Rising from the Ashes (Andrew and Lauren)

#Chapter 81 - Read Rising from the Ashes (Andrew and Lauren) Chapter 81

Chapter 81 Andrew raised an eyebrow

Someone put him up to it? Who? Harvey Weller, Dylan replied simply.

Lauren gritted her teeth.

I was wondering why Juan would randomly target Dr.

Lloyd.

So, it was that sneaky bastard Harvey pulling strings behind the scenes after all.

Dylan growled, Mr.

Lloyd, just say the word.

I might not be able to touch the Weller family, but I can definitely teach Harvey a lesson.

Andrew shrugged it off casually.

Forget it.

He failed anyway.

But you helped me today, and I dont like owing favors.

Give me your hand

Dylan was a bit puzzled by the request but complied, stretching out his hand.

Andrews grip was lightning fast, his fingers hitting specific pressure points on Dylans arm and along his meridians precisely.

A wave of intense pain shot through Dylans body, making him break into a cold sweat.

Suddenly, the pain transformed into an unprecedented feeling of clarity, and he felt a rush of energy flowing through his entire body.

Did I just... break through? Dylan stared at Andrew in awe, barely able to believe what had just happened.

Andrew sipped his tea calmly.

I noticed youd been stuck for some time, so I gave you a hand.

Dylans body trembled with excitement.

Only he knew the frustration of being trapped at that bottleneck, unable to advance.

Yet, Andrew shattered that barrier, elevating his skills to the next level in seconds.

For martial artists, such opportunities were rare and treasured.

Dylan dropped to his knees.

without hesitation.

Mr.

Lloyd, I swear, Id give my life to repay this debt.

From now on, whatever you need, III do it without question.

His mind flashed back to Marvins words

Though Marvin never revealed Andrews true identity, Dylan finally believed without question that Andrew was someone with an unparalleled background.

In comparison, any so called powerful family in Jayrodale would mean nothing in Andrews hands.

Lauren and Francesca watched in amazement.

Dylan, who dared to challenge even the most powerful families, was kneeling before Andrew.

It was beyond their comprehension.

Even Lauren was speechless.

If Dylan, such a formidable figure in the underground scene, was actually kneeling before Andrew, it only meant one thing: Andrew was far more than she had imagined.

Get up

It was just a small favor.

Theres no need for such dramatics, Andrew said casually

.

Chapter 81 After resting briefly, the three left the club, declining Dylans offer to escort them

Francesca excused herself to use the restroom, letting Andrew and Lauren go ahead while she rushed back to the VIP room.

Ms.

Aicker, does Mr.

Lloyd need something else? Dylan asked eagerly.

Francesca shook her head, her expression complicated.

Mr.

Garner, I need to ask you something Is your respect for Andrew because of his connection with Jayrodales richest man, Mr.

Marvin Yates?

Chapter

82 Dylan was caught off guard by Francescas question.

Then, he chuckled.

Ms.

Aicker, I think youve got it wrong.

While Mr.

Yates has something to do with my respect for Mr.

Lloyd, its not the main reason.

So, youre not doing this just to please Mr.

Yates? Francesca pressed, still doubtful.

I respect Mr.

Yates, but I wouldnt grovel before somebody for his sake.

Anyway, its not just me who respects Mr.

Lloyd

Even Mr.

Yates himself holds him in the highest regard.

I cant say much more.

All III say is, Ms.

Dylan scoffed.

Aicker, its best not to dig too deeply into Mr.

Lloyds business

The cautious look on Dylans face sent Francescas mind reeling.

The fact that even Marvin, the wealthiest man in Jayrodale, someone with enough influence to command the city, respected Andrew was unbelievable

If she had heard this from anyone else, she would have dismissed it as pure exaggeration

Yet, the person who said this was the crime lord of South City, an existence that even the Aickers feared

.

Andrew, have I really misjudged you? Francesca whispered to herself, her heart pounding as she recalled Laurens unwavering faith in Andrew.

At the club entrance, Lauren playfully threatened Francesca before climbing into her luxury car. Fran, make sure you take good care of Dr.

Lloyd on the way back.

If I hear youve been mean to him, youre in big trouble! The ride back to Moonlit Sanctuary was quiet. Finally, Francesca casually asked, Andrew, whats your connection to Mr.

Yates? Andrew gazed out the window.

