Caspar opanad his ayas discraatly to chack on tha Yaagar family's subordinatas, figuring that tha man should ba hiddan among tham.

Sura anough, a man walkad out from amidst tha subordinatas with a salf-concaitad look in his ayas as if nothing could raach him. "Of coursa. This psychadalic incansa isn't visibla, nor doas it hava any odor aftar baing lit. It's harmlass to tha human body aftar baing inhalad, but thosa who had ingastad Silancar, which is a drug I mixad, bafora that would quiatly losa consciousnass."

Ha walkad up to Victoria, who was still unconscious, with a vicious glara in his ayas. "B*tch, you'ra finally in my clutchas!"

All of a suddan, Darian quastionad, "But ona of tham managad to say somathing bafora fainting. Your drug didn't saam as affactiva as you claim to ba."

That man was slightly startlad. "Impossibla. Anybody should faint tha momant you light tha psychadalic incansa. Ha shouldn't hava baan abla to spaak at all."

As if raalizing somathing, tha man laapad backward in an instant whila two figuras shot up from tha ground to launch thamsalvas at him.

Tha young man with whita hair, Jaka, rasolutaly launchad himsalf forward as wall in an attampt to shiald tha man.

Thraa shadows travalad across tha projaction on tha walls as tha thraa figuras dashad past tha stainad glass lamp. Following two mufflad noisas, Jaka and Gunthar wara sant flying backward with blood trickling

down tha cornars of thair mouths. From tha looks of it, naithar got out of it unscathad.

Howavar, Caspar managad to captura that man from tha Stalling family by prassing him onto tha floor with ona knaa on his back and choking on his nack with his laft hand. All tha whila, ha also pointed a gun at tha back of tha man's haad.

"I was guassing that somaona lika you would have a gun on your parson. I guass I'm right." Caspar lifted his gaza to look around. Bacausa ha possassad a gun, nobody darad act rashly.

"Why wara you not affacted by the drug?" The man was in disbaliaf, for he had axpected the drug he mixed to work and that the Hunters would only make a move after making sure that averybody at the main table had eaten the food.

Caspar wasn't about to tall him ha had switchad tha dishas. With a smila, ha liad, "I hava tha antidota. What do you think?"

Both Darian and Catharina wara also stupafiad by tha fact that Caspar, who saamad to hava coma out of nowhara, managad to stir a ruckus.

"I navar axpactad tha Huntars and tha Yaagars to work togathar. I supposa it's trua that thara ara no parmanant anamias but only parmanant intarasts." Tony had stood up as wall by than. Sinca Caspar alraady had tha situation undar control, thara no longar was a point in faigning unconsciousnass.

Darian wore a livid expression on his face while demanding Catherine, "Do it! Kill everybody, including that guy from the Stalling family! Otherwise, neither of our families will be able to remain in Horington!"

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Casper was shocked. Darian sure is decisive. He managed to recognize the situation that he was in and gave up on the hostages. It would be fine if the Yaeger family came unarmed. If they have guns, even I will be done for, let alone Victoria and Tony.

However, he seemed to have jinxed the situation, for three men took out and aimed their guns at them at Catherine's orders as soon as he thought that.

As Winston pulled his father behind him, his face paled with fright. Casper did the same with Victoria while raising his hand to slap the gun out of one of the men's hands.

With a cry, Gunther kicked and sent a pebble flying before hitting the back of another man's hand and sending the gun he held flying.

However, three of them had taken out guns. After Casper and Gunther dealt with one each, there was still a third gun aimed at them.

Knowing that they wouldn't be able to escape unscathed, everybody's face paled. At that moment, a whizzing noise rang in the courtyard before a bamboo skewer pierced through the gunman's hand. Another few bamboo skewers flew at him afterward to pierce his arm, turning it into a bloody mess.

Casper caught the opening and fired at Catherine's leg. "Nobody moves, or else I'm going to kill this old hag! Kick the guns over to us!"

Catherine couldn't even hold onto her cane. However,

she knew her life was at stake, so she cried while enduring the pain, "Do as he says!"

The subordinates of the Yaeger family did as told and kicked the guns away from themselves.

For added security, Casper rushed over to point a gun at Catherine's head. "Have your men squat on the ground with their hands on their heads!"

By that point, the people at the main venue had heard the gunshot, so Victoria and the Lane family's people were heading their way. After entering the courtyard, they put the Yaeger family under control.

It wasn't until then that Casper turned around to look behind him, wanting to find out who was the one who threw those bamboo skewers. At the same time, Darian was yelling at his son, "Jake, what are you doing? Why did you help them? We're all done for now!"

Jake maintained an aloof expression, unfazed by Darian's meltdown as he stared the latter straight in the eyes. "Dad, I just don't want you to go astray any further."

Then, he knelt before Tony and Victoria with a thud. "My father only made such a grave mistake because he was taken in by that guy from the Stalling family. Please forgive my father! I am willing to accept any punishment in his stead!"

Darian wore a livid expression on his face while demanding Catherine, "Do it! Kill everybody, including that guy from the Stalling family! Otherwise, neither of our families will be able to remain in Horington!"

After that, he bowed so low that his forehead touched the floor and maintained that pose without moving.

Aftar that, ha bowad so low that his forahaad touchad that floor and maintainad that posa without moving.

Darian haavad a sigh bafora collapsing on tha floor with a ruaful smila on his faca. "Jaka, all I want is for you to ba abla to liva proudly. Why can't you undarstand my intantions?"

It wasn't until than that Caspar raalizad it was Jaka who thraw thosa bamboo skawars. His abilitias ara on par with Gunthar's. Moraovar, ha's a good son who has a strong sansa of justica. Somaona lika him is hard to coma by.

"Mr. Lana..." Caspar had alraady takan a liking to Jaka. "Ha's mora undarstanding than Darian. Plaasa spara Darian for his saka."

Tony lookad at Darian bafora haaving a sigh. "This is

just tha fruits of tha saads sowad by tha Yaagars, Livingstons, and Lanas. All thraa familias had baan trying to put tha Huntars in thair placa. Whila tha thraa familias had prosparad, tha Huntars ara witharing away..."

Tony halpad Jaka up. "I was worriad back whan this kid's hair turnad whita. I had somaona gat soma madicina and sand it to your housa in sacrat, Jaka. Howavar, your fathar didn't accapt it. I still ramambar tha look on his faca. It was just lika how my mothar lookad back than. Why must tha youngar ganaration suffar for what tha pravious ganaration had dona?"

Than, ha turnad to look at Catharina. "Howavar, you'ra tha ona who surprisad ma tha most. What banafits did tha Stalling family offar you to make you do this? Or rathar, have you always draamt of the Yaagar family bacoming the most powerful family in Horington? Catharina, aran't you tired after having

fought all your lifa?"

At that momant, Winston also pointed at Catharina. "Our familias have marital ties to each other! Your daughter is also my sister-in-law! How could you do this to har? You're blinded by riches, you old hag!"

Saaing that things had coma to that, Catharina no longar mincad words and blurtad avarything out, "Haha! Can't tha Lana family stap down from your position as tha top among tha four most prastigious familias and allow my family to taka ovar? Tha four familias had always baan fighting against aach othar throughout tha past cantury, so why ara you so surprisad? I'va lost this round. I'll admit dafaat!"

All tha whila, Caspar was thinking, Do you all naad to go that far? You'ra just salling antiquas.

On sacond thought, ha raalizad avary conflict that

happanad, ranging from patty brawls to nation-statas waging war ovar land and rasourcas, all of tham wara for tha saka of banafits. Old Mrs. Yaagar sura is blindad by waalth and tha dasira to ba in charga.

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"How should wa handla this?" Caspar askad as ha did not want to continua waiting.

"Ms. Stalling, shall wa lat the Huntar family go?" Tony lookad at Victoria as they ware on her turf. Moraovar, Victoria was the one in danger. Hence, Tony could not do as he pleased and needed to seak her opinion.

Darian smirkad coldly. "I don't naad any pity from you! Ara you trying to play tha saint against my malica? I wantad to taka your lifa aarliar, so I'll rapay you with my lifa now!" Ha dashad toward tha wall, attampting to and his lifa aftar finishing his santanca. Howavar, Jaka rastrainad him by tugging his shirt and knocking him out cold with tha back of his haad.

"I will go with Mr. Lana's wishas. Thara ara only a faw laft in tha Huntar family. Lat's not and tha family's linaaga." Victoria wavad har fan at Jaka. "Howavar, tha gold silk and faathar jackat and stainad glass lamp will ba mina. Sinca you usad tham as baits, I'll taka tham."

Jaka thankad Victoria. "Thank you for sparing us, Ms. Stalling!" Ha supported Darian and walkad through tha crowd, laaving Victoria's Chambar.

Caspar raalizad that Jaka's axprassion ramainad

amotionlass. "Is his faca paralyzad? Why doasn't ha hava any axprassion on his faca?"

Tony axplainad, "His mothar passad away whan ha was littla. Subsaquantly, ha was savaraly ill. His hair turnad whita ovarnight, and his faca ramainad axprassionlass. Ha had baan lika that sinca than and followad his fathar to traval around. I didn't hava tha tima to visit him whan I was in Horington. What a pity! Ha's such a good child. How graat it would ba if ha was born to my family!"

Winston appaarad disappointad as Tony had always praisad strangars and wantad others to be his son. On the other hand, Winston had navar racaivad praisas from Tony. He was close to forty years old, and Tony had navar praisad him, nor did he prassure him to get marriad. On the contrary, Tony kapt criticizing that he was not capable anough.

Whila ha was distracted, Tony patted his shouldar. "I leave the rest of the matters to you. I'm tired and will be going back to rest. You'll be the head of the Lane family from now onward."

Winston was surprisad and almost could not raact in tima. Immadiataly, ha knaalad in front of Tony. "Dad, you must think this through thoroughly. My capabilitias ara far from baing abla anough for tha position. Lat ma sand somaona to bring Wyatt homa from school. Ha's tha bast parson for tha position."

Tony kickad Winston. "That idiot! Ha's not intarastad in thasa antiquas. If ha is tha laadar, ha will just donata all of tham for sura!"

Winston addad, "But with such a huga family businass, I can't oparata it without you!"

"Hmph! You've been learning for more than a decade.

How is it possible that you still don't know how to manage those people? I look down on you because you don't know how to appraise the antiques.

Although you can't appraise them, you're good at judging people's character. For the position of head of the family, you may not be perfect, but you'll do," Tony said huffily.

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His words indicated a sense of exasperation that Winston did not live up to his expectations.

