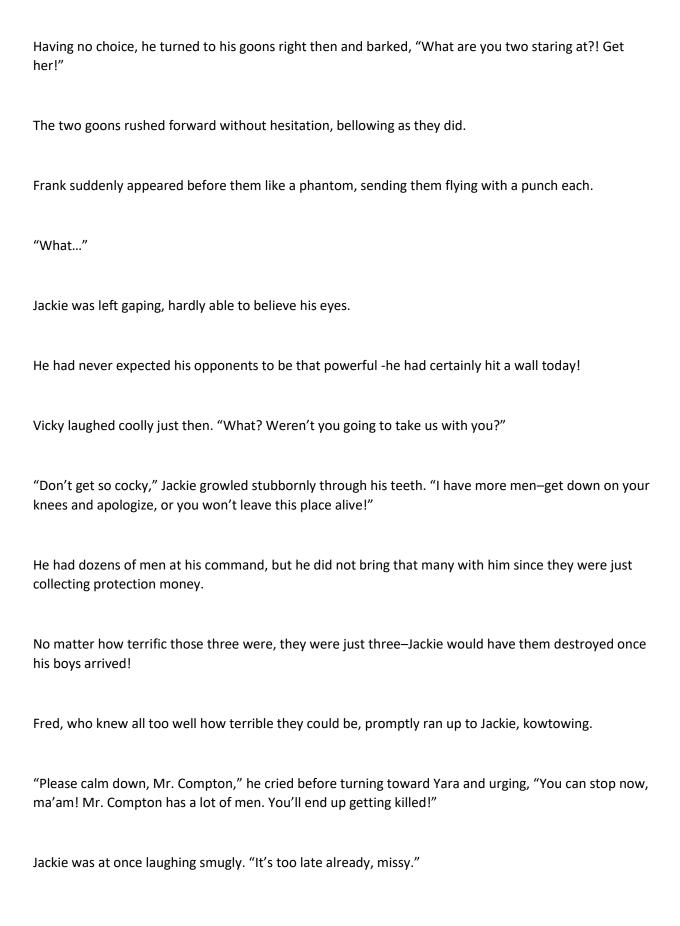
## The Girlboss 201

Chapter 201
Frank laughed-did Jackie really think he had what it took to claim Yara or Vicky?
"They're not mine, though you could try taking them if you feel qualified," he replied.
Jackie chuckled.
He actually thought for a moment that Frank had something up his sleeve, but he turned out. to be just a coward.
"Haha! Then I'm going to help myself." He chuckled as he strode forward and reached out toward Yara, who was closest to him.
However, just as his fingers were about to reach Yara's cheeks, she moved.
She was as quick as lightning, grabbing Jackie's wrist with one hand and punching it with her
other!
Crack!
"Argh!!!"
Jackie's arm broke audibly, and he let out a blood–curdling scream!
He struggled as hard as he could to free himself, but Yara held on to him with a vice—like grip!



Yara was already furious, and Fred only frustrated her more—how could a grown man like him be so lacking in spine?!
"Just shut it," she growled, directing her vigor and ready to kill the disgusting man.
"Wait." Vicky put a hand on her shoulder just then. "Let him go."
"What?" Yara was puzzled as to why Vicky would stop her from ending Jackie. "Why?"
"Let him bring all his thugs. We're rooting them out—all of them. I'd also like to see how many men he could bring." Vicky's eyes narrowed murderously.
Even if they killed Jackie now, his goons would soon rally under someone else and rebuild their gang.
In contrast, it was much more ideal to wipe them all out, once and for all.
Yara thought about it and decided that Vicky was right.
She shoved her palm, knocking Jackie away.
Jackie, however, was plenty smug.
Just the three of them intending to wipe them out?
"Just you wait! Let's see what happens to you soon!" he threatened before hurrying away.
kyou:

