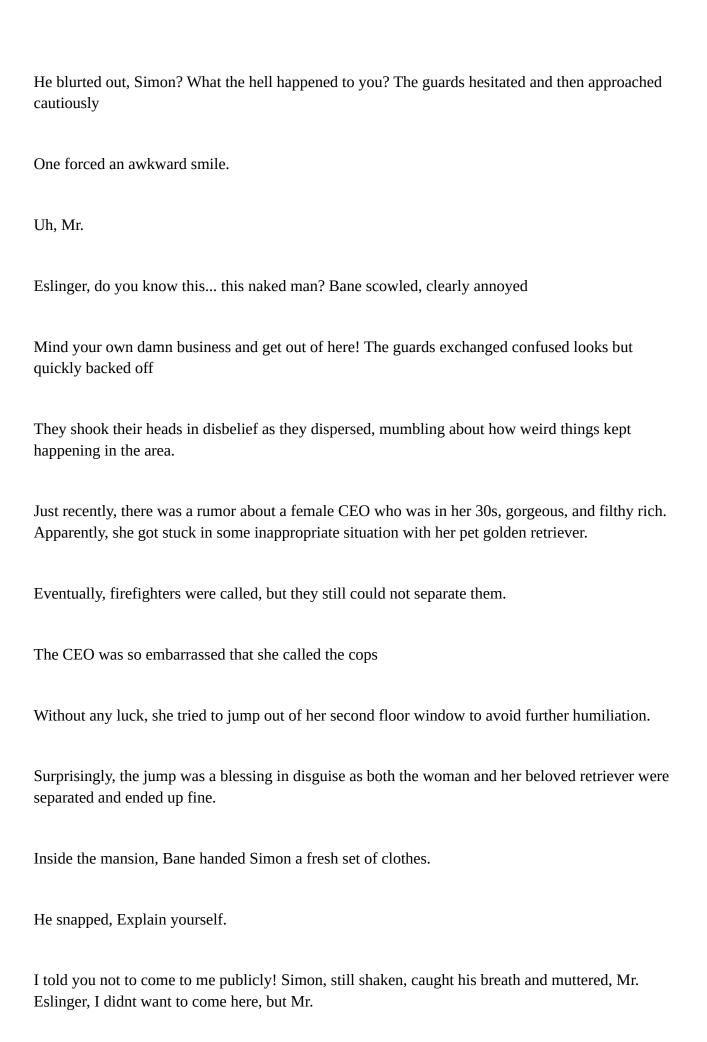
Yet, Francesca seemed oblivious to the pain, writhing in his arms as sweat glistened on her flushed body

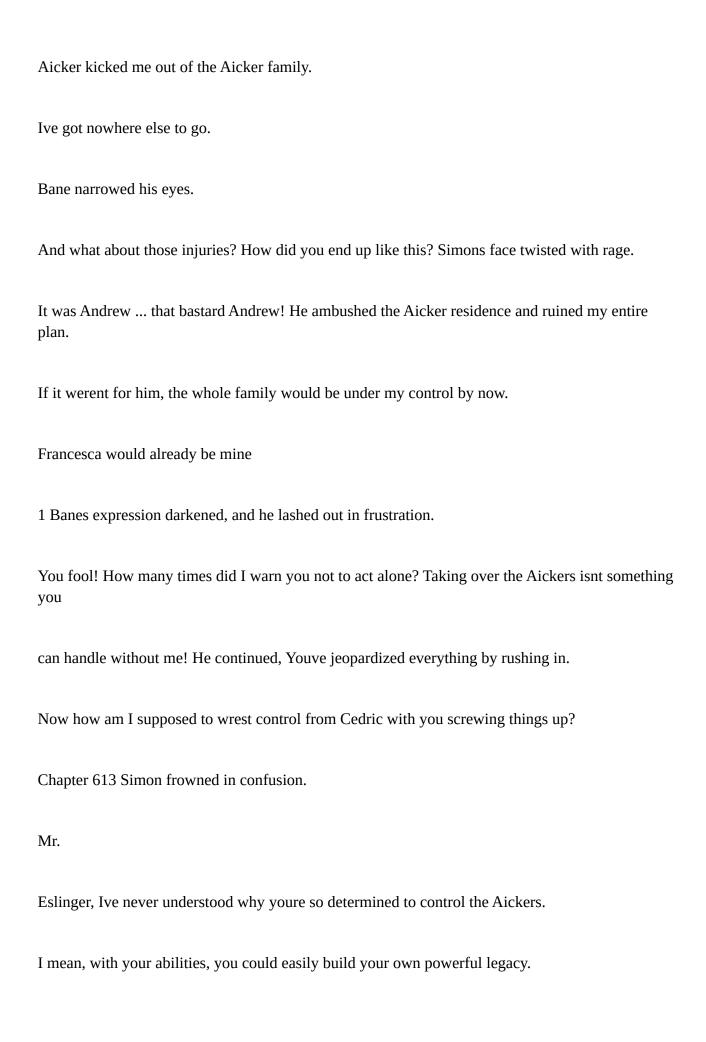
Andrew knew they were out of time.

If she did not find relief soon, the consequences would be dire

Taking a deep breath, he muttered apologetically, Sorry, Fran! Then, he scooped her up and hurried toward her bedroom Francescas warm breath tickled his ear as her eyes shimmered with desire. Andrew, I dont blame you... I want this I want... to give myself to you, she whispered between ragged breaths, her voice filled with anticipation. Meanwhile, Simons escape led him to a gated mansion on the outskirts of Jayrodales wealthy district. He staggered toward the entrance, only to be blocked by a scowling security guard Get lost, freak! Who the hell do you think you are? the guard barked, eyeing Simon suspiciously. Ignoring him, Simon stumbled past and yelled hoarsely, Mr. Eslinger! Mr. Eslinger, help me! The guard cursed and summoned reinforcements. This is a high class neighborhood. We cant have some bloody lunatic running around scaring off the rich folks. Several guards rushed forward, ready to subdue Simon Just then, the mansions iron gate creaked open, revealing a gaunt, stern faced old man in a black robe.