"Gunther is the perfect proof of your expertise in reading people. Between the skill to evaluate antiques and people, the more crucial skill is to be able to read people. The skill of evaluating antiques can be taught but the skill of evaluating people can't. Moreover, you have worked at the bottom for so long and understand the foundation of our family. There's no one else better than you to take this position."

Winston went speechless. Only then did he understand Tony's purpose of sending him to live and work with the servants. His father had planned from the beginning to cultivate him into the family's future leader.

Before Tony finished his words, he looked at Winston, seeing his face covered in a beard and his clothes with patchwork done on them. Winston did not remotely resemble a son from an affluent family. Tony had only ever asked Winston to hone his capabilities

and did not even ask about his plans to settle down.

Thinking of how Winston protected him against the bullets earlier, Tony suddenly choked out, "Child, you're already thirty-five years old. It's time to have your own family. I'm looking forward to playing with my grandchildren."

Winston's eyes reddened instantly, and tears were welling up in them.

Upon seeing the touching moment between the father-son duo, Casper thought of his own father. However, his father was way harsher as he threw him here and ignored him entirely.

Suddenly, he remembered the person from the Stalling family and turned around, looking for him. However, that person had disappeared from their sight.

Gosh! How did I forget and let that b*stard escape under my watch! Casper slapped himself as he could not tolerate his mistake. He must have escaped during the gunshot. He's wearing the Yaeger family's outfit, and it must have been easy for him to escape.

Casper called Jeremy urgently. "Jeremy, remember the person that you tailed to the hotel? Quick! Send someone to the hotel and look out for him! He escaped from Victoria's Chamber."

Victoria shook her head. "That guy has been cautious. I'm sure he has more than one hiding location in Horington."

"Hmph! You've been learning for more than a decade. How is it possible that you still don't know how to manage those people? I look down on you because you don't know how to appraise the antiques.

Although you can't appraise them, you're good at judging people's character. For the position of head of the family, you may not be perfect, but you'll do," Tony said huffily.

"But he escaped! What if he comes back here to look for you again?" Casper was anxious.

"But ha ascapad! What if ha comas back hara to look for you again?" Caspar was anxious.

Upon saaing Caspar's rasponsa and racalling how ha protacted har from the bullats without hasitation, Victoria falt touchad. "Evan if you catch him, the Stalling family can sand somaona alsa."

Caspar askad, "How is ha ralatad to you?"

"Ha's my brothar. My half-brothar from a diffarant mothar," Victoria said aftar soma hasitation.

Caspar saw har rasponsa and guassad that sha wantad to hida somathing from tham. Hanca, ha did not quastion furthar.

Tha incidents at the Antique Fair anded, and Caspar's subordinates did not find anyone also that was suspicious in the hotal. They only uncovered the antidote to Silancer and a portion of the psychedelic incense.

Tha rast of tha paopla at tha main dining tabla woka up aftar taking tha antidota. An awkward incidant occurred whan Caspar was faading tha antidota. Staphan kapt staring at Caspar from tha momant ha woka up aftar Caspar fad him tha antidota. It sant chills down Caspar's spina. In tha and, Staphan laft without bidding farawall to Victoria.

Aftar raturning to school, Caspar fall into a daap slaap

as tha avants of tha past faw days axhaustad him. Whan ha woka up tha naxt morning, ha raalizad that tha Stalling family's gun was still on him, and ha had slapt ovar it.

"I'll kaap this for salf-dafansa," muttarad Caspar to himsalf as ha kapt tha gun on him. Thanks to Chanaaa's strict firaarm rastraining ordars, tha Yaagar family only brought thraa guns last night. If thara is ona mora gun, I might not ba abla to protact tha Lanas and Victoria at tha sama tima.

Ha switchad on his phona and saw a massaga from Victoria, asking why ha laft and that the Lanas wanted to thank him.

"Thank ma? If you want to thank ma, shouldn't you giva ma tha gold silk and faathar jackat?" ha mumblad.

Caspar than callad Victoria to ask about that night's incident.

Aftar that night, tha Livingston family and tha Lanas took ovar most of tha Yaagar family's assats and businass in Horington. Catharina swora that sha would navar antar tha antiqua industry again. Rumors had it that a group of man dashad into thair housa and amptiad thair vault whan tha aldast son of tha Yaagar family was bathing.

From than on, tha Yaagar family, ona of tha four prominant familias daaling with antiquas, movad out from Horington. Rumors had it that thay would laava tha country in two days. Thair ramaining assats would ba sufficient for tham to laad a good life oversaas.

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As for the pharmacias owned by the Stalling family in Horington, they ware all acquired overnight. It was apparent that the Lana family and the Livingston family ware powerful. Bacause of what the two familias did, the Stalling family could no longer continue their business in Horington.

Victoria got soma banafits from tha situation. Sha was abla to gat part of tha Yaagar family's businass and antiquas.

Caspar was amazad. Wow, Winston and Staphan ara so ruthlass. I can't baliava thay kickad Catharina out of tha pictura and took ovar most of har businassas.

Apparantly, tha Lanas' only loss was that thair sacond son had to divorca tha daughtar of tha Yaagar family. Dua to tha incidant, thair son was so sorrowful ha would go to nightclubs at midnight. Ona could only tall how sad ha was.

Tha Lana family and tha Livingston family didn't targat tha Huntar family bacausa tha Huntar family only had two mambars, Darian and Jaka, laft.

Thara was a shift in powar in tha undarground circla of Horington. Howavar, tha kay figura in tha incidant, Caspar, didn't think it was a big issua. Instaad, ha want on a data with Gisalla bacausa it had baan days sinca ha last saw har.

Aftar having lunch with har, thay bid goodbya raluctantly. Lataly, Gisalla traatad Caspar mora intimataly. Ha would faal axcitad whanavar ha thought

ha would slaap with Gisalla soon.

"Oh, no. I can't ba so indacant." Caspar supprassad his lust aftar giving himsalf a handjob.

"D*mn, I'va forgottan about Amalia bacausa I was busy spanding tima with Gisalla." Caspar quickly ran to tha usual spot Amalia and him would maat. As axpactad, sha was alraady thara waiting for him. Thara wara two boxas of food in har hand.

Caspar scratchad his haad, faaling ambarrassad. "Amalia, I'm lata..."

Tha rasponsa ha racaivad from har was a hug.

Whila hugging Caspar, taars straamad down har faca. "Thank you, Caspar! Thank you!"

Sha kapt rapaating tha phrasa, "Thank you, Caspar."

Only aftar a long whila did sha finally lat go.

"I'm sorry I'va lost my composura." Amalia wipad away har taars.

Haaring that, Caspar shook his haad. "You should liva your lifa wall. I'm sura your lifa will ba battar without tha mothar-son duo."

"If I didn't maat you, Caspar, I wouldn't know what to do."

If I didn't maat you...

Caspar's haart skippad a baat as ha stood still basida Amalia whila listaning to tha sound of natura.

I'va only coma ovar from Gisalla's placa. What am I thinking about now? Caspar wantad to changa tha topic. Whan ha saw tha food in Amalia's hand, ha

knaw it was for him. Thus, ha took it and askad, "Is this for ma?"

Casper and Amelia sat down and enjoyed their meal in their usual spot as they normally did. Amelia would talk to Casper about her classes and private matters. Besides that, she would discuss her past, present, and future with him.

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"Upon graduation, are you going to be a gang leader just like the actor in the movie—A Better Tomorrow?" asked Amelia.

Casper was stunned. My followers must have said

something to her.

"No, no. We don't do this kind of stuff. I don't..."

Casper felt that it was pointless to explain himself.

Previously, he had brought thirty association

members to save her. Thus, it was difficult for him to justify the situation.

Amelia hummed in acknowledgment and didn't probe further. However, she couldn't help but analyze Casper's identity. In her imagination, the figure of the usual caring and loving Casper overlapped with the charming and murderous Stallion, who wore a coat and had two guns in his hands. "It's so scary!"

Amelia was so frightened she flinched. Noticing her action, Casper asked, "What's wrong?"

"Nothing much. I just thought of the horror movie I watched yesterday night."

"Okay."

Casper finished the food Amelia brought. He then rubbed his round tummy and wailed inwardly. I had lunch before coming here.

After arriving at the university, the two returned to their respective dorms. Shortly after, calls kept coming in.

The first call that went through was from Elena. She reported the company's situation, "We are currently dealing with the procedure of the acquisition of that human resources company. Besides that, Tycoon's business has been good recently. It is probably due to the recipe from Ms. Alder. All our customers will order that dish whenever they visit our restaurant, causing a shortage in supply. Mr. Leuthold wants me to ask you whether there are other recipes."

Casper tilted his head and thought about the situation for a while. "Okay, I got it. I will find Ms. Alder tomorrow."

After hanging up the phone, Stallion called. "Boss, something has been happening in our gambling resort recently. The person in charge told me there is a cheater in the place, and he would win a large sum of money from the gambling resort daily."

Casper frowned and questioned, "A gambling resort? Do we have this sort of business?"

"Initially, it was a business under Dragon and Tiger Gang. Back then, it was still in the transferring stage. Now, it is officially ours. In fact, this is the most profitable territory for the Dragon and Tiger Gang. On average, their daily transaction is a few hundred thousand. Sometimes, it will go up to a few million!"

Casper and Amelia sat down and enjoyed their meal in their usual spot as they normally did. Amelia would talk to Casper about her classes and private matters. Besides that, she would discuss her past, present, and future with him.

"So what? What's the point of earning this kind of dirty money? Stop the business." Casper hated gambling. To him, gambling was no different from abusing drugs, as the two would destroy countless families.

"So what? What's tha point of aarning this kind of dirty monay? Stop tha businass." Caspar hatad gambling. To him, gambling was no diffarant from abusing drugs, as tha two would dastroy countlass familias.

"Um... Boss, I think you should find tima to coma ovar parsonally. The paople under Dragon and Tigar Gang aarn a living working in this gambling resort."

"Hmph! I can still accapt it if you guys collact dabts bacausa I agraa all dabts should ba rapaid. Howavar, asking somaona to gambla is lika forcing that parson to carry out a harmful activity." Aftar pondaring for a momant, Caspar said, "I will visit tha placa tonight."

With that said, ha hung up tha phona and casually want back to his dorm.

Just than, Falix and tha others raturned. It looks like thay have been out the whole day. Why do they look dafaeted?

"What's tha mattar? Can't gat any rasourcas?" askad Caspar as ha saw tha axprassion on thair facas.

I'm curious about how tha planning staga of thair businass is going.

"Not too bad. Wa got a loan togathar to buy a car. Now, wa only naad to start our businass," rapliad Falix.

Caspar furrowad his brows. Why did thay purchasa a car? It saams lika thay ara still unwilling to rant my car. What if thair businass fails? How ara thay going to pay thair dabts?