Oh, nothing.

Hes just sort of ... my butler, I guess.

Francesca had to suppress her shock when she heard the mighty Marvin Yates, who stood equal to the citys most powerful families, was just Andrews butler.

However, she held back her usual skepticism.

Her previous prejudices had already cost her the chance to understand this man properly.

If she still continued clinging to her old assumptions, both she and her family might be blindsided in the future.

You know, theres always been rumors that Mr.

Yates isnt originally from Jayrodale

Does that mean youre not from here either? Francesca probed carefully.

Andrew turned from the window, his deep eyes studying her with amusement.

Why are you suddenly so interested in a nobody like me? Oh, just making conversation.

Francesca quickly backpedaled

Coming from the prestigious Aicker medical family, if I were interested in someone, it would be someone like Harvey

Chapter 82 Andrew shrugged.

True, Harvey is Jayrodales most eligible bachelor

How could a small-time doctor like me compare? Also, I was just joking about Mr.

Yates earlier.

Someone like me couldnt possibly have any connection with him

Francesca let out a small snort, thinking to herself, Yeah, right! Like Id believe that.

Chapter 83 Andrews casual demeanor only made him seem all the more mysterious to Francesca. +25 BONU Meanwhile, at the Stevens residence, Harvey made grand declarations to Christina. I promised you and Mrs.

Stevens a spectacular wedding

I want to make you Jayrodales most admired bride! Irene and Leroy applauded enthusiastically.

Leroy even commented, Harvey, you and Christie are a match made in heaven! Harvey, we all see how much you care for our Christie, Irene said with a bright smile.

You mentioned using the King of Diamonds for the proposal.

Hows that coming along? Mom, why are you bringing that up? Christina protested gently.

Im just asking because Harvey mentioned it, Irene replied with a chuckle.

Besides, Christie, with your grace and beauty, only the King of Diamonds would be worthy. Harvey smiled confidently.

Mrs.

Stevens is right.

Christie, III get the King of Diamonds as your engagement gift.

Christina shook her head.

Harvey, theres no rush.

I feel our relationship still needs time to develop

Remember, before you returned, you talked about establishing your career first.

I admire men who follow through on their ambitions.

Dont worry, Christie

I started planning my business empire before returning, Harvey assured her.

Getting the King of Diamonds for your proposal has always been my dream.

For me, love and career are equally important.

Compared to that worthless Andrew, Harvey, youre the perfect man, Irene said. Leroy chimed in

Exactly! Harveys perfect.

Andrew isnt even worthy of being his servant.

Harvey chuckled

While Im not one to compare, Ive never considered Andrew my equal.

Were from completely different worlds.

Christina hesitated before speaking

Harvey, the King of Diamonds is precious and is currently with Andrew.

When you call Mr.

Yates, please go easy on Andrew.

Dont worry, Christie.

Though Andrew can be pretentious, I understand him, Harvey replied graciously.

When he brings me the King of Diamonds, Ill give him a generous commission- say, a hundred thousand or so, for safekeeping it.

irene scoffed.

Why should you be so generous to him? Hes already living off Ms.

Rhodes now.

If he wants money, he can ask her family.

Leroy sneered.

Mom, youre wrong.

Why would the Rhodes family really give him money? That loser will be kicked to the curb soon enough Just watch

1/2 +25 BONU! Chapter 83 With that, Harvey pulled out his phone, deliberately calling Marvin in front of the Stevens family.

Hello, Mr.

Yates, this is Harvey Weller.

How are you doing, sir?

Chapter 84 Marvins tone was cold as he replied, You must be Kanes son.

Just get to the point.

Harvey noticed the distant tone but pressed on with a friendly laugh purchase the King of Diamonds from

you.

Please name your price.

Mr.

Yates, Id like to King of Diamonds? What King of Diamonds? Marvins response left Harvey stunned. The multi million dollar diamond ring in Jayrodale, Harvey explained.

From what I know, its currently with Andrew, your staff

I wouldnt bother you with such a small matter, but Andrew refuses to sell it to me.

Harvey continued smoothly, I thought it was best to let you handle your subordinate.

However, I must warn you Andrew might be trying to steal this valuable piece for himself.

A cold smile spread across Harveys face after finishing his speech.

Not only would he get the ring, but he would also expose that losers true nature to Marvin, who was known for his harsh treatment of subordinates.