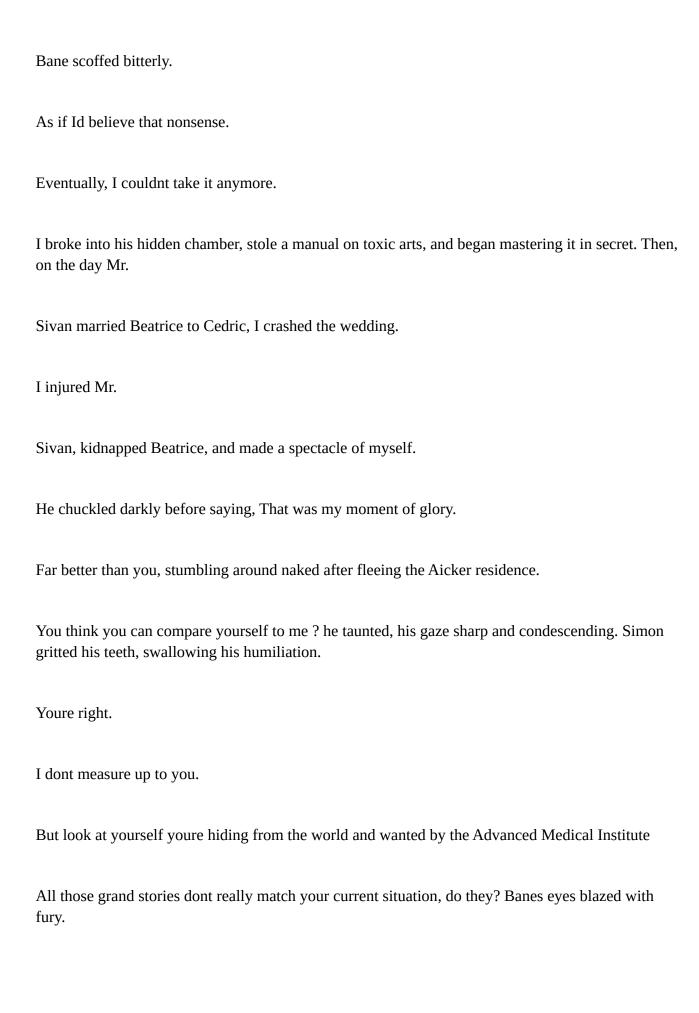
His cold gaze swept over Simon before he frowned.





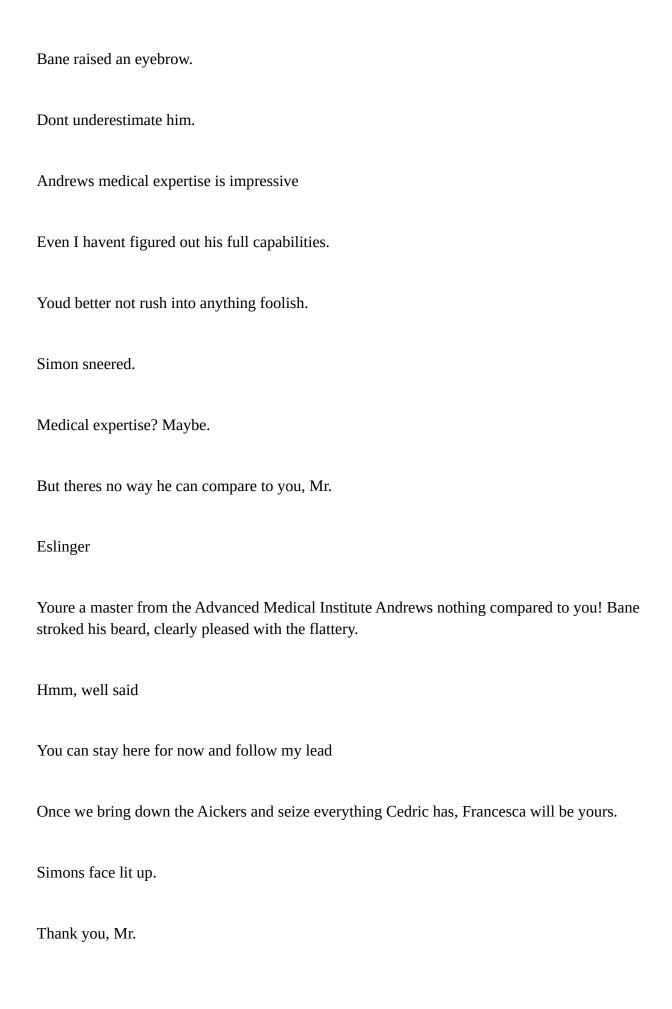
Bane snorted coldly.
What do you know about my ambitions? Cedric and I were once fellow apprentices under the same mentor, Mr.
Gregory Sivan.
From the start, Cedric was inferior to me in every way whether in medicine, combat, or earning Mr. Sivans favor.
The man wasnt even in my league.
Simon looked skeptical.
If thats true, then why are you here all alone? Meanwhile, Mr.
Aicker has established a family empire thats thriving in Jayrodale.
Banes expression darkened, his face twisting into a grimace. Funny you should ask.
My story isnt too different from yours.
He paced slowly as he continued.
Cedric was a nobody at the Advanced Medical Institute, a clown obsessed with weird herbs and remedies.
I was respected, one of the Institutes top figures, while he was ignored by everyone.
But somehow, that pathetic fool became Mr.
Sivans favorite

