

## UNRIVALLED 121

### [Chapter 121](#)

Nathan narrowed his eyes, "Mr. Zabinski?"

T-Rex had nothing more to lose after selling his master out, so he decided to just bite the bullet. "The oldest of the Zabinski family, Jerry Zabinski."

"Like me, Novem was a follower of the Zabinski family. But he had a higher ranking and he was also the spokesperson for the Zabinski family in Channing."

"Your killing of Simon had greatly affected the family's profit, so Mr. Zabinski wished to settle the score with you."

Nathan's mouth twitched upwards, "Settle the score with me?"

"That's right. He said I should have some fun with you, the fatal kind of fun. He also said..."

"Said what?" frowned Nathan.

T-Rex decided to go all out. "His nickname is the Player because he likes hooking up with all types of beautiful women. He's got his eyes on Ms. Penny, and he wants her to climb into his bed willingly so he can have his way with her."

Nathan's eyes narrowed into slits and his voice turned deathly cold. "Bastard!"

A sense of dread started to creep into Nathan. He took out his phone and gave Penny a call, but there was no answer.

His face fell before he quickly called his mother-in-law.

When the call went through, Leah spoke in a hushed voice. "Penny told me not to tell you. She went to the Smiths to ask her uncle for a loan after you left."

Nathan hung up the call and turned to Thomas. "We need to get to the Smiths right away!"

...

Penny had summoned all her courage to drive to the Smith residence even when she was aware that there was a very good chance they would slam the door on her face.

And yet, it seemed like her uncle and his family had been expecting her.

Indeed, they welcomed her.

When she walked into the living room, she noticed that only Samuel, Paul, and a few others were there. But her granddad, Sean, was nowhere to be seen.

Penny quickly cut to the chase and told them the reason for her visit.

Samuel grinned widely. "Penn, we are family. Even though your granddad kicked your family out then, you will always be my niece."

"The loan is not that big of a deal either."

"But you're asking for two hundred million. Our companies have been at a loss recently, so we don't have that kind of money."

Penny had more or less been expecting such a response from her uncle.

She was already feeling pleasantly surprised because Samuel wasn't insulting her like before.

She plastered on a smile. "I understand that it's inappropriate for me to ask for such a large sum of money, but I really don't have any other options. Anyway, I thank you for your warm hospitality and I shall make a move now."

Samuel stopped Penny hurriedly from leaving. "Wait!"

"Is there anything else?" asked Penny quizzically.

Samuel grinned. "We may not have the money to help you, but I know of someone who can. All you have to do is just to ask and he'll definitely give you a loan."

"Who is that?" asked Penny in surprise.

Samuel smiled mysteriously. "The person just happens to pay us a visit today, and he's upstairs in the study right now. Feel free to go upstairs and find out yourself if you wish to know who he is."

Penny hesitated for a second before nodding, "Alright."

Penny stood up and headed towards the staircase, when May, who was sitting beside her, reached out to stop her.

"That person has a pet peeve. He doesn't like to be interrupted by phone calls whenever he's in a meeting or business discussion. So it's best for you to leave your phone here before you head up."

Penny handed her handbag and her phone to May then walked straight up the stairs.

There were two bodyguards in front of Samuel's study.

One of them opened the door for her when he saw Penny approaching. "Ms. Smith, if you please."

Penny frowned slightly before walking into the study.

Inside the study, she saw a malicious-looking man sitting in a leather chair behind the desk. He was holding a glass of red wine and smiling ambiguously at her.

Penny didn't recognize him. "I'm sorry, you are...?"

The man gave her a sly smile. "I'm Jerry Zabinski, the eldest son of the Zabinski family of the Southern Four."

Penny had heard of the Zabinski family previously. They were considered one of the wealthier, more elite families in the South region and was very influential.

She had never expected this man to be one of the Zabinski family.

Penny looked at Jerry Zabinski suspiciously. "I have no ties with Mr. Zabinski at all so why did my uncle say that you will be willing to give me a loan as long as I asked you?"

Jerry's gaze traveled up and down Penny's slender figure then he replied in a seductive voice, "Because I'm interested in you."

Penny's face hardened and her voice took on a chill. "I think you got it wrong. I'm not the kind of woman who would sell herself for money. You are barking up the wrong tree. Now, if you'll excuse me."

She turned and walked towards the door, but when she tried to open it, she realized it had been locked from the outside.

Penny's face ashen as she turned to look at Jerry, "You..."

Jerry grinned brazenly. "My nickname is the Player. I always get my hands on those women that I have set my eyes on whether they're socialites or virgins. And you are no different."