I have no idea what youre talking about, Marvin replied.

That King of Diamonds has nothing to do with me.

Harvey was dumbfounded.

Mr.

Yates, if the ring isnt yours, then whose is it? Ive heard Kanes son is supposed to be one of Jayrodales finest, but you seem rather dense, Marvin said dryly.

I already told you its not mine.

Are you deaf? Whoever has it right is the rightful owner.

Why are you asking me such obvious questions? This is just ridiculous! With that, he hung up.

Harvey stood frozen while Irene eagerly asked, What did Mr.

Yates say? Did he agree? Leroy chuckled

Come on, with Harvey handling it, even Mr.

Yates would have to show him respect! He said ... the King of Diamonds isnt his, Harvey replied. The Stevens family was shocked.

Christina asked in disbelief, So the ring is really Andrews? Impossible! Irene snapped.

That nobody couldnt afford it! There must be some explanation.

Christina ignored her mother and studied Harvey suspiciously.

Harvey, is the ring really Andrews? Christie, how could it be? Harvey scoffed

Its worth 7.5 million! Only a handful of people in Jayrodale could afford that, and Andrew isnt one of them

Christina stayed silent, lost in thought, as memories of her time with Andrew surfaced.

Since breaking off their engagement, she had noticed something different about him.

Andrew seemed to have grown unexpectedly formidable, leaving her increasingly uncertain about who he really was

That night, she lay awake as a voice in her head whispered that she might have missed out on something precious, something she would regret forever.

Meanwhile, at an exclusive bathhouse in East Side, Tony was also having a sleepless night.

His group had cleared out the entire private bathhouse for him, and he soaked alone in the steaming pool, brow furrowed with worry.

Chapter 85 One of Tonys closest men handed him a phone. Mr.

Madden Senior, here you go

After some hesitation, Tony dialed Dylans number.

Whats so important at this hour? Dylans voice came through the phone.

Dylan, I need an explanation, Tony said darkly I have nothing to say, Dylan replied.

Tony barely contained his rage

If thats your attitude, then know this, Dylan Im not afraid of South City.

Youre not usually this reckless, but dont you think youve gone too far when you ignored Juan getting beaten and then surrounding Roccos men? Dylan chuckled.

Honestly, Tony, I dont think I have.

Tonys patience snapped.

Fine, if you want it that way, well go to war! Ive been in this game.

for so long that even the mayor respects me

South City barely made a name for itself, and you think youre untouchable now? Dylan replied steadily, Tony, you can be angry, and you can even declare war on South City.

However, you might want to investigate what your brat actually did first.

Tony scoffed.

Sure, Juan can be aggressive, but bes my only son.

Isnt my name enough to keep him safe? Of course, hes your precious son, Dylan stated sarcastically.

But as an old rival, heres a little warning Juan cant keep playing with fire without getting burned.

He can bully small fries, but some people are beyond his reach.

Tony burst into laughter.

Dylan, I wasnt born yesterday

There arent many in Jayrodale that East Side cant handle

Who are you trying to scare? Youre just saying that Juan provoked someone powerful, and I should suck

it up, right? Thats about right, Dylan replied smoothly.

Glad youre catching on.

Youre ridiculous! Tony spat.

Juan is my son! Anyone who disrespects him disrespects me.

Dylan, this is a war between East Side and South City

And as for the punk who laid hands on my son, none of you are getting away with this! With that, Tony threw the phone across the room, smashing it.

His subordinate asked cautiously, Mr.

Madden Senior, are we really going to start a war with that lunatic Dylan? Did you not hear that

conversation? That bastard completely disrespected me.

Sure, South City has numbers, but taking down Dylan wouldnt be hard for me.

His man agreed, True.

With our hidden assets, Dylans not a threat

But those forces are Chapter 85 meant for the other two groups. Maybe we should first get payback for Mr.

Madden, deal with the guy who dared touch him, then settle with Dylan later.

Tony nodded.

Do it that way.

I heard the guy who touched Juan has connections with the Rhodes family.

Investigate thoroughly, then crush him.

Rest assured, Mr.

Madden Senior.

Those who touched Mr.

Madden will end up in a body bag, the man replied.

Chapter 86 At the Aicker residence in Jayrodale, Andrew accompanied Francesca through the entrance. He asked, Why arent we doing the treatment at the hospital? Francescas face flushed as she replied, The hospital is too crowded, and there are too many prying eyes.