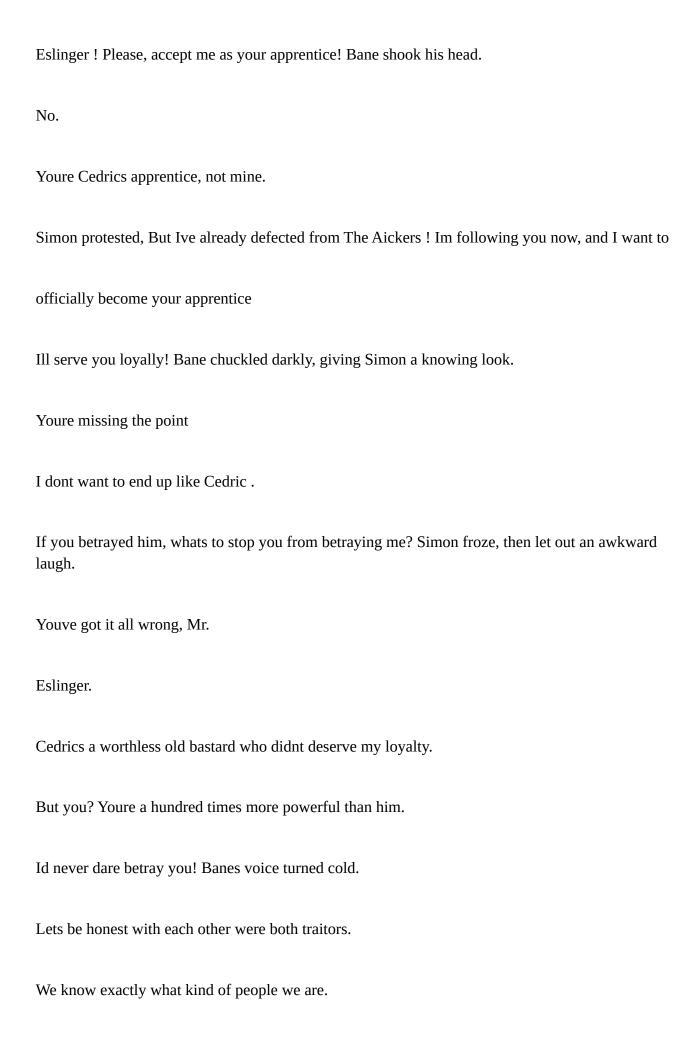


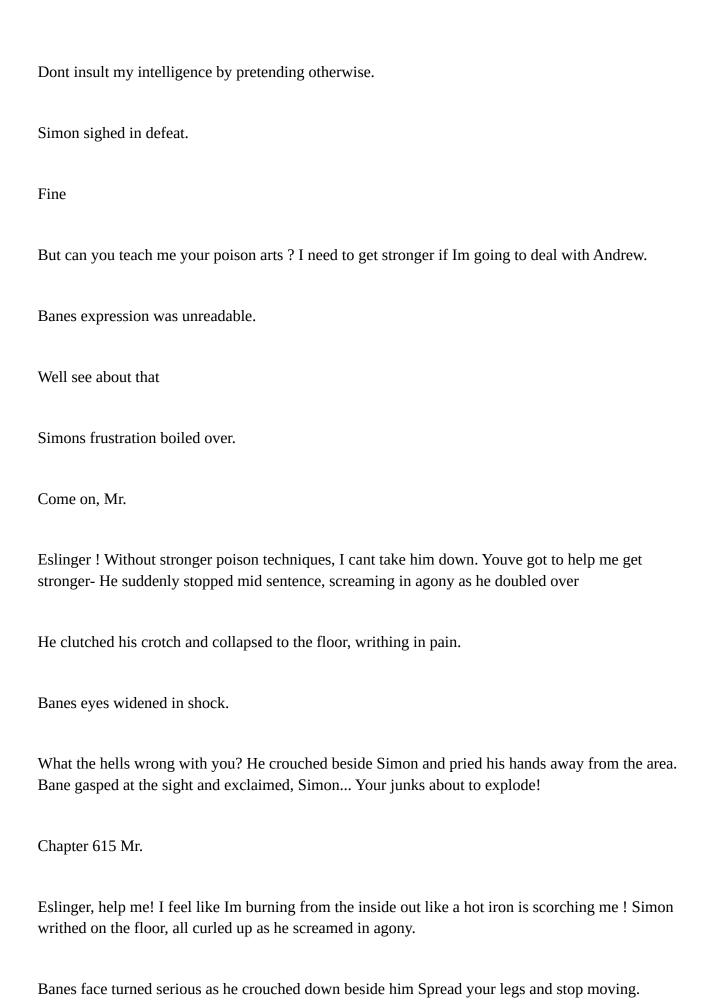


Bullshit! If it werent for the poison arts ravaging my body, causing constant skin decay that I have to suppress, I wouldnt be in hiding! I also killed several disciples when I defected, and Mr.
Sivan died not long after I injured him.
Thats why the Institute put a bounty on my head.
Sure, the Institute is powerful, but Ive killed every hunter they sent after me, he added with a cold laugh
Unfortunately, Cedric also hunted me relentlessly back them.
I was forced to abandon Beatrice during my escape.
That failure its the one regret that haunts me to this day
Chapter 614 Banes voice became cold and sharp.
Time may have passed, but my hatred for Cedric hasnt diminished one bit.
If anything, I crave even more to see him suffer so much that death would feel like mercy.
When I came to Jayrodale, I made a vow to strip away everything he has, piece by piece, just like peeling off his skin layer by layer
I want him to regret ever crossing me.
Simons eyes burned with shared hatred.
Then lets join forces, Mr.
Eslinger.