Fred hurried up to Vicky and the others, utterly tense as he said, "I think you should leave. We won't charge you for your dinner."
Chapter 202
Carol then said, "Jackie must have left to bring his men, and he has a lot of them. You're not getting away if he surrounds you.
"Calm down, ma'am," Vicky assured her. "He can bring his men, but we can bring ours too- do it, Yara. Let's see who can bring more people to a fight-him or us."
Yara nodded and whipped out his phone to call her brother Stan.
"What"
Fred was left speechless since they clearly were not leaving, even intent on fighting fire with fire against Jackie!
On the other hand, Frank's eyes never left Winter.
She noticed his stare as well. Even if it was not lecherous like how Jackie stared at her, it still. gave her the creeps, and she could not help hiding behind Fred.
Nonetheless, Jackie soon returned with a horde of his goons.
Crash!
They smashed the glass door with baseball bats before charging inside.
Over twen

The owners of the other shops around all closed their doors in fear, while Carol stood before her adopted children, shielding them from harm. It was the first time Winter and Fred had ever seen such violence, and they both turned pale and shuddered. "Ladies, weren't you all bragging a lot just now?" Jackie growled through his teeth. "That's all you can bring Yara snorted in disdain. Her fearlessness only left Jackie infuriated. "Still being stubborn, I see! I'll break your legs!" Before he could move, screams echoed outside. Jackie frowned and turned, barking, "What the hell is going on? One of his goons squeezed his way through the entrance, shouting in panic, "Boss! A bunch of people just came and they're arresting our boys!" "What?! How dare they?!" kie bellowed and hurried outside to see who it was. However, the people outside charged into the diner, all fully armed and wielding anti-riot batons.

twenty had to stay outside the small diner, leaving it congested.

They started clubbing any man who was armed without a word, and the diner was echoing with screams and yelps in an instant. Jackie was left staring blankly at the full-armed men who were wearing uniforms-they were. certainly not from a rival gang here for a turf war! Before he realized what was happening, one of the officers had charged forward, clobbering him on the head. "Argh!!!" Jackie screamed as he bled from his head! However, he was not even given a chance to speak-he was knocked down to the floor with a click, pressed against it as he was restrained. Still not quite understanding what happened, he mumbled, "W-Who are you people?!" Another man strode in through the doorway, and one of the officers strode up to him. "Wel have all the thugs in custody, sir." Jackie looked up to see that the man had a square jaw and stubble around his cheeks-clearly a martial artist. "S-Sir? Who are you people? Why did you attack us?" The men were obviously prepared for this. In fact, they were trained professionally, subduing Jackie and his thugs within minutes! Nonetheless, the man with the square jaw ignored Jackie and looked around the diner.

Yara ran up to him just then. "Brother."





Frank then turned to Carol. "Ma'am, allow me to formally introduce myself–I'm Frank Lawrence.'
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"H–Hello" Carol replied gingerly.
Frank whipped out a stack of bills and put it on the table. "I'm really sorry we caused you so much trouble. Please take this to make up for any losses we may have caused. It should be enough."
Carol stared at the stack of money–there must at least be thirty grand.
However, she knew that nothing came for free, and so threw up her hands. "Please, no. You don't have to."
"You don't have to refuse me," Frank insisted. "Please take it."
"Your children are both successful on their own," he said before turning toward Fred and then Winter. "Just call me if you need help. I can arrange a job for you two."
Fred may have behaved like a coward and never fought back, but Frank understood him—he could kneel for his sister's sake because his sister was more important than his dignity.
And for a man like Fred who had no money or influence to call upon, his sister and mother would be doomed if Jackie really got violent.
He was merely choosing the best option out of all the worst choices.
"Uh"
Still, Fred was left utterly bewildered, having the sense that Frank was being too nice to his family.

Frank clapped him on the shoulder just then. "Just remember if you need anything or if your family's in trouble, come to me."
Chapter 204
However, he found Vicky waiting when he stepped outside the bathroom.
Scratching his head, he sighed. "If you're sleeping here, I'm leaving."
"Don't. Sleep all you want–I'd just like a chat."
Frank was at once wary.
"In the middle of the night? What was there to chat about?"
"The company, of course," Vicky said mischievously, resting her chin on her fingers. "Why are you being so cautious?"
"What do you want to talk about?" Frank asked.
"If there's no issue with your recipe, the Rejuvenation Pill would soon be finished. I'd like someone to endorse it when the time comes."
Seeing that she was talking about business, Frank frowned in thought as well. "What's your plan?"
"A two-pronged strategy," Vicky said. "A star celebrity and a specialist in medicine. The star celebrity's endorsement ensures product placement, while the specialist ensures reliability." Frank nodded, "Who would you pick for the star celebrity?"