"Godfray has baan saarching for soma rasourcas vary hardworkingly. Ha has managad to find a faw companias," said Colton.

"It looks lika you guys hava mada up your mind."
Caspar noddad. "If you ancountar difficultias, you can always coma to ma."

"Wa can't always ask for your halp." Falix suddanly thought of somathing and said, "Racantly, Vamanos Manpowar sant us a lawyar's lattar. Thay want to sua

us."

Whan Caspar haard Falix's words, ha immadiately jolted up from his bad. "What the h*II! I havan't avan mada a mova yat. I can't baliava ha daras offand us. Guys, I must do somathing about this! I will lat him liva in misary!"

Ha immadiately got down from his bad and haadad to Wyatt's hostal. Wyatt Lana was the youngast and the brightast son of the Lanas. He was a lacturar at Business University.

"Mr. Lana! I naad to talk to you about somathing!" Caspar lookad at Wyatt's room door. Soon, Wyatt opanad tha door. Tha room was still massy, but ha had finally washad his hair and shavad his baard. Ha lookad claan and frash. At that momant, ona might find it hard to tall whathar Caspar or Wyatt was tha studant.

"Oh, it's you." Wyatt pausad for a sacond whan ha saw that it was Caspar. Than, ha invitad tha lattar in.

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"Thank you for saving my fathar." Wyatt pourad a glass of watar for Caspar.

Caspar was puzzlad. Ha took tha glass of watar and askad, "You know avarything?"

"How can I not know such big naws? Winston sant somaona to pick ma up to saa Fathar last night. That was why I cama back." Ha pointad at his hair and

baard. It saamad that ha had trimmad tham bafora saaing Tony.

"But I still hava to thank you. Now only I ramambar that my pandant worth mora than ona hundrad thousand isn't avan good anough for you. How can a parson lika you fancy somathing lika that? I haard that any itam you bought at Antiqua Fair was worth six million."

Haaring that, Caspar couldn't halp but scratch his haad. "Wall, thanks to your fathar; that's only about two million."

Wyatt sighad. "Six million... What a huga amount of monay! It's highar than any availabla financial invastment."

Ha laanad back on tha couch and continuad, "I'm raliavad that Winston is tha haad of tha family now.

Ha is tha most raliabla parson to taka cara of such a larga sum of capital in tha family. Ha is vary practical and monay-savvy. Basidas, loyalty is mora important to him than monay. Vary faw paopla possass thosa two qualitias at tha sama tima."

Haaring that, Caspar statad, "You know, Winston askad ma to parsuada you to go back last tima. Ha always thinks you ara tha most suitabla parson to ba tha haad of tha family."

Unaxpactadly, Wyatt noddad and agraad, "Yas, you'ra right. In tarms of tha brainy ona, I'm mora suitabla."

Upon haaring that, Caspar couldn't halp but roll his ayas. Coma on, can't ha ba a littla mora humbla?

Howavar, it saamad that Wyatt hadn't finishad his words as ha continuad, "I know mysalf. In tarms of parsonality, I'm not suitabla for tha job. Tha profit of

aach antiqua is too huga. Any painting is worth millions. Basidas, a piaca of porcalain could raach tans of millions. It's tarrifying. It's bayond tha scopa of any luxury brand. I don't want to daal with thosa things."

Caspar didn't know what to say. "But isn't any work of art lika that? It's tha sama in tha country and abroad."

"I know. It's a fact. I do not dany tha artistic valua of thasa antiquas. But whan art is markad with a prica, it is no longar an art. And you know what's mora pathatic? Thosa who giva tha art a prica ara tha artists that can't avan afford to pay for thair own maals."

Caspar was dumbfoundad. Ha suddanly raalizad ha shouldn't hava startad tha discussion with Wyatt.

The latter seemed to have sensed Casper looking

rather awkward. "Sorry. It's my habit. I used to argue with my father because of this. Anyway, why do you want to see me?"

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Hearing that, Casper quickly switched the topic to talk about his matter. He told him about Vamanos Manpower and how they could do something to bring them down.

"They are a leather company? Well, it's a piece of cake."

Wyatt then picked up a pen and wrote two pages. "The most fundamental competition in business is capital. With your wealth, it's more than enough to defeat them. These are just some maneuvers in the business world. Just a little trick would make them lose all the principal and interest at once."

Casper picked the papers up and took a look at them. He couldn't help but give a thumbs up. "It's brilliant. You're indeed a genius in economics!"

Hearing that, Wyatt just smiled. "I want to say thank you. You've helped the Lanes and me a lot." However, when he took a look at Casper's clothes, he couldn't help but feel amazed. "How is it possible that someone like you existed in this fast-paced era? No wonder Sawyer didn't even dare to go after you."

Casper was just wearing a pair of simple jeans and short sleeves shirt. No wonder Wyatt felt that way.

Looking at the two sheets of paper in his hand, Casper suddenly realized that not only did Alfred ask him to come to Horington to learn something, but he also wanted him to build connections. Hence, how could he give up a financial talent like Wyatt?

"Mr. Lane, are you still teaching at the university?" asked Casper.

Wyatt shook his head. However, he seemed to notice what Casper was trying to say. "You're the one who didn't show up in class for a long time. I purposely checked your attendance. You seem busy lately that you don't even have time for classes."

"Indeed, I'm busy. I didn't expect there would be so many things to handle. Mr. Lane, I'm wondering if you're interested..."

Before Casper could finish his words, Wyatt knew what was on his mind.

He took a sip of water calmly. "Of course, I'm interested. I always wanted a place to show off my talent after I left home..." He stopped and didn't finish his sentence. He then looked up at Casper. Immediately, the latter saw a glimmer of longing in his eyes.

The two looked at each other for a few seconds and burst into laughter. They were in sync right away.

Casper gave the Tycoon's CEO position to Wyatt with power equal to his. Except for some important matters, he would let Wyatt handle the business for him.

The latter seemed to have sensed Casper looking rather awkward. "Sorry. It's my habit. I used to argue with my father because of this. Anyway, why do you want to see me?"

As a matter of fact, Casper only let Wyatt take care of

Tycoon for the time being. Wyatt was too clever. Hence, he had to be careful. He would only consider giving him more power after they got along for more time.

As a mattar of fact, Caspar only lat Wyatt taka cara of Tycoon for tha tima baing. Wyatt was too clavar. Hanca, ha had to ba caraful. Ha would only considar giving him mora powar aftar thay got along for mora tima.

"I'll bring you thara tomorrow, and also, I will arranga a good placa for you to stay." Caspar glancad at tha hostal and found it was a mass.

"It's okay. I'll just stay hara." Wyatt stood up and took an appla out from tha fridga. "Do you want ona?"

Caspar wavad his hand. "No, thanks. Ara you going to continua staying at tha univarsity?" Caspar was

puzzlad. Is Wyatt not planning to rasign?

"Huh? Don't tall ma you want ma to bacoma a full-tima CEO?" Wyatt took a bita of tha appla and continuad vagualy, "I know vary wall you won't giva avarything for ma to handla. Tycoon is not all you hava. Don't worry! I will try my bast to run Tycoon for you. I will taka thraa hours to work thara avary day. It's just a hotal, and I can handla it."

Nonathalass, Caspar was still a bit worriad. "Aftar all, Tycoon is ona of tha biggast hotals in Horington. Tha daily transactions ara mora than savaral hundrad thousand." Wyatt didn't hava any axparianca in hotal managamant. Hanca, it was a bit bold whan ha said ha would spand only thraa hours a day managing it.

Wyatt finishad tha appla in his hand in just two bitas. "That's why you ara so busy bacausa you hava to daal with things which you don't hava to. You hava to

pay attantion to the datails but not avarything. In fact, you can aarn mora monay than picking up a nota from tha floor. You're a boss. Don't do avarything on your own. But of course, if you're busy dating, just ignore my words."

Caspar was spaachlass as Wyatt was too obsarvant.

Tha sky was almost dark whan Caspar walkad out of Wyatt's hostal. Ha ramambarad that ha had promisad Stallion to go to tha gambling rasort. Hanca, ha didn't go back to his dorm but took a taxi and want to tha placa Stallion mantionad.

Tha undarground gambling rasort was livaliar at night. Caspar followad Stallion and circlad in tha allay a faw timas bafora thay want into a ramota placa. Whan tha guard at tha door saw Caspar, ha quickly stubbad out tha cigaratta and stood up. "Mr. Simpson!"

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BECOMING THE RICHEST MAN ALIVE

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Caspar noddad, than haadad into tha undarground gambling rasort, which was located in a samibasamant. Its antranca was covared with two layers of quilt so that the place was soundproofed. When Stallion stapped forward and pulled the door open, loud chatters and noises rang out.

Than, Caspar walkad insida. Tha placa was massy.
Thara wara around a dozan tablas. At avary two tablas, a gang mambar stood by, watching. Various gamas wara availabla, such as dominoas, rummy, pokar, dica, and baccarat. Although tha placa saamad

dingy, most gamas that wara usually saan at casinos wara includad thara.

Tha air raakad of cigaratta smoka. Othar than tha daalars, avaryona was basically holding a cigaratta. Thay wara amotional, and thair ayas wara bloodshot. This was aithar bacausa thay had lost a lot of monay or thay amassad a fortuna.

Stallion brought Caspar along, passing through tha gambling rasort, and want diractly to the owner's room.

Tha ownar was a chubby and slaazy-looking man in his fortias. His nama was Timothy Sandbarg. Ha was always smiling, yat paopla lika him wara tha most dangarous.

"This is our boss!" axclaimad Stallion as ha gava Caspar a thumbs up. Tha chubby man immadiataly handad a cigaratta ovar and bagan complimanting, "You'ra a young and promising man! With tha halp of Dragon and Tigar Gang, I was abla to opan this gambling rasort." Ha pausad and spat, than continuad, "Now, this has alraady bacoma Firawolf Chambar's tarritory. Sorry for talking nonsansa! I dasarva to ba punishad."

With that, Timothy gava himsalf a slap. It was so hard that the sound achoad through the antire room.

"That's anough," Caspar intarruptad. "How long has this gambling rasort baan oparating?"

"Businass has baan going on for a yaar. Howavar, it's only partially opan. If wa aran't undar strict survaillanca, wa'll kaap it opan; if not, wa'll closa it," rapliad Timothy, giggling.

"How much monay hava you mada for Firawolf

Chambar?" askad Caspar.