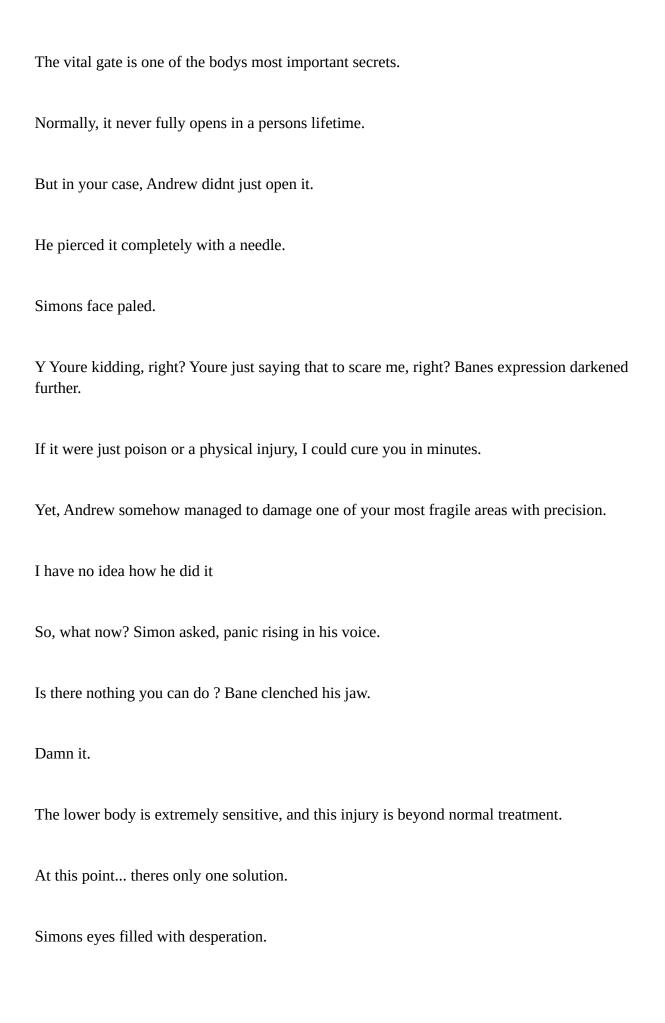


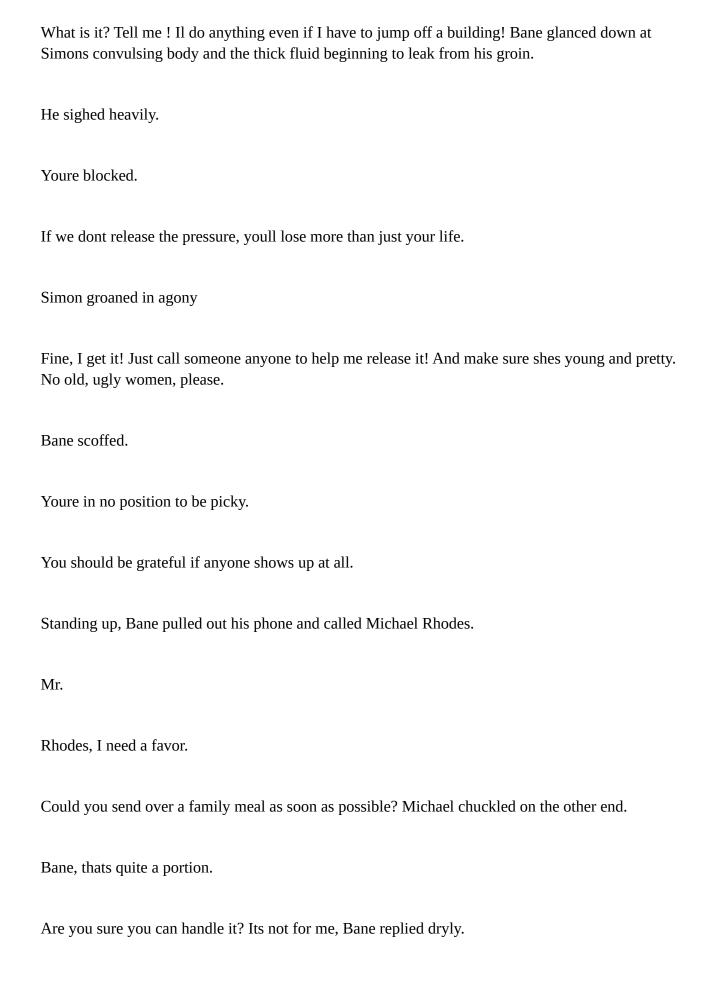


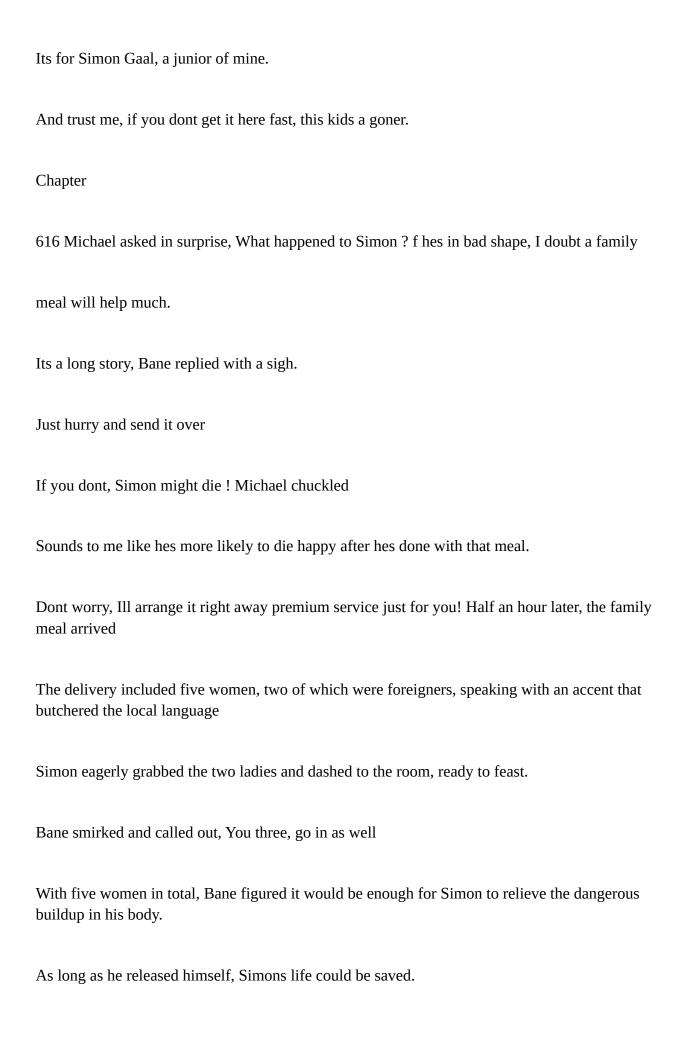


I need to take a proper look. When Bane examined the area, his expression darkened further. Simons groin had turned completely black, a clear sign of severe poisoning However, what baffled Bane was the swelling Simons manhood was inflating unnaturally, almost as if it were about to burst. Mr. Eslinger, how bad is it? Youve got to help me! I feel like Im going to explode! Simon gasped for air, drenched in sweat, as he groaned in pain. Banes brow furrowed in confusion. What the hell happened to you? How did this even get poisoned? Simon howled in frustration. Its that bastard Andrew! He stuck a silver needle down there! I thought it wasnt a big deal, but now its killing me You have to save me! Bane quickly pulled out two detox pills and forced Simon to swallow them. He then pressed his hands over the affected area, inspecting it further. His face twisted with shock as he asked, Your vital gate has been completely destroyed Goodness, how is this possible? He shook his head and explained, Simon, your condition is dire. Your energy is all being funneled to that spot. If you cant release the pressure, your body will literally burst Simons bloodshot eyes widened in terror. Then hurry up and treat me! I cant hold on much longer! Bane sighed deeply.