Vicky took out the autographed dress from her bag. "We have her already. You saved her too, so she owes you-it's probably no issue to ask her for a little favor." And with those words, Frank left with Vicky and the others without waiting another moment. Stan left with his men too, leaving Carol and her family stupefied at the diner. Winter was especially curious. "Who is Frank Lawrence? Why would he give us so much money?" It certainly mystified her. Fred was staring at the number Frank left and suddenly said, "Could he be interested in Winter?" "What?" win Winter was shocked. "I don't even know him." "Just a whim." Fred shrugged. "I noticed he's been staring at you all this time. He probably helped us because he's after you, while setting bait to play hard to get." Winter actually thought it possible, since she noticed Frank staring at her too. "Nonsense," Carol snapped just then. "It's not." Fred insisted on his opinion. "Just look at the two women with him-they're both beautiful and

seem to be important people. Even the men who brought all those officers with him were very

Carol nodded in turn. "Then stay away from him. You mustn't get involved with such people."

respectful. He might be some kingpin."

In reality, Carol had another theory.
She and her husband had adopted Winter all those years ago because her last name was
Lawrence too.
And now, another Lawrence came, his eyes constantly fixed on Winter.
He just might be Winter's biological brother.
However, since Frank was not mentioning that and not revealing his intent, Carol had no intention of losing her daughter just yet.
If Frank was not going to say anything, she certainly would not.
Both Fred and Winter nodded, though they each had their own ideas too.
Meanwhile, Frank and the others parted ways with Stan, while Yara drove them back to the hilltop mansion.
As Frank aligned, Vicky hopped off as well.
Yara did a double take as she looked on. "Don't you want a ride home, Ms. Turnbull?"
"Nope. I'm staying the night." Vicky waved her off.
"Oh, okay" Yara quietly drove away, somehow disappointed even though she could not describe why.
After washing up, Frank was going to bed.

However, he found Vicky waiting when he stepped outside the bathroom. Scratching his head, he sighed. "If you're sleeping here, I'm leaving."

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Chapter 205

Frank nodded thoughtfully. "You'd like me to talk to Noel?"

"That's right," Vicky said, absolutely confident in Frank's charm. "You have this in the bag, what with your animal magnetism." Frank thought about it. "Alright. Once you put the Rejuvenation Pill into production, I'll bring a finished product to see her." They certainly should not rush things-without a finalized product, all they could offer were words, and that did not inspire confidence. "Alright. Then that's decided," Vicky said, stretching her back before laying sprawled on Frank's bed. "I'll sleep here tonight." Frank shook his head exasperatedly and lay down beside her. Vicky then gently slid her leg on him, but Frank did not move, almost as if he was lifeless. Vicky certainly doubted that and started to caress him all over, even breathing into his ear, "Frank..." "Zzz..." Frank started snoring audibly, and Vicky rolled her eyes. Still, grogginess soon overcame her and she fell asleep, holding his arm.

When Frank woke up early the next morning, Vicky was already gone.

everything out on her table.

He rubbed his temples and headed to the drawing room, where she had made breakfast and laid

Frank smiled but did not hesitate to start eating. After breakfast, he was about to start training when he received a call from an unfamiliar number. Frank answered it, and Rolf Sparks was soon greeting him chipperly. "Good morning, Mr. Lawrence!" "Yes, Mr. Sparks?" "My brother found one of the Five Elemental Wonders you tasked him to find," Rolf quickly said. "However, he had to leave for the moment, so he asked me to bring it to you." "So soon?" Frank exclaimed in surprise—Skyblade Dojo certainly worked fast! "Of course. We have apprentices everywhere, and a single herb is no big deal," Rolf said. proudly. "Thank you, Mr. Sparks. May I ask which of the Five Elemental Wonders you've found?" "The Myriad Hue Snow Lotus." "Great!" Frank could hardly hide his excitement -the Myriad Hue Snow Lotus was the water elemental wonder, and it was another piece of his puzzle. "I'm indebted to your family, Mr. Sparks." "You're exaggerating, Mr. Lawrence." Rolf chuckled. "Where are you right now? I'll deliver it to you right away!!! "Actually, you can just set up a meeting place and I'll meet you there."