Also, Id rather keep my condition private.

Andrew nodded understandingly at Francescas troubled expression and did not press the matter any further

He had come to the Aicker residence to help treat Francescas condition a rare disorder she had lived with since birth

At 28, Francesca should have been thinking about marriage and romance like her peers. However, her condition made those dreams seem impossible

While she was accomplished and carried herself with pride, this issue remained her deepest insecurity. Even Cedric, one of Jayrodales most renowned medical experts, had been stumped by her unusual condition and had not yet found a solution

Fran, whos this? Simon Gaal, Cedrics senior apprentice, asked as he noticed Andrew entering with Francesca: Simon, this is Andrew Lloyd, a doctor from Jayrodale General Hospital, Francesca explained

Then, she turned to Andrew

And Andrew, this is my grandfathers senior apprentice.

His medical expertise exceeds even mine.

Andrew offered a polite greeting, Nice to meet you.

Simon responded arrogantly and scoffed.

I bet youre here to become an apprentice, right? Since Fran brought you, I might teach you a few medical techniques, but dont get your hopes up about Mr.

Aicker his standards are extremely high, and you dont look like youd make the cut.

Im not here to become an apprentice, Andrew replied, shaking his head.

Im here to treat Francescas condition.

Simon froze before breaking into a cold laugh.

You must be joking.

The Aickers medical expertise is unparalleled, and Fran herself is highly skilled.

Why would she need treatment from you? Simon, youve misunderstood, Francesca interjected. Andrew really is here to treat me, not to become an apprentice.

Simon was stunned

Fran, as the chief doctor of Jayrodale General Hospital, is there anything you cant handle yourself? And

if you couldnt, theres still me, your senior Whats this guy supposed to offer, coming

in here and showing off in our place? Before Simon could respond, Cedric emerged, wearing a black

doctors coat that draped over Chapter Bo his tall, lean frame and long face.

He demanded irritably, Whats all this commotion about? His eyes landed on Andrew, and a smirk crossed his face.

Arent you that young man from the Stevens family residence the other day? Had a change of heart and came to learn from me after all? The last time, Andrew insulted Cedric by turning down his offer to apprentice, which had been a blow to Cedrics pride

He thought Andrew was surely here to swallow his pride after realizing Cedrics reputation was no joke, Andrew felt a headache coming on.

Ill say it again Im not here to become an apprentice.

He could not help thinking that the Aickers all seemed to share the same delusional tendencies.

Francesca said with a gentle smile, Grandpa, Andrew is here to treat my condition.

Cedrics face immediately darkened with anger.

Nonsense! My skills are unmatched! Besides, youre my granddaughter.

Why would you need treatment from an outsider?

Chapter 87 Cedric was seething with rage.

As a renowned medical expert, having his granddaughter seek treatment from an outsider felt like a direct insult to his abilities, implying he was useless

Fine then, Grandpa! Francesca snapped, her cheeks puffing with anger.

Go ahead and cure me right now

I dont want to live with this condition anymore! Cedric immediately deflated, forcing an awkward laugh.

Fran, you know Ive been researching your condition to find a cure.

Just give me a few more years, and I promise III heal you.

Thats exactly what you said three years ago, Francesca replied, her voice heavy with sadness.

How many more years can I wait? Im already 28.

Do you want to watch me grow old with this condition? Tears welled up in Francescas eyes as her emotions got the better of her.

Cedrics expression softened as he sighed.

Youre right, sweetheart.

Its my fault.

But how can this young man accomplish what I couldnt? Francesca bit her lip and admitted, I dont know

if Andrew can cure my condition, but I want to give it a try! Cedric turned to Andrew with a stern gaze.

Are you truly capable of this? Youll find out soon enough, Andrew replied calmly.

As Cedric seemed to consider the proposition, Simon quickly intervened.

Mr.

Aicker, you cant trust this fraud! Cedric was confused.

Fraud? Simon continued his protest, He clearly has ulterior motives for Francesca.

Think about it-treating her condition would require intimate examinations.

We cant allow that! Simons right, Cedric stated, shaking his head.

Absolutely not, Fran.

This is out of the question

Francescas voice turned cold.