Its complicated very complicated







Soon, loud thumping sounds and muffled commotion echoed from inside the room.
Bane remained expressionless, quietly waiting.
An hour later, the door swung open
The two foreigners stormed out, pulling on their clothes and shouting angrily, What the fuck was that?
That guys a beast! Were done! They bolted out of the mansion, hurling curses behind them.
Banes expression darkened as he walked into the room to assess the situation.
Inside, the three remaining women were passed out, completely exhausted.
Meanwhile, Simon was still pacing in agony, his symptoms far from relieved.
Mr.
Eslinger, this isnt enough! I need more more! Simon groaned, his face twisted with desperation. Bane frowned and muttered under his breath.
Fine.
Ill make another call.
He quickly rang Michael again.
Michael was stunned when he heard the news.
Are you serious? He went through all of them and still isnt satisfied? Hes dealing with a medical crisis, Bane said through gritted teeth.

His conditions forcing him to push his limits its not just for fun! Michael chuckled in disbelief.
Well, Ill send another batch Hell, Im coming over myself.
I need to see what kind of monster this Simon is! A short while later, Michael arrived with more women. Another round of chaos ensued, leaving the new batch utterly depleted.
Yet, Simon still was not fully relieved, his body refusing to stabilize.
Michael shook his head in awe.
Bane, when can I be as exceptional as Simon? This guys unstoppable! Banes face was grim as he sneered.
Oh, you want to be like him? Sure.
Ill destroy your vital gate and focus your energy there
Then, youll be just like him except youll die, your body shriveled to skin and bones.
You want that? Michael swallowed hard and shook his head.
Hell no! Exactly, Bane said coldly.
And this cant go on forever.
We cant just keep calling for more women.
Its not sustainable.
Michael looked uneasy.

So... whats the plan? Youre not suggesting something extreme, are you? Bane gave a chilling grin. When it comes to saving a patient, I have only two options: kill or cure And when I choose to cure, I dont care about the method only the results matter. Michael wiped the sweat from his brow. Alright, Bane ... Whats your plan? Banes eyes gleamed darkly. Were going to find a pig farm. And not just any pig farm I want one with sows. You understand what I mean, right? Michaels face turned pale as a shudder ran through his spine. Oh... I understand. Crystal clear. Chapter 617 Meanwhile, Andrew neither knew nor cared whether Simon was alive or dead. He was too preoccupied with Francesca, who had completely lost her mind Let go of me! Please, I need you! Im going to die if you dont help me please! Francesca cried out. Her flushed, naked body squirmed helplessly as Andrew had her bound and placed inside a large tub of ice water to reduce the intense heat radiating from within. The icy water helped cool her down temporarily, but it was only a surface level solution. The powerful drug, Enthralling Essence, was still wreaking havoc on her organs, tearing through her from the inside

If she did not find relief soon, she might not survive the night.

Fran, calm down, Andrew said firmly, gripping her shoulders to keep her from thrashing.

Im working on it.

I promise Ill save you! His mind raced as he searched for a way to neutralize the effects of the drug. Simon had gone too far.

Enthralling Essence was not a substance anyone used lightly it was exponentially stronger than regular aphrodisiacs.

Even animals exposed to it could go into a dangerous frenzy.

As Andrew pondered, he made the mistake of loosening his grip for a split second

Francesca suddenly broke free, lunging out of the ice water and wrapping herself tightly around him.

Her soft, overheated body pressed against him as she locked her arms around his waist and captured his lips with a feverish kiss.

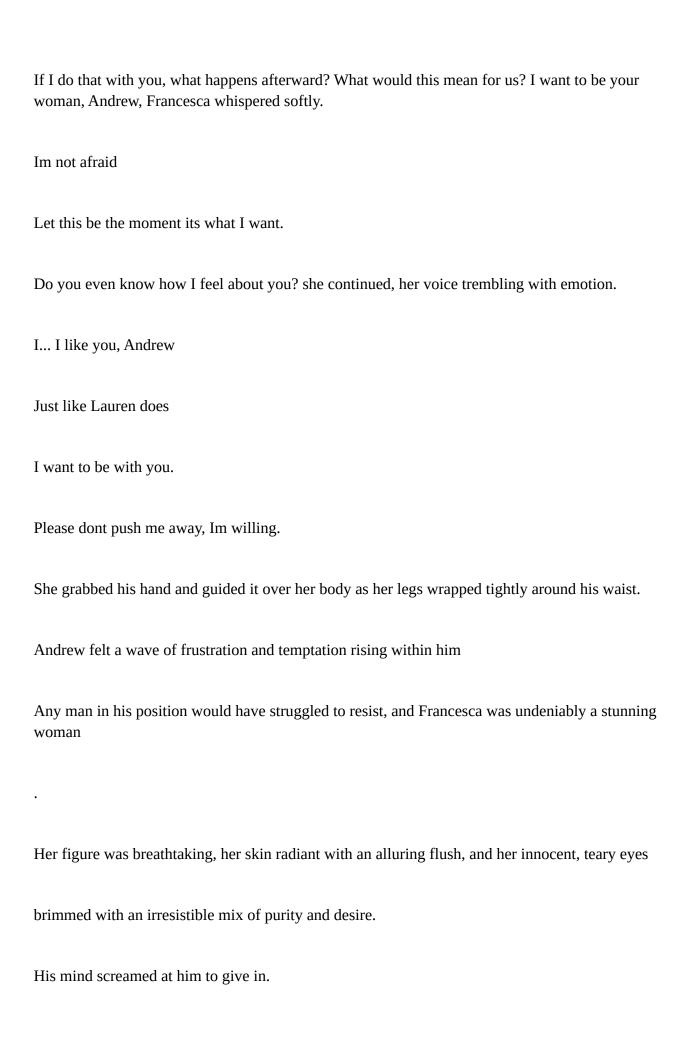
Andrew tensed but held back from using force to push her off, fearing he might accidentally hurt her. He was caught in a dilemma.