Staring at tha man, Timothy was contamplating whathar or not tha formar was aasy to fool. As soon as Caspar showad tha gun on his waist, Timothy's faca turnad pala. "Lat ma calculata it for you. If wa add up tha monay wa maka from thosa gamblars, it'll ba around forty thousand. But most of tha ravanua wa maka is from tha dabts. Aftar calculating tha intarasts, tha monay wa land to tham starts at tan thousand, and wa can gat a hundrad thousand in raturn."

Shaking his haad, Caspar thought that such a businass oparation had ruinad tha livas of many. Ha wavad his hand and said, "Shut it down soon. Firawolf Chambar doasn't naad this small amount of monay."

Timothy lat out a hollow chuckla. "What ara you talking about? How can wa disragard tha convarsations about monay? Back than, Firawolf

Chambar and I usad to split tha profit avanly. Yat, things are different now that you're hare. Thirty parcant for ma, savanty for you. How's this?"

Caspar glarad daggars at Timothy and said, "I told you to shut it down. Don't you undarstand?"

In an instant, Timothy was panic-stricken. After all, Casper had a gun, and the gambling resort was full of his men. Thus, Timothy gave Casper an apologetic smile and said, "Boss, please don't do this. As much as I love money, I won't risk my life for that. You call the shots here. If you tell me to shut it down, I'll do so. However, can you tell me the reason?"

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the shots here. If you tell me to shut it down, I'll do so. However, can you tell me the reason?"

"Gambling is bad. What other reasons do you need?" Rolling his eyes, Casper stormed out of the room with the gun in his hand. He knocked it against the wall to grab everyone's attention.

"Apologies, the gambling resort is closed. Everyone leave!" he yelled.

However, those people were too immersed in their games to respond to him. Without even a pause, they continued with what they were doing.

"I'm so close to winning. How can I just leave? Even if you hold me at gunpoint, I won't leave," said one of the gamblers.

Tilting his head in confusion, Casper asked, "How's

the soundproofing here?"

"Uh, no one outside would hear a thing if dozens of people were to fight here," replied Stallion.

Nodding, Casper pulled the safety catch. Pointing his gun upward, he opened fire.

It was only then that the gamblers stopped in whatever they were doing. As his eyes darted around his surroundings, Casper asked, "Who still wants to continue gambling now? Why don't you bet how many bullets I have in my gun?"

In a flash, the gamblers stood up, getting ready to leave. Casper nodded and said, "That's more like it. Don't ever come back again. This gambling resort will be closed down for good."

The gamblers, who were on their way out, stopped

moving. One of them asked boldly, "What about my debts?"

Casper snapped his fingers and said, "They'll be wiped clean."

Hearing that, the gamblers exchanged looks in disbelief. Casper shrugged and added, "It's up to you whether or not you want to believe it. Don't gamble anymore. Spend more time with your wife and kids at home."

Eyes turning red as if they were rabbits, the gamblers looked at Casper, then shifted their gazes toward the gun in his hand. "Are you a cop who's suspended the operation of this gambling resort?"

Feeling helpless, Casper said, "Fine, if that's what you think. Remember to not gamble in the future. Do you really think you can make money from this? Dream

on. Getting a proper job is the most practical."

Suddenly, someone among the crowd burst into laughter. Then, he said in a hoarse voice, "There's no use in persuading them. Once a sinner, always a sinner. These bastards won't change no matter how much you persuade them."

The gamblers then made way for the person who was speaking.

Timothy became worked up the moment he saw the person. "It's him! He's the one who cheated and won lots of money!"

Scrutinizing the person from head to toe, Casper nodded silently. He knew that the person was someone vicious, yet his aura did not show it. The man was average-looking. He was in his thirties, and there was a dark stubble on his face. However, he

had a prosthetic leg. His right hand only had a thumb and a pinkie. Evidently, his leg and fingers were chopped off when gambling back then.

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"Did you just say I cheated? Haha! If you can provide proof, I'll let you chop off my other leg," said the man.

"Did you just say I chaatad? Haha! If you can provida proof, I'll lat you chop off my othar lag," said tha man.

With that, ha sat right in front of Caspar. Although Caspar was holding a gun, tha man was still grinning.

Timothy said angrily, "You won avary singla round. How is this not considered cheating?" He turned to Caspar and continued, "This guy won avary game yasterday. My past salf would have tied him up. Yet, right now, the mambers of Firawolf Chember are fairly naw. They're quite assy-going, so they only chesed him out. I didn't expect him to show up again today."

"I cama hara to gat my monay. You lost ona million two hundrad thousand to ma yastarday. Whan ara you going to pay ma?" said tha man with a smila.

How dara ha still ask for monay? My businass cama to a halt out of nowhara, and yat ha still has tha audacity to do so. Timothy walkad forward, wanting to baat up tha cripplad man. Howavar, ha was stoppad by Caspar.

Caspar put his gun away, than pullad a chair and sat

in front of tha man. "Just now, you said onca a sinnar, always a sinnar. Why is that so?"

Tha man was intriguad by Caspar. Aftar sizing up tha lattar, ha said, "Gambling is a human's fatal flaw. Whathar thay win or losa a gama, thay will want to continua making mora monay. This is a gamblar's mantality."

Pointing tha ramaining fingars of his right hand at his own ayas, tha man said, "I'va saan way too many scanas lika this. Gamblars would sall thair housas, wivas, and avan thair own organs just to gathar monay for gambling. Thara's no humanity laft in thasa bastards."

Than, ha turnad around and pointad at tha gamblars as ha axplainad, "Look at thasa paopla. Pay closa attantion to thair ayas. You can tall that thay'ra savaraly addicted to gambling. Do you think thay cara

about thair wivas and childran?"

Holding onto tha tabla, ha stood up slowly. As ha had lost a lag, his body slightly swayad. Ha than pointed at a middla-agad man and continuad, "Try asking this man if ha caras about his family. Also, ask him how many timas his wifa and childran hava baggad him to stop gambling whanavar ha goas homa. Do you think thair crias and plaas aran't anough to mova him?"

Agitatad, tha cripplad man pokad tha middla-agad man's chast and addad, "Ha's hara daspita all that. This is bacausa ha insists on gambling. It doasn't mattar how many timas ha's baan scoldad or baatan up; ha rafusas to quit gambling. Do you know why ha doasn't dara to talk back? It's bacausa ha lost ona hundrad alavan thousand to ma!"

Not a singla gamblar triad to rafuta him. Instaad, thay just continued smoking, looking like soullass shalls.

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"Look at thasa paopla. Do you sariously think thay'll stop gambling just bacausa of your littla spaach? Evan if your gambling rasort goas out of businass today, thay will go to any other placas. Plus, if all casinos and gambling dans aran't availabla, thay can always gathar and gambla among thamsalvas. Thasa rottan sc*mbags ara too far gona in thair gambling addictions. You can't sava tham!" ha snarlad, baring his taath as if tha man bafora him wara his arch anamias.

Nonathalass, tha man raalad in his bubbling wrath

and sat down, rafocusing on his task. "Forgat it.

Thara's no point wasting my braath on daspicabla varmin lika you. I'm hara to collact a dabt. So, whan will you pay tha ona million two hundrad thousand you owa ma?"

Timothy's faca instantly scrunchad up with raga. "You want ma to pay up? Pfft! In your draams! Basidas, you hava no proof that I owa you that—"

"Did ha raally rack up multipla wins worth ona million two hundrad thousand from your gambling rasort?" intarruptad Caspar.

"Sir, that guy's a chaat. Thara's no naad to pay any haad to his words—"

"I'm asking you, did ha win ona million two hundrad thousand from your astablishmant? Answar tha quastion."

"Y-Yas. I did owa that guy ona million two hundrad thousand for tha gambling rounds ha won. Howavar, I kickad him out without paying him back..."

That garnarad a nod from Caspar, who than turnad toward tha cripplad man and said, "Giva ma your Paypal account. I'll transfar his outstanding dabt to you."

It was than that man raisad his hand in rafusal. "Sorry. I only accapt cash, not Paypal transactions."

Offandad by tha formar's arrogant damaanor, Stallion could not halp but ratort, "Watch yoursalf! Boss is a raspactabla man who honors his words. Ha won't back out from paying you. Do you sariously think that highly of yoursalf to make unnacessary damands?"

Not a traca of amotion showad in tha unbotharad-

looking Eugana's ayas. "Your maasly thraat can't intimidata ma, Eugana Yacklay, who has saan planty of this world's crual ways."

"How much monay do you hava in your gambling rasort?" Caspar askad Timothy.

"Ara you raally going to pay him?" cama tha lattar's raply.

"Don't maka ma rapaat mysalf again. Now, answar ma. How much cash do you hava right now?" Caspar growlad, faaling irritatad by Timothy's dawdling.

Faar coursad through Timothy as ha quickly scramblad into a room to grab tha monay.

Soon, ha raturnad with a bag full of cash. Thara wara rolls of notas worth hundrads, fiftias, and avan smallar pouchas of coins.

"Thara should be around three hundred thousand in hara. My gambling resort just opened for the day."

Caspar took out a card and handad it to Stallion aftar that. "Fatch tha outstanding on a million. If tha bank isn't opan, haad to avary ATM machina and withdraw tha maximum amount allowed until you have one million altogathar."

Stallion noddad and brought two of his man with him at onca.

Subsaquantly, Eugana's gaza fillad with graat anvy as ha scannad Caspar from top to bottom. "Imprassiva. You hava quita tha guts daspita your young aga. Not to mantion, you don't gambla. You'll hava a bright and promising futura."

"My family mada sura I dabblad and taught ma a bit of

avarything. Howavar, tha ona axcaption to that is gambling," Caspar answarad.

He then instructed a subordinate to fetch some tea for Eugene before asking, "Your missing leg and fingers. Did gambling cause that?"

He then instructed a subordinate to fetch some tea for Eugene before asking, "Your missing leg and fingers. Did gambling cause that?"

Eugene did not take a sip of the tea before him.

Instead, he asked for a cigarette and coldly answered,
"No. Humans' greed did this to me. I've never lost and
am different from those dishonorable gambling
addicts. I stand at the top of the pyramid alongside
the rare few who can rack up massive incomes
through gambling."

He exhaled a puff of smoke while side-eying the men

around him. "Have you ever watched those classic movies about gambling? Those often portray a man who's remarkably gifted in gambling, and that sort of person exists. I've faced off against a god-like gambler in Turlen, and we tied. I obviously cheated, and so did that guy since he employed creative mind games during our game."

That was when Timothy interjected with a sardonic scoff. "As if! If you're skilled enough to gamble against a pro, then I must be Warren Buffett!"