## [Chapter 122](#)

Penny panicked and she ran over to the table to grab a fountain pen, then pointing the sharp end towards Jerry. "I'm warning you. Don't do anything stupid."

Jerry still had that sly grin on his face. "Don't you want the money to save your father? You need two hundred million. Who else could loan you that amount of money besides me?"

"I'm pretty sure your husband, Nathan, has gone to see T-Rex. I wonder if he'll get pummeled to death?"

Penny's eye widened in shock. "How do you know so much? You..."

"That's right. I'm the one who orchestrated the whole thing. I was the one who had someone run a scam on your father, and asked T-Rex to extort two hundred million out of him," confirmed Jerry smugly.

"The cops have determined that your father is solely responsible for all the damages. And I also have proof on the authenticity of the porcelain vase. So even if you took this to court, your family would still be at the losing end. There is no way out for you but to cough up the two hundred million of compensation."

"Of course, if you were to give yourself to me willingly now, I would instruct T-Rex to let all of you go."

Penny yelled angrily, "You are such a disgusting low life! You can dream on."

"Tsk tsk," Jerry continued mockingly, "So you're not going to do anything about it? You're just going to watch T-Rex sue your father then throw him into jail?"

"And even if you were willing to sit back and watch your father go to prison, what about your husband?"

"I'm guessing he has already met T-Rex by now. Just one phone call from me and T-Rex and his men will beat him senseless."

Penny was almost hysterical as she cried out, "You're so sick!"

Jerry was completely unaffected and continued staring at Penny's figure underneath her tailored suit. He chuckled coldly, "If you don't want your father to spend the rest of his life in jail or your husband to become a cripple; then get rid of the pen in your hand, get on your knees and crawl to me!"

Jerry had just finished his sentence when two loud howls could be heard from outside the door.

Outraged with the disturbance, Jerry yelled at the bodyguards outside. "Didn't I say I wanted absolute silence and to not be disturbed? Who on earth is making all that noise?"

Thud!

Bang!

The door was flung wide open.

The two bodyguards who were watching the door were tossed to the floor and sprawled in front of Jerry.

Both of them coughed up a pool of blood before losing consciousness.

Jerry looked up to the doorway in shock.

That was when he saw Nathan Cross and Thomas Dunn with icy expressions entering the study.

Seeing that Penny was safe and sound, Nathan could finally breathe out the breath that he had been holding in unknowingly.

He turned and gave Jerry a deadly look. "I'm afraid I have to interrupt."

Penny who felt so very helpless and was on the brink of a meltdown flung herself into Nathan's arms and hugged him tightly.

Nathan gently caressed her hair and comforted her. "It's okay. I'm here."

He picked Penny up bridal-style then turned to leave, but not before telling Thomas, "The bastard is horny. Castrate him!"

Thomas answered loudly, "Yes, sir!"

Jerry watched as the towering Thomas advanced towards him, looking very lethal. Terrified, he shrieked, "I am the eldest son of the Zabinski family! We are part of the Southern Four! How dare you..."

Nathan has just carried Penny out of the study when they heard the pain-filled wails from behind them.

### [Chapter 123](#)

Samuel only regained his composure after Nathan disappeared from view.

He brought his family and his men and stormed into the study.

All they saw was a motionless Jerry, with blood pooling around the crotch of his pants.

What?

Did Nathan actually castrate Jerry Zabinski?

Samuel could feel his blood pressure spike and he nearly passed out.

S\*\*t! He's the heir to the Zabinski family, part of the Southern Four! How dare that reckless Nathan Cross do such a thing to him!

The Smiths felt as if the sky was about to collapse down on them.

This was the eldest son of the Zabinski family, a family that was involved with most of the shady dealings in the South.

They only had to twitch their nose, and they could easily decimate an insignificant household such as The Smiths.

Samuel's heart bubbled over with hatred for Nathan and Penny, but he could only shove that and whatever terrified emotions he had for the time being. He bellowed for his men to quickly rush Jerry to the hospital.

The medical staff immediately got to work on saving his life. After a very long time, they finally declared that Jerry survived.

But the most precious part of him had been stomped on by Thomas Dunn and was no longer viable. Jerry could not live up to his nickname anymore.

Later that day, Jerry Zabinski was transferred to one of the best hospitals in Alberesque.

...

At that very moment, at the Zabinski manor in Alberesque.

The patriarch of the Zabinski family, Kingston Zabinski wore cloth-woven clothing and held a chain of chanting beads as he sat in a wooden armchair.