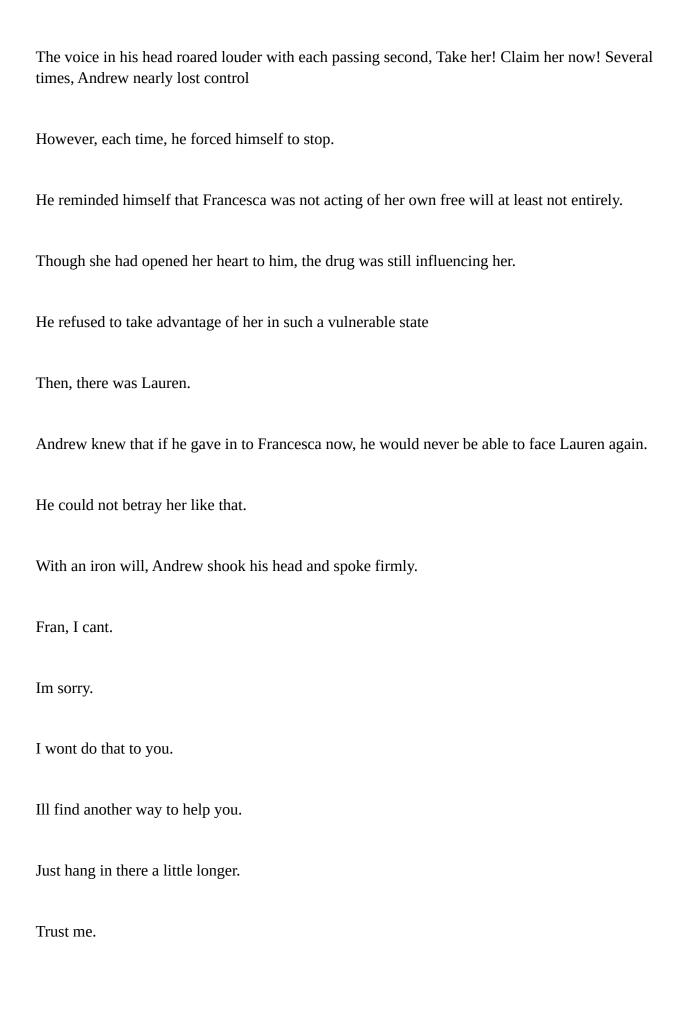
Andrew ... please, Im begging you, Francesca whispered, her tears mixing with her desperate kisses. Dont hold back anymore.

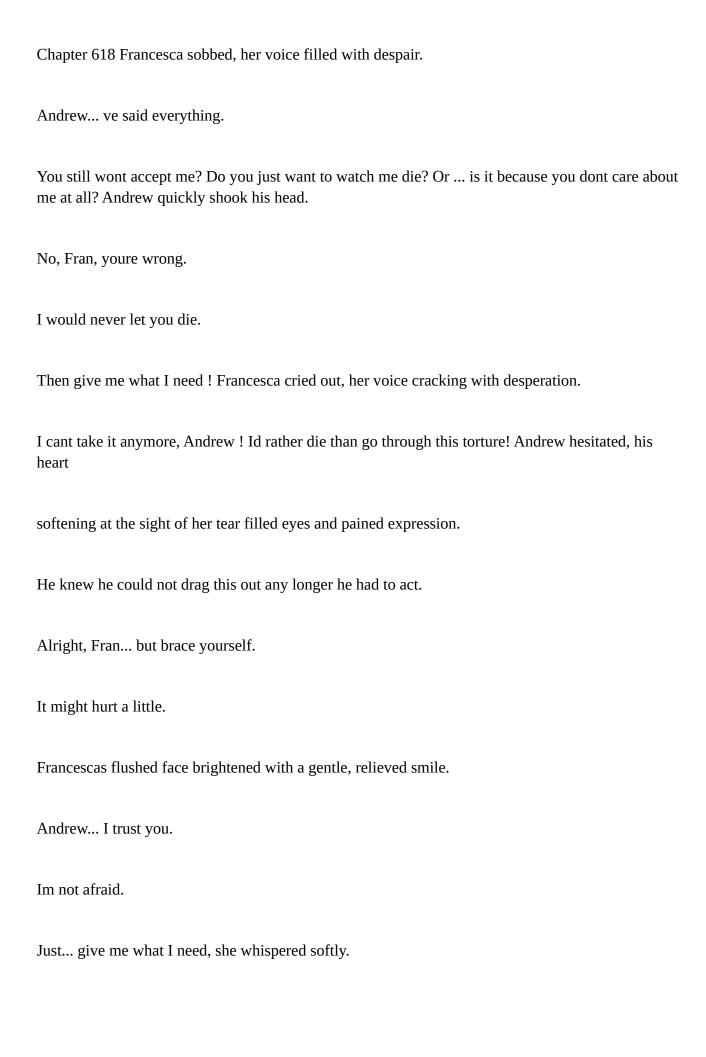
I need you help me! She sobbed as she clung to him, overwhelmed by the sensation of what felt like thousands of tiny ants crawling and gnawing inside her body.

The shame and embarrassment had long faded she just wanted Andrew to end her torment.

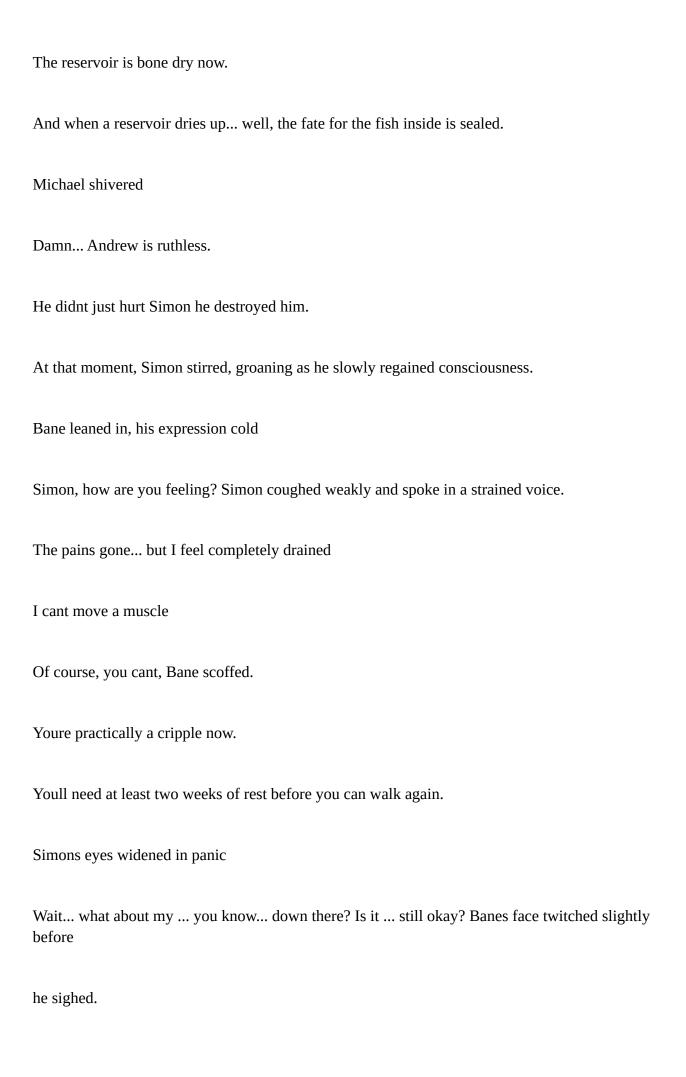
Fran, I cant, Andrew replied, turning his head away.