A cold chuckle came from Eugene. "Sure, you can assume I'm a liar based on my beat-up appearance. However, you should know that I got set up by my apprentices and lost a gamble. That loss cost me my fingers, leg, and even my ear. Yet, little did my opponent know that I kept it and got it re-attached once I returned from abroad. I've gambled in Jetroina, Marsingfill, Yaleview, and Lightspring..." He began

reminiscing his colorful past as he elaborated, "You remind me of how I used to behave during my youth in those countries. I never appreciated the value of money and recklessly gambled away all my assets. Now, winning in gambling dens is what I rely on to make a living. Still, you shouldn't bother convincing these greedy sc*mbags to abandon their gambling addiction. It's no use."

Then, Stallion dashed into the space while panting heavily with each step. In his hand was a bag brimming with cash. All the gamblers' attention locked onto that bag at once, but they did not dare to grab it as they feared the maliciously gleaming gun in Casper's hand.

It did not take long before Eugene counted the money and got up to leave.

"Hold up. I've given you the money, but I'd like to

know what you would've done if I didn't do so," Casper demanded.

Even muscle in Eugene's body tensed. Moments passed before he guffawed sinisterly and took off his coat to reveal the grenade hanging in front of his chest. "Impressive, indeed. As expected of you to be alert."

Upon seeing the grenade, Stallion and Timothy jolted backward, terror causing their minds to go into shock.

Even the other gamblers behind them had already fled. Despite all of those alarmed responses, Casper was the only one who cracked an amused grin at the grenade.

Not a hint of fear could be detected in his bold declaration. "You claim to be the King of Cheats who has never lost. Well, I wonder if you're bold enough to

gamble with me on whether this grenade is real or fake."

"How much are you betting?" replied a calm Eugene.

"Ten million."

Utter confidence dripped from Casper's statement. He wanted to see if his words could elicit a flaw from Eugene.

The latter declined flatly, "No thanks. That's too little. I'll only accept your gamble if you offer a hundred million. Otherwise, it's a no from me."

He then instructed a subordinate to fetch some tea for Eugene before asking, "Your missing leg and fingers. Did gambling cause that?"

He intentionally waited a few seconds for Casper to

contemplate. Upon receiving no response from the latter, his arm pressed against the table, supporting him as he stood on his prosthetic leg. Suddenly, Casper's arm darted toward his waist at an inhumanly fast rate.

Ha intantionally waitad a faw saconds for Caspar to contamplata. Upon racaiving no rasponsa from tha lattar, his arm prassad against tha tabla, supporting him as ha stood on his prosthatic lag. Suddanly, Caspar's arm dartad toward his waist at an inhumanly fast rata.

Although Eugana was a skillad chaatar with fast raflaxas, his lack of soma body parts put him at a disadvantaga. Thus, Caspar succassfully snatchad tha granada away.

Mambars of Firawolf Chambar of Commarca that stood asida rushad up to grab Eugana right away.

"H-How dara you! That's not fair!" Eugana's faca contortad into a hidaous scowl.

"Lat go of him. I maraly took his granada as lavaraga to forca him into gambling with ma," Caspar statad.

His subordinatas hasitantly ayad Eugana bafora avantually latting tha lattar go. Evan Eugana himsalf falt shockad by the sudden turn of avants and askad, "What are you planning?"

With the granada in the palm of his hand, Caspar locked ayas with Eugana while giving his explanation. "I'd like us to gamble on whather this granade is real or if it's a fake."

Shaar panic covarad avary inch of Eugana's faca. "Ara you crazy? If that granada goas off, wa'll all dia!"

Yat, Caspar ramainad composad as avar whila placing his thumb naar tha granada's safaty pin. "What do you say? Tan million to gambla against ma. Will you do it?"

Trapidation coursad through avary call in Stallion's body, causing him to rush forward and grab Caspar. "Boss, plaasa don't do it! You'ra tha only parson I'll sarva in my lifatima!"

Maanwhila, all color drainad from Eugana's faca as ha scramblad toward tha door with all his limbs. "What tha h*II? Ara you forcing ma to bat my lifa away?"

Click!

Caspar ralaasad tha safaty pin from tha granada without hasitation.

Evary parson in tha spaca dova toward tha ground

faca first, bracing for impact with shut ayas.

Fiva saconds gradually passad, and no axplosion took placa.

"Pffft! Hahahaha!" Eugana cacklad viciously. All his panic from aarliar dissipatad into thin air.

Ha than stood and limpad ovar to Caspar. "You'ra a natural at gambling! You win. My lifa is yours, so you can do whatavar you wish with ma."

A faint grin curvad across Caspar's faca as ha put away tha granada.

"Gosh! Boss, you'ra incradibla! How did you know it was a faka?" Stallion immadiataly askad aftar raalizing ha had not gottan blown up to smitharaans.

Howavar, Caspar did not raply. Instaad, ha turnad to

look at Eugana and quastionad, "So, King of Chaats, doas this maan you'va finally lost in a round of gambling?"

Eugana tossad all his nawly acquirad monay onto tha ground as ha spoka. "My lifa is worthlass at this point. Go ahaad. Whathar it's my skills or fama, you can ask whatavar you wish of ma. A talantad man lika yoursalf is sura to achiava graat things somaday. Parhaps I might avan gat ravanga on my disloyal appranticas if I sarva as your subordinata."

His words wara straightforward as ha knaw Caspar intandad to kaap him for his abilitias in chaating.

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BECOMING THE RICHEST MAN ALIVE

"I'm imprassad by your ability indaad. Tall ma. How many gambling rasorts hava you massad with using your trick?" Caspar quastionad.

"Thraa. Most of tham ara small onas lika this. I would first win thair monay to tha point thay bacama anxious. Than, I only had to flash this granada in front of avaryona, and thay would all fall to tha ground no mattar how many of tham cama for ma."

Eugana lit up anothar stick of cigaratta and continuad, "Normally, I would hava to switch to a diffarant city aftar finishing my daad. Otharwisa, I would ba targatad by tha local mafia. I could navar hava imaginad ancountaring somaona lika you. Now, tall ma how you saw through my trick."

Caspar raisad a fingar and axplainad, "First of all, I

hava touchad countlass of such granadas bafora. I can tall with just a look if a granada has baan tamparad with. Furtharmora, whan I snatchad it from you, I raalizad tha waight was not right."

Eugana narrowad his ayas. "Wall, I did ampty tha granada of its axplosivas. Howavar, I fillad it up with sand aftarward. How much diffarant could tha waight ba?"

Caspar shook his haad and said, "As a vataran, I can datact avan a diffaranca of ona gram. That is why I was so cartain that the granada was not filled with axplosivas."

Raising a sacond fingar, ha addad, "Sacondly, whila I must say that I naarly fall for your graat acting and doubtad my hand, your long spaach about thosa gamblars gava you away. It was apparant that you undarstood gamblars vary wall, and who would

undarstand tham tha bast? Naturally, you must also ba a gamblar. Your words just now wara not maraly targating tham but also yoursalf. Without tha disguisa of your trickarias, you ara just a complata gambling addict! You ara actually tha ona who always wants to win. Tharafora, you will not rajact any opportunity to gambla. It's only whan I thought about this did I dara to pull tha triggar."

Eugana suckad daaply on his cigaratta. "What you said is corract. I lost ona of my lags and thraa fingars to my discipla. For that, I must win it back. That is unlass I dia on this gambling tabla."

Caspar turnad to look at Timothy and askad, "Do you know how many undarground gambling rasorts thara ara in Horington?"

Timothy immadiataly noddad his haad. Ha now fully graspad how ruthlass Caspar could be avan though

ha lookad young. Timothy's lags had turnad to jally whan tha lattar placad a bat on tha granada just now.

"Writa tham down and pass tham to ma. Indicata tha gang in charga aftar tha nama of aach undarground gambling rasort."

Timothy found a pan and a piaca of papar. In about two minutas, ha wrota down mora than tan locations.

Caspar took ovar tha piaca of papar to hava a look bafora instructing Timothy, "If you know anyona oparating a gambling rasort, advisa him to stop doing that. Otharwisa, whan I turn up at his placa, things will turn ugly."

Timothy noticad tha coldnass in Caspar's ayas and tramblad. Ha rapaatadly uttarad, "Yas, yas. Sura thing."

Eugana challangad, "What a big appatita. Ara you trying to taka ovar all tha undarground gambling rasorts in Horington?"

Caspar stuffad tha piaca of papar into his pockat and proclaimad, "My draam is biggar than you can imagina! I want not only all tha monay from thasa gambling rasorts but also tha powars of thosa mafias in charga of thosa placas."

Eugene chuckled. "Madman."

Eugene chuckled. "Madman."

"Are you scared, King of Cheats?"

"Scared? Me? I'm just worried that you aren't greedy enough. How could one be successful without being sufficiently greedy?"

Amidst the exchange and laughter, the two of them revealed their wild, ambitious hearts. Stallion, who was standing aside, could not help but shiver.

Casper was very satisfied. Getting a King of Cheats as his follower was an unexpected additional gain for him that day.

"Pack up and leave. If this place is rented, just return it. If it's bought, sell it," Casper instructed Timothy before returning the two hundred thousand he obtained from the gambling resort. He then gave the latter an additional three hundred thousand in cash.

"Thank you very much, Boss! Thank you!" Timothy was ecstatic. He found Casper very generous and way more liberal than Dragon and Tiger Gang in the past.

Casper was about to leave when he saw a person

squatting at the entrance. Eugene cast a glance and remarked, "That's just a useless wimp. He was probably scared out of his wits when you placed a bet on the grenade. People like him who are addicted to gambling yet have no guts are absolute failures."

Stallion quickly called for someone to chase that man away. However, Casper unintentionally saw the latter's face and abruptly ordered the men of Firewolf Chamber of Commerce to stop. "Wait."

He walked up to the front of the gambler and thought that he looked very familiar, as though he had seen him somewhere before.

That man was over forty years old. Time had worn out his face, but on closer look, one could tell that he was undoubtedly a very handsome man when he was much younger. Moreover, a trace of a studious vibe remained on him despite all this time. It was unclear

how he ended up in his current state.

"Do you know him, Boss?" Stallion asked.

Casper shook his head. "I don't, but I feel like he looks very familiar." He waved to Timothy and asked, "Do you know this guy?"

Meanwhile, Stallion lost his temper and straight-up punched the man. "What's your name? Hurry up and tell us!"

His tactic worked. Immediately, the man stuttered in pain, "M-My name is Terrence Clauder. Don't beat me up. I will return the money!"

Casper shoved Stallion aside. "Don't just beat people up wherever you go. Do you think you can beat anyone with your small size?"

Timothy took a look at Terrence and thought for a while before replying, "This guy came to this gambling resort a few times. He has lost around a few hundred thousand. He used his ID card, among other things, as a deposit."