Rolf thought about it. "Yeah, we can meet up at Delightpub. We could have a couple of drinks too." "Sure," Frank agreed to it without hesitation-a couple of drinks was fine especially when he was in a good mood. Meanwhile, Helen was at Lane Holdings' headquarters, dressed in her usual business suit. She just stepped outside of the conference room and had yet to reach her office when she heard a noise from the elevator. "Helen! Helen!" It was none other than Gina. Chapter 206 Helen frowned and promptly grabbed Gina. "Why are you shouting, Mom?" "Oh, where have you been?!" Gina cried urgently. "Why didn't you answer my calls?!" Helen sighed exasperatedly. "I was in a meeting." "This is serious!" "What's serious?" Helen remained calm, having gotten used to her mother's eternally jittery behavior. "It's your brother!" Gina cried frantically. "Why else would I be so worried?!" "What happened to Peter now?" Helen actually felt panic as she feared whatever mess her brother made now.

"He was at a bar last night but somehow ended up in a fight this morning," Gina explained. Helen inhaled deeply as she clenched her knuckles-could Peter not ever tone down his misdemeanors? "Who was he fighting with?" she asked. "I don't know, but I think it started because of some girl," Gina said before pressing her. "Oh, stop asking questions—they have your brother! You have to help him!" "I have to ask," Helen retorted, gritting her teeth. "I should at least find out who he got in a fight with and on whose turf. Do you think he'd keep behaving like this if you hadn't spoiled him like you did?" "Yes, yes, I get it. He's at Delightpub now—whose turf is it?" Gina quickly asked. Helen shook her head. "I don't know. Let's just go there for now." They hurried out of the building and ran into Chris Steiner right then. He rushed toward them, asking, "What happened, Helen?" "Oh, Mr. Steiner..." Gina quickly said when she saw him. "It's my son-he got into a fight with someone at Delightpub. They're holding him there now." "What? They're holding them against his will illegally?" Chris exclaimed in righteous indignation. "What gives them the right?" Helen sighed in pain. "We don't know the details..."

"It's alright. I'll be coming with you," Chris volunteered nonetheless. "Let's see what Delightpub has up

their sleeves."

"Oh! But aren't you busy?" Gina exclaimed excitedly.

If anything, they were just two women and would inevitably get bullied—having a man going with them certainly inspired confidence!

"I just happened to be free and thought I should visit Helen," Chris quickly said.

"Good," Helen said without thinking—there was no time to waste with Peter's safety at stake.

They got into Chris' car and hurried to Delight pub, which was mostly vacant since it was daytime.

A bouncer led them through the dim interior to the bar, where a blonde woman with wavy hair sat, dressed in a red gown with a side slit. The plunging neckline of her gown was barely hiding her cleavage!

At the same time, Helen found Peter sprawled on a sofa, his face bruised and battered.

Gina sobbed right then. "Are you alright, Peter?"

"Mom... It hurts..." Peter groaned barely audibly.

Gina promptly wheeled on Scarlet, the woman in red, and snapped, "Are you the owner? Who do you think you are, beating up my son?"

Scarlet twirled her glass of red wine as she answered nonchalantly, "Your son came here and harassed one of our waitresses, even groping her. Am I supposed to ignore that?"

"You're lying!" Peter exclaimed, clutching his face. "She's the one who came on to me! When did I ever grope her?"

Scarlet's expression turned icy right then. "So, you're denying it?"

## Chapter 207

With those words, Scarlet brought up the security footage.

Everyone hence watched as Peter got drunk and started to mess around, groping a waitress.

shed him a

He even got upset when she bragging about how important his family was...

Helen was left speechless after watching the video and shot a glare of disappointment at Peter. On the other hand, Gina completely did not care, even standing akimbo as she snapped, "So what?! What my son did to that girl is between them. What's it to you?"