Fine, Grandpa

If you wont let Andrew treat me, then you do it, right now

Cedric was left speechless, knowing his precious granddaughter was just as stubborn as he was.

Fran, you dont need this nobody, Simon declared proudly.

Give me a year to study at the Advanced Medical Institute, and III return with a cure.

Francesca looked surprised.

Simon, thats one of the most prestigious medical institutions in the country.

Would they even accept you? Simon gazed at Francesca with deep affection.

You know how I feel about you, Fran

I dont Chapter 87 know if theyll accept me, but Id risk everything for you.

Francesca blushed and remained silent as Simon took a step closer.

Weve grown up together, studied medicine together.

I might as well be honest I love you, and I wont marry anyone else.

Turning to Andrew with a cold smirk, Simon added; Whatever your intentions are with Fran, I suggest

you leave.

Were perfect for each other in terms of both medical expertise and social standing.

You might fool Fran with your schemes, but you cant fool me.

If you insist on pursuing her, youre asking for trouble!

Chapter 88 Andrew was completely exasperated

He had simply come to the Aicker residence to treat.

Francescas condition, but somehow, he was mistaken for a romantic rival and had to deal with Simons hostility.

Andrew explained patiently, Listen, dude your feelings for Francesca are your business.

Im just here to provide the medical treatment shes paying me for, and once thats done, whatever

romantic plans you two have are completely your own.

I couldnt care less! Even though Simon had been rude, Andrew understood he was acting out of misplaced jealousy, so he decided to let it slide

Simons expression softened slightly as he scoffed.

At least you know your place.

But remember only I have the right to treat Francescas condition.

Andrew shrugged.

Fine

The Aickers clearly have it all figured out.

As Andrew turned to leave, Francesca quickly called out, Wait, Andrew! Simons face darkened. Fran, let him go.

Dont you trust me? Simon, Im grateful for your devotion, but Im sorry... Francesca began hesitantly, biting her lip

Dont apologize, Fran, Simon interrupted.

Id die for you willingly

Weve grown up together, studied together, and shared the same passion for medicine.

Ive known for years that youre the only woman for me.

Andrew cringed at the overly dramatic confession, but he had to admit Simons devotion seemed genuine

Meanwhile, Cedric stood silently, his expression unreadable.

Simon, when I said I was sorry, thats not what meant, Francesca clarified carefully.

Ive always seen you as an older brother figure.

Ive never thought of you romantically.

There was a loud, stunned silence as Simons face fell, utterly crushed.

Andrew had to suppress a wince.

It seemed the devoted Simon had been nursing a one sided love all along.

It was like a scene from a tragic romance.

Francescas heart was simply elsewhere, and the poor guy did not stand a chance.

Fran, what are you saying? Simon stumbled backward, his face pale with disbelief.

Francesca turned her face away, mumbling, Please dont be angry, Simon.

I respect you greatly, but I just dont have those kinds of feelings for you.

Stop, please stop! Simon shouted, unable to accept her words.

You must be lying

After all these years together, how could you not love me? Simon, love isnt determined by how long people spend together, Francesca replied gently.

Besides, youre ... not really ny type.

Chapter 88 So youre saying Im not good enough? Simons face flushed red.

Francesca chose her next words carefully, clearly uncomfortable.

Its not that youre not good enough.

Its just... youre five years older than me, and well ... youre kind of old-fashioned and serious.

You dont exactly have the best sense of style.

Chapter 89 All you do is study medicine, and youre completely out of touch with everything else, Francesca

explained

Were just not compatible.

Cedric finally spoke up

Simon, I agree that you and Fran arent a good match.

However, as my senior apprentice, youll inherit my medical legacy, and then you can have any woman you desire

Simons face turned red with anger as he pointed at both Cedric and Francesca.

He stuttered, B But... Y You... He tried to speak, but the words would not come .

Suddenly, he passed out from the emotional shock.

Cedric immediately ordered his staff to carry Simon to a guest room to rest.

Then, he turned to Andrew and sneered

Well, now youve seen us making a fool out of ourselves.

Its time to prove yourself by treating Fran.

If you fail, you wont be leaving here in one piece.

Andrew could not help but laugh, which earned him a glare from Francesca

Whats so funny? Im laughing at how Simon was completely blind to your feelings, and now his love has turned to heartbreak, Andrew replied with a smile

Francescas cheeks flushed pink.

Theres nothing funny about it.