He appeared solemn as he looked across his family and his followers. He uttered painfully, "My most beloved grandson, Jerry, was gravely injured in Channing."

"The doctor informed me that he will no longer be able to reproduce like a healthy man."

"I do not know how to fully describe my current feelings, but I do know that I'm furious."

"Now, who can answer me. Just what on earth happened to Jerry in Channing?"

Finley Zabinski, Kingston's oldest son and father to Jerry, stood up with great sorrow on his face.

"Father, Jerry went to Channing to teach Nathan Cross and Thomas Dunn a lesson. But he lusted after Nathan's wife, Penny Smith, and wanted to have his way with her. Who knew he would get bashed up so badly by that caveman!"

Jerry prided himself as the Player. His promiscuous way was well-known in the Zabinski family.

Kingston sighed, "I've always told him that his lust would be his downfall and to ease up on his games. Now look at him, he played himself out of his manhood."

Finley pleaded, "Father, Jerry's plight is too heart wrenching. We can't just let this go!"

"Have the police in Channing detained Nathan Cross?" asked Kingston.

Finley shook his head. "No. They told us that Jerry was running a scam on Penny Smith's family and so he ultimately brought this upon himself. They urged us to let it go and not to make things worse."

Kingston shouted in rage, "That's ludicrous!"

The Zabinski family was a giant in the South. Their followers were spread out everywhere across the Southern region, and their power outstretched to both sides of the law.

How dare the Channing police tell the Zabinski family to let it go especially since it was their chief successor that was crippled?

Finley saw that his father was furious, so he quickly clarified, "Father, the Channing police aren't protecting Nathan Cross nor are they disrespecting our family."

"Rumor has it that a chief and his troops have been running military exercises in Channing. So far, they have taken down two gangs controlling the illegal dealings."

"The Channing police are probably worried that if we march in and seek revenge on Nathan, we might alert the chief and then the Zabinskis will be at the losing end."

Kingston's expression eased a little after hearing his son's analysis.

"Since there's a chief running military exercise in Channing, then it would be unwise for us to make a scene. I guess we'll just have to take a more low-key approach to our revenge then," sneered Kingston.

His eyes swept across his family, his men, and his followers, then he spoke up in a solemn voice. "Who is willing to accept this mission and to avenge Jerry? Who is willing to go to Channing and claim Nathan Cross' and Thomas Dunn's heads?"

## [Chapter 124](#)

Right away, a statuesque man stood up and loudly announced, "Sir, I will avenge him!"

Everyone turned and looked at Jackson Quelch, an orphan who had been taken in by the Zabinski family when he was a child.

He grew up in the Zabinski household, and when he was older, he went abroad and joined the mercenary for three years.

After he came back, the Zabinski family gave him money and he established the largest security company in Channing, the Incandescent Security Services.

Jackson Quelch felt he had to take full responsibility, given that his security company was based in Channing, the very same place that Mr. Jerry was crippled.

Thus, he volunteered without any hesitation with the intention of seeking revenge for Mr. Jerry.

Kingston looked proudly at Jackson and nodded. "I remember that you have a security company in Channing and seeing that your company is not short of highly-trained men, I entrust this mission to you."

Jackson answered solemnly, "Yes, sir!"

"Remember, everyone who had a part in this matter has to die. The more brutal the better," instructed Kingston.

"I understand, sir!"

...

Nathan drove Penny home.

While on the road, Penny looked troubled. In order to not have her parents worry, she asked Nathan to keep the thrashing of Jerry a secret.

When they reached home, Benson, as well as a Queenie who was carrying Leah, rushed out to greet them.

They quickly asked Nathan and Penny how things went.

Nathan grinned, "It's all been taken care of. You don't have to worry anymore."

Benson was still trying to get over the trauma. "How did you do it?"

Nathan casually answered, "I reported it to the police, and they found out that those men were con artists. So we naturally don't need to pay them anything."

Benson and Leah were both overjoyed at the news and kept thanking the heavens for the wonderful son-in-law they had. If it weren't for him, they would've been in huge trouble.

Only Penny felt a knot in her stomach. She was worried that the Zabinski family would seek revenge.

The following day was Leah's birthday.

They reserved a private room at Hearthstone Restaurant and went there to celebrate her birthday.



They didn't order too many dishes, but those they ordered look exquisite.

Leah, who usually dressed modestly, wore a Chanel dress that was a gift from her daughter.

Leah herself was very pretty, seeing as she was able to give birth to a daughter as beautiful as Penny. But she often went unnoticed because she preferred to dress plainly.