Scarlet slowly rose to her feet. "I own this place, and I'm responsible for anything that happens to my employees."

"That's enough." Helen stepped up just then. "My brother is at fault, so I'll apologize. What do you ask for compensation? You can ask anything as long as it's reasonable."

"What are you doing, Helen?!" Gina snapped, clearly upset.

In her mind, that mere waitress was lucky her son was interested in her, though she would not allow him to marry her.

"Your brother made a mess on my turf and harassed my employee," Scarlet said evenly, holding Helen's gaze. "My security personnel even had to stop him. Counting all the losses, medical fees, business damages, and miscellaneous costs... that would be ten million dollars." "What?!" Helen actually thought Scarlet was reasonable, but she was clearly scamming them! "You're crazy!" Gina bellowed. "I could buy this entire place with ten million!"

"So you're not planning to pay up?" Scarlet asked nonchalantly.

Helen frowned. "We won't hesitate if it's a normal rate of damages, but ten million is too much."

"Yeah! Ten million? Here, have a thousand instead!" Gina snapped and whipped out a stack of bills, dumping it on the floor!

Scarlet stared at it, suddenly amused. "A thousand? What do you take us for, a brothel?" Just then, Peter got to his feet despite his battered face, suddenly growing a spine. "A thousand is already being generous with the likes of you! I don't mind telling you that my sister here is the CEO of Lane Holdings. Who do you think you are to mess with her?!" "Hah!" Scarlet snorted coldly and fearlessly. "A measly CEO trying to flex on me?"

Even the bouncers behind her were laughing.

"You're really full of it, kid!"

"Don't you know who Scarlet's boyfriend is? It's Phineas Tomkins!"

Helen and everyone else froze at the mention of Phineas—the man was the kingpin of South. City, equal in influence to Leo Grayson!

And Scarlet, the woman before them, was his girlfriend...

"What...? This is Mr. Tomkins' turf...?" Gina's face turned pale, and she started sweating buckets.

Helen was frowning in turn—the incident with Leo still left her traumatized, and she really did not want any further trouble with the mob!

Beside her, Peter gulped and hung his head in fear..

Their terrified reaction certainly left Scarlet smug, and she laughed heartily. "Understand

your situation now? Not only do you have to pay up, but your brother must get down on his knees and apologize too, or none of you will be leaving! The bouncers nearby promptly surrounded Helen and the others at Scarlet's word, their burly forms looming menacingly! Chapter 208 Helen was helpless, but Peter was tugging at her arm, crying repeatedly, "Come on, Helen! Do something!" Helen could die from a stroke right then—would they be here in the first place if not for him?! Hah! Phineas Tomkins? So what?" someone suddenly said. Everyone was stunned—who could be that bold, belittling Phineas Tomkins himself?! was none other than Chris. s he strode up to stand in front of Helen, Gina's eyes lit up—they were saved! carlet studied Chris and his suit in turn before asking in curiosity, "Who are you?" he could see that he had a strut and a confident way of speaking—was it really possible that e was a match for Phineas? I'm Chris Steiner from Omens Industries." hris... Steiner?

carlet was actually not familiar with that name, but she had heard of Omens Industries.

fter all, the company had established a foothold in Riverton in no time at all, and they were. aid to have the backing of the Salazars' heiress.

e did outrank Scarlet in influence, even if she was a mob boss' girlfriend.

Greetings, Mr. Steiner." She suddenly smiled, her attitude changing just then. "Since you're peaking on their behalf, It's only right that I show you due respect."

elen, Gina, and Peter were all staring at Chris in surprise—a business owner like him actually ot so much respect from Scarlet?

elen was especially stunned—she was a CEO in her own right as well and should actually ommand more respect than Chris!

carlet said just then, "I won't ask for the ten million, but the boy must apologize."

elen breathed a sigh of relief and turned to Peter. "Go on. Apologize right now."

e was at fault in the first place, and apologizing would be the smartest choice.

owever, Chris suddenly said, "Apologize? That's not happening, especially when you beat up y friend. If anything, you should be apologizing to Peter."