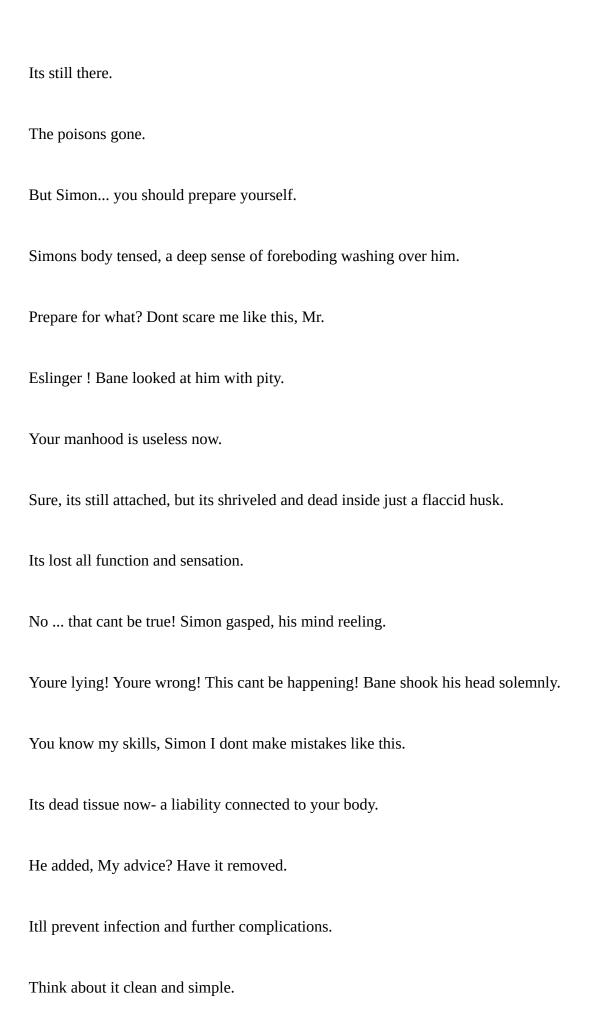




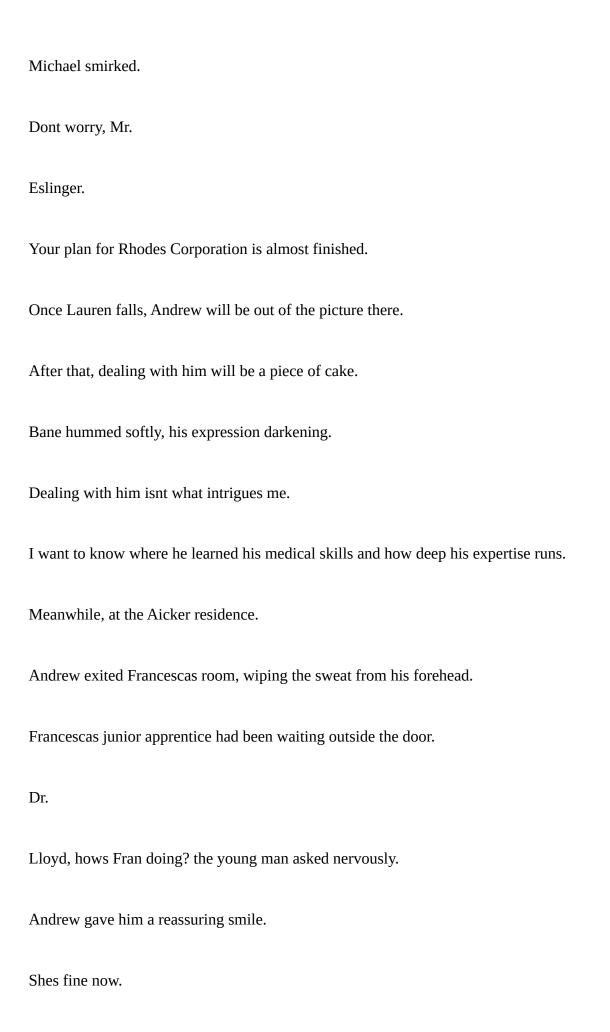


Andrew carefully laid her on the bed and reached out, his heated hands making contact with her trembling body
Francesca let out a quiet, kitten like whimper.
For the first time in what felt like an eternity, her agony melted away, replaced by waves of soothing warmth and gentle release.
Meanwhile, at Banes mansion, Simon was dragged inside like a limp, lifeless body.
Michael glanced at him and spoke casually.
Well, the swellings gone down.
Looks like hes going to be okay! Bane crossed his arms and snorted.
His life may be spared, but his manhood is destroyed.
Permanently.
Michaels eyes widened in horror.
Wait, what? But we found a sow at the pig farm, didnt we? I thought that worked! Bane sighed heavily. The excess energy was released, which kept him alive.
But you dont understand how the body works.
The essence were born with is finite nurtured over the years through careful balance and development.
He continued, This time, Simons vital gate was shattered causing his entire reserve to flood out like a broken dam





Simons eyes widened in horror as he stared blankly at the ceiling
His mind snapped under the weight of Banes words and roared, No! I wont do it! His body convulsed as
the shock overwhelmed him, and within seconds, Simon collapsed into unconsciousness.
The Novel will be updated first on this website. Come back and continue reading tomorrow, everyone!
Chapter 619 Michael shook his head in pity.
Man, Simon really got the short end of the stick.
Losing his pride and manhood and even wasting his last moment on a pig.
Thats beyond agic.
I cant even wrap my head around it
Bane remained calm, his tone indifferent.
At least hes alive.
Thats all that matters.
He narrowed his eyes and added thoughtfully, I didnt expect Andrew to pull off a move like that.
I need to meet him sooner or later to figure out his techniques.
Even I couldnt fully understand what he did.