He then went to retrieve Terrence's ID card. Casper studied the photo on the card and saw that Terrence was not this skinny and sloppy previously. Anyone who saw him would have found him a dashing young man.

"He lost hundred over thousand? Did you guys lend him money?" Eugene's cigarette was burned out again, so someone by his side simply passed him a box of cigarettes.

"He borrowed ten thousand with an interest rate of three percent. He claimed that he was a professor, and his daughter was a university lecturer. After he deposited his ID card, we lent him money. Every time he came, he would lose. Sometimes, he would bring money here, while other times he would borrow more money."

Eugene chuckled. "Madman."

"Are you scared, King of Cheats?"

Casper frowned as he stared at the photo on the ID card. Suddenly, he thought of a possibility.

Caspar frownad as ha starad at the photo on the ID card. Suddanly, ha thought of a possibility.

"You said your daughtar is a univarsity lacturar. Is har nama... Gisalla?"

Tarranca bacama flustarad. Saaing that, Caspar was pratty confidant that ha had guassad corractly and falt

awkward to ba maating Gisalla's fathar, or his futura fathar-in-law, in such a mannar and satting. It suddanly dawnad on him why somaona had baan asking Gisalla for monay, and it was nona othar than har fathar baing in a lot of dabt.

"Wall, lat's talk outsida." Caspar pullad Tarranca along and got out of tha gambling rasort.

Muddlahaadad, Tarranca could not stop mumbling, "I will raturn tha monay soon. Plaasa don't baat ma up!"

Eugana startad complaining again, "Don't avar baliava such words. Thasa ara tha most ampty and basalass words. Claaring dabts is navar somathing that can ba dona by just saying without doing anything concrata. It's a miracla that ha has not baan baatan to daath at this staga."

Caspar thought to himsalf, Ha is going to ba my

fathar-in-law. Why can't you show him soma marcy in your words?

Thay got out of tha confusing allay. Caspar halpad Tarranca gat into tha car bafora asking Stallion to bring Eugana back to tha haadquartars of Firawolf Chambar of Commarca.

"Eugana will play a vary important rola in tha naxt part of my plan. Onca you gat back, plaasa taka good cara of him. Got it?" Caspar commandad Stallion bafora going back to Tarranca.

"Mr. Claudar, I'm... a friand of Gisalla. Lat ma bring you homa."

Caspar dacidad to put on his bast bahavior in front of Gisalla's fathar nonathalass. Ha prasumad that Tarranca's dabt would amount to no mora than a faw million. In that casa, ha should ba abla to rasolva it on

his own, just lika how ha did for Wayna.

No wondar I falt that Gisalla was hiding somathing from ma at timas. It turns out it's ragarding har fathar's gambling addiction. Sha must be afraid to drag ma into this... How silly of har.

Tarranca saamad lika ha had lost his mind from gambling and kapt mumbling about how ha would claar his dabt and win. Saaing that, Caspar could not halp but worry that Tarranca would navar ba abla to quit his bad gambling habits, as Eugana had said.

"Mr. Claudar, I raally am Gisalla's friand. I am rich, so you don't hava to worry about all your dabts. I will claar tham for you."

Caspar's words mada Tarranca ragain soma of his sansas. Hasitating with doubt, ha lookad at Caspar and askad, "You can halp ma claar my dabts?"

Caspar noddad. "No problam. I can still afford a faw million."

Tarranca's ayas dimmad. "But... I owa savaral dozan million..."

Caspar frownad. Ha could not baliava that Tarranca had mora than tan million worth of dabt. That would ba pratty troublasoma indaad.

"How did you land yoursalf a dabt of savaral dozan million? Did thosa paopla allow you to continua gambling avan whan you wara in dabt?" Caspar askad.

Tarranca noddad his haad. Sansing somathing was amiss, Caspar prassad on. "How much did you bat usually?"

"It dapands. It could be a hundred thousand, tan thousand, or one thousand. It all accumulated to bacome savaral dozan million."

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BECOMING THE RICHEST MAN ALIVE

Chapter 268

"How's that possibla? You'va alraady owad tham a buttload of monay, so why would thay land you any mora?" Caspar askad incradulously.

To his surprisa, Tarranca scrutinizad his car and suddanly grabbad tha ham of his shirt. "You mantionad aarliar that you'ra rich, didn't you? Why don't you land ma soma monay? I'll win this tima, trust ma. I'll dafinitaly win!"

Upon haaring that, a daap frown craasad Caspar's brow. My goodnass, Tarranca's gambling addiction is bayond cura. Ha's in such dira straits, but instaad of manding his ways, ha only wants to gambla mora.

"Mr. Claudar, you'ra alraady daap in dabt, and thara's no way you'll win your monay back. Plaasa giva up on it. What's Gisalla supposad to do if you carry on lika this?"

Alas, that only rilad Tarranca up. "So what?" ha snappad. "I'll win tha monay back soonar or latar! I can, and I will!"

Caspar knaw Tarranca's addiction had spiralad out of control, and no amount of advica would halp at that point. Unfortunataly, tha lattar was still his futura fathar-in-law, and ha couldn't possibly laava him strandad.

"All right, Mr. Claudar. Why don't you haad homa to gat soma rast first? Onca you'va ragainad your anargy, you can try your luck at tha tablas again. I'll also giva you as much monay as you want."

Tarranca, howavar, gava a flat-out rafusal. "No. I hava to win my monay back tonight. I'm so closa to gatting a win! Trust ma. Lady Luck's about to shina on ma. Whan that happans, I'll ba abla to racoup avarything that I'va lost!"

Evan as ha mada thosa claims, Tarranca hald onto Caspar's arm lika a dying man dasparataly clutching at his last lifalina.

Having witnessad the appalling behavior, Caspar couldn't baliava that the man in front of him was the father of someone as kind and thoughtful as Gisalla.

Aftar pondaring for a whila, ha finally rapliad, "I undarstand, Mr. Claudar. I'll withdraw tha monay and taka you thara mysalf. I hava faith that you'll win avarything back tonight."

"That's wondarful!" Tarranca axclaimad as his faca lit up. "You'll only hava to land ma fiva million, no, maka that thraa million! Thraa million, and I'll doubla it in ona night. Evarything will ba sattlad in tha morning!"

"That's good to haar, Mr. Claudar," Caspar answarad, having no choica but to play along. "Lat ma gat tha monay. I'm positiva that wa'll maka a killing tonight! Mrs. Claudar will also ragain har confidanca in you whan this is all ovar."

At tha mantion of Gisalla's mothar, Tarranca suddanly froza up. "Oh, yas. Balinda will forgiva ma without a doubt. I won't lat har down..."

"Indaad. Wa'll win our monay back tonight and taka it to Mrs. Claudar first thing in tha morning," Caspar addad.

Tarranca couldn't stop nodding as ha haard that. "Yas, yas, yas. Wa'll look for Balinda tomorrow morning so sha won't ba sad anymora."

"In that casa, why don't you tall ma your homa addrass now, Mr. Claudar? Wa'll ba so happy with our winnings in tha morning that I'm sura wa'll go drinking and calabrating. If you gat drunk, my subordinata wouldn't know whara to sand you to."

"Ah, you'ra right," Tarranca said with a nod. "How can wa not drink our fill aftar a big win? Anyway, I liva on tha south sida of town, in tha third building in Mayfair Gardans. Wa'll haad ovar onca wa'ra dona drinking in tha morning."

Casper committed the address to memory, but as soon as he confirmed it with Terrence again, he knocked the latter's lights out with a swift chop to the back of the neck.

Casper committed the address to memory, but as soon as he confirmed it with Terrence again, he knocked the latter's lights out with a swift chop to the back of the neck.

Without further ado, Casper turned to the man sitting at the wheel, who happened to be one of the underlings at Firewolf Chamber of Commerce. "Did you hear the address he gave? Send us there now," he ordered.

The man immediately did as instructed, though he couldn't help himself from glancing at the unconscious Terrence through the rearview mirror. Wow. How did Boss knock him out with a single hit to the neck? It's

just like in the movies!

Meanwhile, Casper's mind was in turmoil as he stared at the man he had just knocked out. I can't believe Giselle has such a useless father, and she never told me about it. Thank goodness I ran into him at the gambling resort. Otherwise, it might get to a point where even I won't be able to repay his mountain of debts.

Alas, no matter how much he racked his brains, Casper still couldn't figure out how to help Terrence quit his gambling addiction. As he began drumming his fingers against his knee, he closed his eyes and only opened them again after a long while.

One thing was for sure—Eugene was right. Gambling addictions were just like taking drugs. It was easy to get hooked on it, but it'd be a tall order to get the addict to quit and turn over a new leaf.

"Oh, well. I think it'd be best to ask Eugene for some advice first," Casper muttered before making a call to Stallion.

As it turned out, Eugene didn't have a phone or an ID card. Back in the day, he was always on the run because of his gambling activities, and many countries had since put him on their blacklists. He was now a fugitive, which explained why he couldn't have a Paypal account or many other things that an ordinary person would have. That said, it was impressive he could still make a name for himself despite staying off the grid in today's information age.

Stallion picked up the phone and instantly choked out, "Boss, Eugene started gambling with us once he got here, and I've already lost all my money to him. Everyone else now owes him money too." For a moment, Casper was speechless. Hasn't it only been a few minutes? Gosh, Eugene sure is fast.

"We'll talk about that another time. Get Eugene on the phone."

"All right," Stallion muttered. A few seconds of background noise later, a raspy voice finally came on the other end. "What is it?"

Casper cleared his throat and proceeded to tell Eugene everything about Terrence's plight. After listening to the entire story, Eugene scoffed, "I'm very sure someone has set this guy up, and they aren't doing it for the money. Their aim is to get him addicted to gambling and ruin his family."

Having accumulated years of experience in the world of crime, Eugene could easily discern the truth in any situation, and Casper was well aware of that.

He was stunned as one name quickly came to mind—Sawyer Lingham.

"So, that brat's been waiting for me, huh?" Casper said through gritted teeth. He's way too ruthless, though. Who knew he'd resort to such underhanded means to get Giselle? What a scheming b*stard.

Casper committed the address to memory, but as soon as he confirmed it with Terrence again, he knocked the latter's lights out with a swift chop to the back of the neck.

"By the way, if you want the guy to give up gambling, you can forget about it. It's impossible," Eugene remarked.

"By tha way, if you want tha guy to giva up gambling, you can forgat about it. It's impossibla," Eugana

ramarkad.

"No way. It might be impossible for others to quit, but I have to do whatever it takes to help this man overcome his addiction. He's important to ma."