What?" Helen exclaimed in shock and quickly told Chris under her breath, "Stop it, Chris.

et's just have Peter apologize and put this behind us."

iris raised a hand to stop her right then. "Don't worry, Helen. I can handle this."

2 was not about to stop flexing now that he realized he could!
side him, Gina pointed at Scarlet as she snapped, "That's right! Now apologize to Peter!"
ie was certainly braver now that she had backing.
Peter was even worse than his mom. "The man told you to apologize, you hear? Do it, or I'll slap you right now!"
The bouncers behind Scarlet were furious.
She just had to say the word, and some mere business owner would be squashed!
Did they really think they could win against their numbers?!
Still, Scarlet did not give the order and was gritting her teeth instead. "Mr. Steiner, you really shouldn't push your luck."
"Oh, but I think I will." Chris snorted in disdain. "I'll count down from three. Apologize to Peter or else!"
"Three!"
"Two-"
Even before Chris could count down to one, there was a resounding bang behind them as someone kicked it open!
A burly man strode in, followed by a large group of thugs, demanding, "Who the fuck is messing around on my turf?!"



As soon as Chris finished, Phineas slapped him across the face resoundingly! "Oof..." Chris was left stunned and dazed by the slap! Helen gasped, bewildered that Phineas would get physical at the drop of a hat! Beside her, Gina flinched in utter shock. "Y-You hit me...?" Chris was left clutching his cheek as he glared at Phineas in disbelief. "So what if I did? Who do you think you are, demanding that my girl apologize to you?!" Phineas snapped and spat on Chris' face! Chris was left utterly sickened. Clenching his fists, he growled, "Your girlfriend had her bouncers beat up my friend. Why shouldn't she apologize?" "Your friend was the one who messed around on our turf in the first place," Scarlet retorted immediately. Phineas growled, "You hear that? Your people were messing around on my turf, so get down on your knees and apologize to my girl." At his words, his goons kicked Chris behind his knees, and he dropped the floor with a thud.

Gritting his teeth to withstand the agony, Chris slowly looked up and snapped, "I'm the owner of Omens

"Shut up!" Phineas savagely slapped him across the face. "The Salazars? Tell your boss that no one gets to misbehave as long as they're on my turf! They may own Sunny City, but they're nothing to me!"

Industries, and the Salazars have my back-"



Reasoning was now not an option—she had to pay through the nose to avert this disaster.

Nonetheless, Scarlet snorted. "That's what we've been asking earlier, but you refused. Are you scared now? You really should've known when to stop."

Helen braced herself as she said, "The problem is I don't have that much money. Could I pay in installments?"

She had already invested all her funds into the West City project and had nothing to spare right now.

"You mean you're not going to pay?" Phineas asked, turning toward her right then.

"I'll pay, but in installments," Helen quickly said. "I'm not trying to run, and I'll have my brother apologize too. Let's just put this behind us, alright?"

"Put this behind us?" Phineas snorted. "Easy for you to say. None of you are leaving until you pay up!"

And with those words, Phineas grabbed Helen by the collar, leaving her turning pale. "What are you doing?!"

"Helen..."

Both Gina and Peter were terrified, but they certainly were not brave enough to intervene.

Beside them, Chris was even more terrified than they were!

"Hmph!" Phineas snorted right then. "Since you're pleading your brother's case, you can have one arm broken in his stead."

With those words, two bouncers grabbed Helen and pressed her against the table, ready to break an arm.

As Helen was caught utterly dumbstruck and helpless as she watched them-



"Shut up! Do you really think you can resolve this with money?!" Phineas pointed a finger at Frank's nose as he snapped, "This is my turf! Since you're with them, you're not leaving either!"

Frank frowned as he asked coolly, "So, you're saying a fight is inevitable?"

"Get him!" Phineas bellowed right then, and all his bouncers started running up to the second floor.

Frank simply leaped down and kicked Phineas in the face!

He moved so quickly everyone was left stunned, and Scarlet even turned pale in shock nearby!

As Frank seized Phineas by the nape, the bouncers who had just rushed upstairs hurried downstairs again, keeping their distance in hesitation.