I never had those feelings for Simon.

Lets just start the treatment.

In Francescas room, Andrew began preparing for the procedure while Cedric stood quard outside.

His voice was ice cold as he muttered, Lets see what youre capable of.

This condition stumped even me.

Youre either very skilled or very foolish.

Andrew ignored the old mans grumble and instructed Francesca to undress for the procedure.

After some hesitation, she complied and lay on the bed

After that, he blindfolded himself and stated calmly, I need you to spread your legs for the procedure. Francescas face turned bright red

Andrew, you promise you wont look at me? If you do... Her voice trailed off as Andrew interrupted her, Dont worry

I have no interest in looking

Francesca ground her teeth, irritated

What kind of man would not want to look at her? She knew she had an attractive figure.

Andrew had thoroughly prepared for her treatment, so the procedure was not complicated.

Even though he was blindfolded, his skills allowed him to move with precision and confidence. Outside, Cedric paced anxiously, his face tense with worry.

Francesca was his only Chapter 89 granddaughter, and her condition had been too complex even for his expertise

He could not understand how this young doctor from Jayrodale General Hospital had the confidence to treat her, but if Andrew failed or took advantage of the situation, he would face Cedrics wrath.

Two hours later, the door opened

Andrew removed his blindfold and called out, You can come in now, Mr.

Aicker.

n Cedric rushed into the room.

Fran, how are you feeling? Francesca, now fully dressed but still blushing, whispered, Im fine now, Grandpa

What do you mean by fine ? It means... Im finally normal, like any other woman! Cedrics jaw dropped in astonishment.

Chapter 90 In the Aicker residences living room, Cedric ordered his finest tea to be served to Andrew.

Dr.

Lloyd, youre truly a miracle doctor! Please, enjoy the tea, he said with newfound respect.

Mr.

Aicker, I dont deserve such praise, Andrew replied with a glance.

Just call me by my name

! That wont do ! Cedric insisted

Though youre young, your medical expertise is extraordinary.

My praise is well deserved.

Funny, considering you wanted me as your apprentice at the Stevens family residence, Andrew remarked with a smile.

When I refused, you said I was blind to opportunity.

Cedric laughed nervously

That was my own poor judgment, influenced by those fools there.

I shouldve recognized your exceptional talent immediately

Cedric mentally kicked himself as he recalled it, feeling genuinely foolish for having been so blind to Andrews talents

Francesca sat on the nearby couch, still recovering from the procedure and needing assistance to move, but her spirits were high

Grandpa, Andrews pressure point technique is even.

better than yours

Cedrics eye twitched at her words, becoming increasingly convinced he was in the a true master.

After some hesitation, he bowed deeply to Andrew.

Please accept me as your apprentice, Dr.

Lloyd.

presence of Francesca was stunned by this display.

After all, Cedric was renowned in Jayrodale for his medical expertise and notorious for his pride.

Yet here he was, humbling himself before Andrew.

While Cedrics other apprentices watched in amazement, Simons face darkened, his eyes occasionally flashing with cold hatred toward Andrew.

Andrew immediately declined the offer.

Im sorry, but Im not qualified to be your mentor.

Please dont be modest, Dr.

Lloyd, Cedric persisted.

I may be proud, but Im not a fool.

I can recognize true talent when I see it, and youre more than worthy of being my mentor.

Simon suddenly slammed his hand on the table, unable to contain his anger.

Mr.

Aicker, he barely looks old enough to vote! How can he possibly be worthy of teaching you? His success with Fran must have been pure luck! Cedric responded by striking Simon across the face. How dare you, you fool! Who are you to question my decisions? Kneel and apologize to him now! Simon held his stinging cheek, embarrassed.

After 30 years of dedicated medical study, the thought of kneeling to a random young doctor was unbearable

He simply could not entertain.

the idea of Andrew being Cedrics mentor

1/2 Chapter 90 Not only that, but he also suspected Andrew might have taken advantage of Francesca during the treatment despite being blindfolded.

With jealousy and rage boiling over, he finally snarled, I wont kneel.

Im better than this guy, both in skill and experience.

Why should I kneel to him? Hes a nobody! How dare you! Cedric fumed, trembling from the anger as he glared at Simon.

Andrew stood up, wanting no part of this drama.

Mr.

Aicker, since Francesca is well now, I should take my leave.