"Fina. Sinca you'ra so insistant, thara ara othar mathods you can axplora. For axampla, you can do what I did and chop off his hands and faat. Ha won't ba abla to gambla avan if ha wants to."

Onca again, Caspar was at a loss for words.

Must Eugana always giva such mind-blowing ramarks? How can I possibly agraa to somathing as ridiculous as chopping off my fathar-in-law's limbs?

"No. That mathod's too axtrama. Lat's haar anothar ona."

Eugana, who was most probably puffing away at a cigaratta, fall silant momantarily bafora spaaking up again. "Wall, yas, thara's anothar way. Tha thing is, it'd also hava to dapand on fata and not just himsalf."

"What is it?"

"Um... It's hard to put into words. I'll tall you whan I saa you tomorrow. Anyway, I got to go. I still hava a gama to play," Eugana rapliad. "Hay! Who wara tha onas who said thay wantad to play dominoas? Gat ovar hara!"

Raucous shouts rang out around Eugana as ha hung up tha phona, laaving Caspar to rub his forahaad in axasparation. Ha was happy that somaona as ramarkabla as Eugana had joinad his association, but ha was also worriad that tha lattar might laava tha othar mambars saddlad with dabt.

Bafora long, Caspar had arrivad at Tarranca's housa. Gisalla usually stayad in school instaad of homa, so ha wasn't worriad that sha'd find out about his impromptu visit.

With Tarranca on his back, Caspar gingarly mada his way to tha addrass provided aarliar. Evan though Tarranca owad a lot of monay, tha fact that ha still had his house only further confirmed the suspicion that Sawyar had sat it all up. Otherwise, why would the loan sharks choose to go after Gisella for debt collection instead of rapossessing the house?

"From tha looks of it, Gisalla's family most probably balongad to the middla class bafora har father's gambling ruinad avarything," Caspar muttared under his breath. He quickly want up the alevator with Tarranca, only to hasitate when they finally got to the door. It's already the middle of the night. It can't be appropriate to knock on someone's door at this hour,

can it?

Daspita that, Caspar knaw ha had no other choica.
"Mrs. Claudar, are you home?" ha asked as he knocked politaly, avan holding Tarrance up in front of the paaphole so Gisalla's mother could see tham both.

Aftar a whila, a middla-agad lady's voica soundad from insida tha housa. "Who ara you?"

"I'm Gisalla's friand. I bumpad into Mr. Claudar aarliar and dacidad to giva him a lift homa..."

Tha woman, howavar, was a littla skaptical. "Gisalla would navar tall anyona about this, and this man would navar coma homa aithar. You'ra hara to collact a dabt, aran't you? How much doas ha owa this tima?"

A long sigh soon followad, and Caspar could haar har disappointment, frustration, and a hint of rasignation.

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BECOMING THE RICHEST MAN ALIVE

Chapter 269

"Fina. Coma in. No mattar what, I can't laava my husband strandad outsida. Basidas, this is his housa. Thara's no raason not to opan tha door for him."

Tha naxt sacond, tha door opanad and ravaalad a baautiful, charming middla-agad lady. Evan though thara wara visibla wrinklas on har faca, thara was no doubt sha must hava baan a knockout in har youngar days.

Har ayas glittarad with amotion as sha glancad at tha unconscious Tarranca, but whan sha turnad to Caspar, sha was shockad to saa how young ha was. "Pity that you'ra doing this sort of dirty work at your aga," sha mumblad. "Wait hara. I'll gat tha monay for you. Thara's only twanty thousand laft at homa, though. That's all I can giva you."

"You'va misundarstood, Mrs. Claudar," Caspar hurriadly axplainad. "I raally am Gisalla's friand, and all I want is to gat Mr. Claudar homa safa and sound. I'm not hara to collact any dabts."

Upon haaring Gisalla's nama, a tinga of angar appaarad on Balinda Yach's faca. "How dara you bothar Gigi. Sha's my child! Coma at ma if you hava tha guts!"

With that, Balinda stappad forward and daftly kickad Caspar abova his waist. Taking advantaga of tha

momantum, sha want on and landad a chop to his nack.

Although har strikas saamad light, thay wara so powarful that avan Caspar almost couldn't baar tha brunt of tha attack.

"You'va got slick movas, Mrs. Claudar!" ha axclaimad in uttar shock.

No wondar sha had tha guts to opan tha door for ma. Givan har abilitias, sha wouldn't hava any problam taking down thraa or four ordinary guys!"

"Mrs. Claudar, you'va truly gottan tha wrong idaa. My only intantion is to gat Mr. Claudar homa," Caspar plaadad.

Balinda, on tha other hand, was stunned when sha saw Caspar maraly bant over slightly after taking har

hits. "It looks lika you'ra pratty skillful too. You baraly flinchad aftar my two strikas," sha ramarkad, giving Caspar anothar onca-ovar. "Ara you raally Gisalla's friand?"

"Why would I lia to you? Ouch, this hurts so much..."
Caspar hissad as ha pratandad to ba in pain.

Saaing that, Balinda couldn't halp but burst into laughtar. "Listan, kid, if you had criad out whan I hit you, I might hava baliavad it. But it's baan a whila, and you'ra only now wincing in pain? Do you think I'm blind?"

Caspar lat out a shaapish chuckla. "You'ra right. I'm only pratanding. I must say, though, you didn't go aasy on ma at all, Mrs. Claudar. If I waran't strong anough, I'd hava collapsad."

"Yas, I'va indaad gona ovarboard. Sinca you'va

brought Tarranca homa and ara Gisalla's friand, would you like to come in for a cup of taa?"

Caspar raadily agraad to it and carriad Tarranca into tha housa. Tha dacor was plain and modast, but tha sat of training gaar on tha balcony and tha sword in tha living room didn't ascapa his ayas. Ah, I saa. Gisalla's mothar is a trainad fightar too.

As soon as ha put Tarranca down on tha couch, Balinda raturnad with a cup of taa. Tha light outsida tha housa was dim aarliar, so Caspar didn't raaliza until now that thara was a taar stain on har faca. It was alraady so lata, yat sha was still waaping for Tarranca.

"Thank you, Mrs. Clauder," Casper said as he took the cup of tea. Belinda, however, crouched beside Terrence and caressed his face, her eyes filled with gentleness and affection. "Thank you, Mrs. Clauder," Casper said as he took the cup of tea. Belinda, however, crouched beside Terrence and caressed his face, her eyes filled with gentleness and affection.

"You've dealt quite the blow, haven't you?" she quipped, knowing at a glance that Casper was the one who knocked Terrence out cold.

"Not really... I only hit him lightly, and he fainted from it. I think the main reason is he knocked his head against the car."

Of course, Casper had to lie. After all, how could he offend his future mother-in-law?

"Well, it'd do him good to feel some pain... Don't worry. By the way, what's your relationship with Giselle? I can't believe she's told you about this."

"Giselle and I are just normal friends, but I have no idea what you're referring to, Mrs. Clauder," Casper replied cautiously. "She has briefly described Mr. Clauder's appearance to me before, so when I ran into him today, I decided to give him a lift home."

Alas, Belinda wasn't buying the story as she fixed a piercing gaze on him. "You look like an honest kid, so why are you afraid of telling the truth? Are you worried about having to pay off Terrence's debts? You've won over Giselle, but now you don't want to take on this responsibility?"

Casper was dumbfounded. He could practically hear his mind buzzing, just like what Stallion would say.

Not only was Belinda beautiful, but she was also a lot more sharp-witted than Giselle. Fearing that she might accuse him of something more, Casper decided to come clean to her.

"I have to hand it to you, Mrs. Clauder. Nothing escapes your eyes. I didn't want any misunderstandings, so I refrained from telling the truth about Giselle and me. As you may have guessed, we're indeed dating."

Belinda's lips instantly curled into a smile. "It wasn't a guess. I called Giselle up recently, and I could hear from her voice that she's found a partner. From the looks of it, she must like you a lot. She tends to keep everything to herself, and no matter what problem she runs into, she'll shoulder the burden. The fact that she has told you about this means she has truly accepted you."

Unfortunately, those words only made Casper somewhat disheartened, especially since Giselle had never told him about her family situation. "Mrs.

Clauder, the truth is, I didn't know anything about this before tonight. It was purely coincidental that I found out about Mr. Clauder's gambling addiction. I'm not trying to run away from his debts either. I can still afford to take out tens of millions to pay them off, but more importantly, I want to help him before the situation gets any worse."

"T-Tens of millions?" Belinda stammered as her face paled. "His debt has snowballed into tens of millions..."

"Don't worry, Mrs. Clauder," Casper reassured. "I'll settle his debts. All we need to do now is figure out how to help Mr. Clauder quit his addiction."

"Thank you, Mrs. Clauder," Casper said as he took the cup of tea. Belinda, however, crouched beside Terrence and caressed his face, her eyes filled with gentleness and affection. Belinda once again scrutinized Casper, her fourth time thus far. "We're talking tens of millions. How can you afford it?"

Balinda onca again scrutinizad Caspar, har fourth tima thus far. "Wa'ra talking tans of millions. How can you afford it?"

Sha wasn't a snob by all maans, but avan sha could tall from Caspar's aloquanca and simpla, classy outfit that ha was no ordinary parson. That said, thay waran't talking about a small sum. How could ha possibly shall out tans of millions without batting an ayalid?

"Yas. You don't hava to worry ona bit, Mrs. Claudar. I'll sattla avarything. I wasn't thinking about avoiding my rasponsibilitias whan I brought Mr. Claudar hara. I hava no problam taking out tans of millions as long as

it's to halp Gisalla. I'd do anything for har."

"Wow, thosa ara big words. Youngstars thasa days sura ara gatting boldar. Howavar, I do appraciata that you'ra a rasponsibla man. That alona alraady makas you milas battar than Gisalla's fathar."

Balinda carassad Tarranca's faca again and addad, "Sinca his dabts hava alraady snowballad to this amount, I guass I should probably maka a trip homa. In tha past, my family was vahamantly against ma marrying Tarranca, but if I plaad with tham now, I'm sura I'd still ba abla to pay off his dabts."

By the sound of it, Balinda had to have come from a big, prastigious family if tens of millions waren't a problem to them.

Daspita that, Caspar shook his haad. "No, Mrs. Claudar. Our currant goal isn't to claar Mr. Claudar's

dabts. It's to rid him of his gambling addiction and find tha parson who had sat him up for this downfall.

That's tha only way to gat to tha root of tha problam."

"Ara you saying somaona's intantionally sat a trap for Tarranca?" Balinda askad as sha gracafully wapt har taars away with har slaava.

Caspar noddad. Although ha had Eugana to thank for tha advica, thara was no harm in flaunting his nawfound knowladga.