You dont have to worry anymore
The apprentice discreetly glanced Andrew up and down.
His clothes were neat, his shoes were on, and his zipper was closed
Contrary to the dramatic warnings Cedric had given him, it did not look like anything inappropriate had happened.
Dr.
Lloyd, Mr.
Aicker is awake
He asked me to bring you to the living room, the man said respectfully.
His gaze, however, held a mix of curiosity and admiration, almost as if he were looking at a brother in law figure
Andrew walked over to a nearby faucet and thoroughly washed his hands.
After drying them, he chuckled softly.
Alright.
Lead the way
I want to check on his condition anyway.
As they made their way down the hall, Andrew reflected on Francescas condition.

The Enthralling Essence in her system had finally dissipated, leaving her out of danger.

Despite the tension, Andrew had managed to avoid a direct physical relationship with her

Instead, he had used an alternative method one that was not exactly ideal but had worked nonetheless. Earlier that same day, Andrew had already found himself in a similar situation with Lauren at Moonlit Apothecary.

Now, here he was again, having to wet his hands to help Francesca

There was nothing enjoyable about it if anything, the experiences had tested his willpower to its limit. Andrew sighed inwardly.

Things with Lauren had not progressed to the point where intimacy felt natural, even though he sensed she would be open to it if he made a move

However, he did not want to force anything that would disrespect her.

On the other hand, Francesca had thrown herself at him with complete openness and vulnerability.

Yet Andrew could not bring himself to take advantage of her in that state.

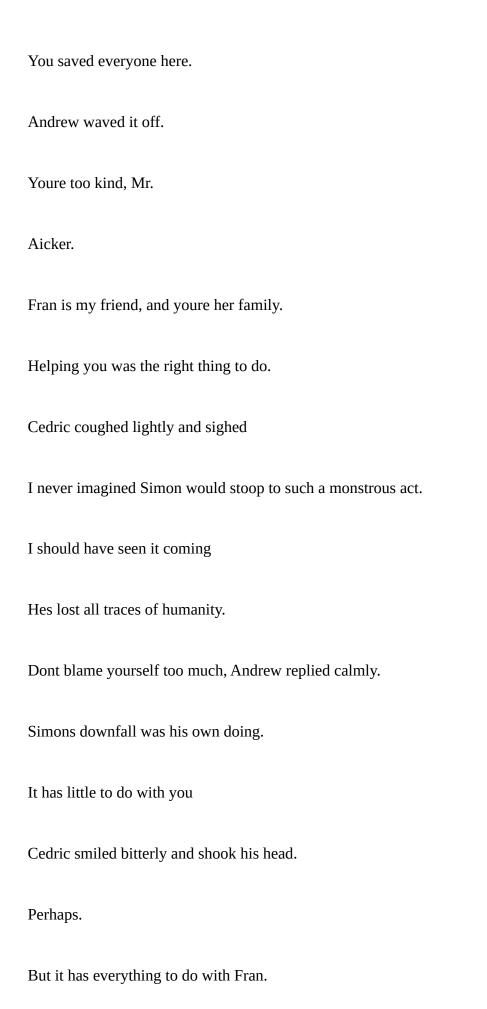
Life had a strange way of complicating things.

He shook his head and smiled bitterly.

He could not help but think, Fate sure has a twisted sense of humor! Cedric was seated on a sofa when Andrew entered the living room.

He immediately expressed his gratitude, saying, Dr.

Lloyd, I dont know how to thank you.



Thats what I cant forgive myself for Chapter 620 Fran has reached the age where marriage should be a serious discussion, Cedric said with a heavy sigh. He continued, I was well aware that Simon had been lusting after her beauty for a while now. But since he was my eldest apprentice the child I raised from a young age I chose to avoid confronting the issue He shook his head, his voice filled with regret. In the end, my avoidance and weakness nearly destroyed Fran. Its all on me... such a cruel twist of fate t Andrew could see the conflict in Cedrics eyes. Despite Simons betrayal, Cedric still had a deep affection for him. After all, he had begged Andrew to spare Simons life at the last moment. Andrew offered a comforting response. Mr. Aicker, youve done more than enough Simons downfall was his own doing he had every opportunity to change but chose to betray you. H Cedric remained silent for a long moment before suddenly speaking up.

Tell me honestly, Dr.
Lloyd Have you and Fran become intimate? Andrew froze for a second, caught off guard by the
question Cedrics expression was a mixture of amusement and curiosity, his gaze as if he were examining a rare treasure
Andrew had anticipated this and calmly replied, Youve misunderstood, Mr.
Aicker.
Nothing inappropriate happened between Fran and me.
Cedric chuckled knowingly.
Come now, Dr.
Lloyd
Youre both young and full of passion.
Fran was under the influence of Enthralling Essence, a drug that drives people to madness.
As I understand it, the only way to neutralize its effects is through sex.
He gave a reassuring smile and added, Even if something did happen between you two, I wouldnt blame you.
In emergencies, sometimes you have to prioritize saving a life Im not ignorant of that.
Andrew sighed inwardly, shaking his head.

Its true thats one method
But I assure you, I didnt touch Fran like that.
Cedric appeared confused.
Really? I must admit, I dont know of any other way to counter Enthralling Essence.
How else could Fran have recovered? Its complicated, but I swear I didnt touch her in that way.
You can ask Fran yourself when shes fully recovered, Andrew explained.
As for the method I used Im afraid cant reveal it.
Cant reveal it ? Cedric muttered to himself, puzzled.
Andrew remained silent, unwilling to elaborate further.
There was no way he could explain the unorthodox method he had resorted to without dying of embarrassment.
If Cedric knew the truth, Andrew was certain his reputation would be ruined forever.
However, Cedric seemed eager to learn
Enthralling Essence is notoriously difficult to treat.
Im impressed that you found an alternative method.
Dr.