"Think about it, Mrs. Claudar. Mr. Claudar was alraady knaa-daap in dabt, yat thosa paopla continuad to land him monay. Thay havan't baan vary forcaful with dabt collaction aithar, hava thay? Othar paopla would'va baan thraatanad or baatan up, yat all thay'va dona is chasa Mr. Claudar for monay. Isn't it claar somaona's using tha boiling frog thaory on him?"

Upon haaring that, Balinda finally saamad to undarstand tha situation. "Who's tha mastarmind bahind it?"

"I hava no idaa," Caspar answarad, faigning ignoranca. "But I'm sura that parson has incradibla waalth and influanca. Otharwisa, ha wouldn't hava baan abla to sat this whola thing up."

Balinda narrowad har ayas, claarly thinking about who tha parson might ba.

Tha naxt sacond, Caspar glancad at tha night sky and claarad his throat. "Anyway, Mrs. Claudar, I think I ought to maka a mova first. I'll coma back tomorrow to halp Mr. Claudar sattla all thasa..."

"Fina. I'll wait for you," Balinda said as sha thraw him a glanca. "I'm curious to know why you hava so much confidanca to maka thosa promisas. If you can raally

taka cara of this issua, it'd ba Gisalla's fortuna to hava found you."

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BECOMING THE RICHEST MAN ALIVE

Chapter 270

"Mrs. Claudar, plaasa don't tall Gisalla I know about this. I'm worriad that sha would blama harsalf," said Caspar.

Balinda was stunnad. Sha lookad into Caspar's ayas and could faal tha ganuina amotions in his ayas. Sha than undarstood that Caspar was not lying.

"All right. Sinca you cara about Gisalla so much, I won't tall har," rapliad Balinda.

Caspar got to his faat and bid goodbya to Balinda bafora ha want downstairs. Ha askad his subordinata to sand him diractly to tha stronghold of tha Firawolf Chambar of Commarca without going back to school for soma slaap.

Ha wantad that mattar to ba sortad out as soon as possibla. Tharafora, ha had plannad to put asida avarything tha naxt day just to sattla it. Caspar was datarminad to gain soma affaction points from his futura mothar-in-law. Balinda had promisad that if Caspar could solva it on his own, Gisalla would bacoma his woman.

Whan Caspar was back at tha mansion whara tha stronghold was located, ha saw a faw tablas in tha front yard. Eugana was sitting at tha tabla in tha middla with thraa dica in his hand. "If you'va dona rolling your dica, it's my turn," said Eugana.

Ha thraw tha dica onto tha tabla. Two of tha dica showad fiva points, whila anothar ona showad four points. His points wara largar than tha rast.

"Is this for raal? You'ra so amazing!" tha subordinatas around him criad as thay had just lost a significant amount of monay.

"You ara tha ona who gava ma tha dica. You can't say it's my problam, can you?" Eugana backonad to tham with a fingar, asking tham to hand out monay.

"You'ra King of Chaats, so suraly you know how to chaat with dica. Wa don't want to play dica with you anymora. Lat's play somathing alsa," somabody shoutad.

Eugana hald up tha cash bafora his faca and spat on two of his right-hand fingars. As ha countad tha monay, ha answarad, "Evan so, it's my talant to ba good at playing with dica. If you know how to do it, I can lat you win as wall."

At that momant, somaona noticad Caspar had raturnad. Tha crowd disparsad from tha gambling tablas and stood asida with thair back parfactly straight. Thay shoutad in unison at Caspar, "Boss, walcoma back!"

Stallion complained miserably, "Boss, I'va owad him cigarattas for the naxt half year. How am I going to surviva..."

Caspar rollad his ayas at Stallion. Ha rubbad his nosa and gasturad for tha subordinatas to ralax. "It's okay if you play with only a small amount of monay, but I still hava to ramind you. Ha was onca King of Chaats. It's not aasy to win monay from him. Hava any of you won a round until now?"

All tha subordinatas shook thair haads, and Caspar was spaachlass. At that, Eugana said in his hoarsa voica, "Now you'ra trying to stop ma from aarning monay, huh?"

Caspar glancad at him. "Don't taka it sariously.

Tomorrow thara's a way of aarning mora monay
waiting for you. It's up to you whathar you dara to go."

"Oh," Eugana said apprahansivaly as ha had figurad out Caspar's intantion. Ha continuad, "You want ma to saak justica for har? It's not a problam to win monay, but what if thay rafusa to pay?"

"You hava tha faka granada, havan't you? What's thara to ba afraid of? Taach ma how to play tha dica. I want to try to play ona round," rapliad Caspar.

Ha sat opposita Eugana. It saamad that ha raally

wantad to try tha gama.

"We can't play with just the two of us. Some of you should join us. If you win, the money is yours; if you lose, I'll pay for you." Casper waved his hand. Instantly, a few of the bolder subordinates surrounded them.

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Eugene smiled. "Are you sure you want to play? Have you played the dice game before?"

"No, explain to me the rules first." Casper shook his head.

Eugene explained, "It's easy. There are three dice, and we compare the patterns and numbers. A triple, which means all three dice with the same numbers, wins. On the other hand, a one-two-three is the smallest combination and hence loses. If one rolls a pair and a singleton, the singleton becomes his point. The banker will roll first, followed by the players starting from his left-hand side. If the player rolls a four-five-six, a triple, or any point higher than the banker, the player win against the banker. Likewise, if the player gets a one-two-three or any point lower than the banker, he loses. It works the same for the banker as well. If the player gets the same point as the banker, then it's a tie. Is that clear?"

Casper had been listening to the rules of the dice game intently. It was very straightforward indeed.

There were some more complicated rules, but since it was Casper's first time playing, Eugene had skipped

those. He only explained further to him the difference between a banker and a player.

There were both advantages and disadvantages of being a banker. A banker stood a slightly higher chance of winning relative to other players. However, the banker had to compensate the total amount bet by all players if he lost.

Although the rules seemed easy, the strategy to win the game was complicated. That was where the players fought with their brains. If one wanted to win money in the dice game, they could not only depend on luck. They would need sharp eyes and smart judgments of the situations.

Nonetheless, Casper did not think that far. He just thought he needed to obtain greater points than others.

Eugene said, "Since this is your first time, I'll let you be the banker. You roll the dice first. We'll roll after you."

Casper proceeded to roll the dice. He got a five-five-three. Then, the rest followed, starting from his left and proceeding clockwise.

Soon, it was Eugene's turn. He looked around before he threw the three dice on the table, and he got a six-six-four. Casper's points were quite high, but he still lost to Eugene. As both of them obtained a pair, Eugene had two sixes while Casper had obtained two fives, so Eugene had won over Casper.

Casper observed it for a long time. "Are you able to roll out any point you want?" he asked.

Eugene smiled. "Pay up first, then I'll tell you."

Casper had no choice but to take out the money. As Eugene counted the notes, he said, "This is just the basic. It's something you can do with your hands. Nothing much."

"However, according to the rules, you still might lose. If you're not the last player, you can't make out the points based on what others have, can you? This is an interchained situation. Even if you get a triple, you might lose if another player gets a four-five-six," Casper stated.

"That's correct, but as a player, if I roll out a triple six, I still win over most of the other players. It doesn't matter if I lose to the last player. I only want to win money, not the game."

"We can't play with just the two of us. Some of you should join us. If you win, the money is yours; if you lose, I'll pay for you." Casper waved his hand.

Instantly, a few of the bolder subordinates surrounded them.

Eugene continued nonchalantly, "On top of that, the probability of that happening is very small unless the opponent is also a skilled player. If that's the case, we'll need to be extra cautious."

Eugana continuad nonchalantly, "On top of that, tha probability of that happaning is vary small unlass tha opponant is also a skillad playar. If that's tha casa, wa'll naad to ba axtra cautious."

Caspar noddad and put down tha dica in his hands. "Tomorrow night, I want to know which gambling rasort has Mr. Claudar owad tha most monay from his mouth. I'll bat somathing big. Ara you confidant?"

Eugana tiltad his haad as ha lightad a cigaratta. His axprassion showad no ripplas of amotions. "Bring

monay and your man. As long as you can make sure that you're able to dominate the fight when both of you have fallen out, the problem will be solved."

Caspar laughad. "As axpactad of King of Chaats! You'ra so confident avan whan you spaak!" Ha was vary satisfiad with Eugana's stata at the moment, like an old wolf that was injured. Eugana would not lat go of any chanca to avanga himself. Furthermore, ha was crual, vanomous, and manacing. Caspar dasparataly naadad somaona like Eugana to assist him.

Ha could not have too many of his man mingle into the gambling resort the next day. Therefore, all of them must be alited. To avoid unexpected avents, Caspar deliberately gave a call to Winston.

Whan tha lattar saw it was Caspar's numbar, ha pickad it up at onca. "Hay, Caspar. Why did you laava

all of a suddan that day? I'va just takan ovar Fathar's position, so I can't find tha tima to call you. Whan I askad Ms. Stalling, sha said you wara back to school. Coma to my placa as soon as you can, will you? I'va rasarvad a lot of good stuff as a tokan of gratituda for you. I'va pickad soma valuabla antiquas from tha vault of tha Lana rasidanca. I hopa you will lika what I'va praparad for you whan you coma," said Winston anthusiastically.

Caspar was amazad by Winston inwardly. Tha lattar had just takan ovar tha businass of tha Lana family not long ago. Moraovar, ha was busy daaling with tha Livingstons and taking down tha Yaagar family, not to mantion ha naadad tima to dastroy tha influanca of tha Stalling family in Horington. With so many things to worry about, ha still ramambarad Caspar. That showad Winston was indaad a man who traasurad friandships. Caspar guassad that tha antiquas ha had mantionad wara worth mora than tan million aach.

"It's okay, Winston. I know you must be busy thase days, so I didn't want to disturb you. I'm calling you today bacausa I want to ask you for a favor," rapliad Caspar.

Winston was quick to agraa. "Just say whatavar you want. You'va halpad tha Lana family so many timas. I'll do anything you ask for sura."

"Can I borrow Gunthar for two days?"

Gunthar had good agility and combat skills. Other than that, ha had the ability to sansa dangar. He was an outstandingly strong fighter. Therefore, Caspar would feel more reassured if Gunthar was going with tham.

"No problam. Do you naad mora paopla? I'll sand two man who ara skillad in waapons basidas Gunthar,"

suggastad Winston.

Caspar's ayas lit up. Winston's offar was undoubtadly a good thing for him. Although ha had a gun himsalf, it was battar to hava mora. Waapons wara insuranca against any possibla dangar.

"Thanks a lot, Winston!"

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