So when she dressed up tonight, she exuded elegance and charm that had mesmerized everyone especially Benson.

Leah blushed when she noticed her husband's intense gazes. She rolled her eyes and gave him a playful smack. "What are you looking at? We're already an old married couple. It's nothing you haven't seen before!"

Benson chuckled, "You look gorgeous tonight, my dear."

Nathan, Penny, and even Queenie found themselves laughing as a plain dealer like Benson Smith had finally learned how to give compliments to his wife.

But Leah was feeling shy from all the attention and her face blushed a darker shade of pink. "When did you learn to say these things? I'm telling you, flattery will get you nowhere!"

"Nathan and Penny have already given me their presents. Even Queenie drew me a picture of me and her together. Where's your present then?"

Benson froze on the spot.

Their financial situation hadn't been well in the past few years, and they had been living day to day.

He and Leah rarely celebrated their birthdays, let alone giving each other presents.

So he truly didn't think of preparing a birthday present for Leah at all.

## [Chapter 125](#)

Looking at Benson, Leah knew her husband didn't prepare a gift for her. She couldn't hide the disappointment in her eyes.

Truthfully, Leah wasn't expecting him to give her anything remarkable, but it had been such a long time since she received anything from her husband.

She would've been content even with a cheap bottle of perfume or a plain dress.

And yet, he didn't prepare anything for her.

Benson may have been an honest man, but he wasn't dumb. He could see the disappointment in his wife's eyes.

He regretted it so much that he wished he could magically conjure a present up for his wife.

Right then, Nathan, who was sitting next to him, discreetly handed him a small box under the table.

Benson felt surprised at first, which then morphed to exuberance.

What a thoughtful son-in-law! Nathan knew how absent-minded he was so he even helped him prepare a gift beforehand.

Benson shot him a look of gratitude, and carefully reached for the box.

He then looked at his wife with a big grin. "Hehe. Your present is here, my dear. I nearly forgot to give it to you!"

Leah's eyes sparkled. "What is it?" she asked excitedly.

Benson of course didn't know, so he feigned an air of mystery when giving the box to Leah. "Why don't you open it."

Leah opened the box and was shocked to find a ruby necklace placed inside.

The chain itself was platinum, whereas the ruby stone weighed around seventy carats.

Leah couldn't help but gasp in awe. "It's beautiful!"

She took out the necklace and looked at the ruby, it was immensely huge.

Women were usually attuned to the prices of jewelry. They would pay attention to them even if they couldn't afford it.

This was the same theory as men not being able to afford sports cars but always knew how much each one costs.

Leah's first thought was that this seventy-carat ruby would cost well over a hundred million.

But her husband only had an allowance of one thousand each month. How could he possibly afford such an extravagant gift?

And thus she came to the conclusion that while the platinum chain was real, the humongous ruby stone was certainly a knock-off.

But she was still very touched by Benson's actions. "Dear, I know this ruby isn't real, but this platinum chain itself must have cost you a lot, doesn't it? I really love it. Thank you!"

She leaned over and gave Benson a kiss.

When Benson saw the ruby necklace, his mouth fell wide open too. He was actually relieved when he heard his wife saying that the ruby was a fake.

He beamed after receiving a kiss from his wife and wiggled his eyebrows at Nathan to express his gratitude.

From where she was sitting, Leah couldn't see how Nathan had passed the gift to Benson.

But Penny, who was sitting right next to Nathan saw everything.

She kicked Nathan lightly under the table and scrunched her nose at him. "You're such a bad influence on my dad!"

Nathan chuckled and lowered his voice. "That's not true! Look at how much in love your parents are. It's a good thing."

Right then, the sounds of sirens cut through the night.

Two black SUVs roared into the scene and parked in front of Hearthstone Restaurant.

The two vehicles belonged to none other than Incandescent Security Services.

The vehicles they used looked similar to those used by special police forces and immediately attracted the attention of passersby and the patrons of the restaurant.

The passerby then saw a towering Jackson Quelch jumped out of the car and led five other men into the restaurant.

## [Chapter 126](#)

Jackson Quelch and his five men were all wearing black similar to that of the armed forces. The badge of Incandescent Security Services could be seen on their sleeves.

Most people could tell that they were a security team but assumed that they were special forces.

Apparently, the first thing Jackson did after he left Alberesque and arrived in Channing was to locate the whereabouts of Nathan and Penny.

When he found out they were dining at Hearthstone Restaurant, he immediately gathered his men and

rushed over, determined to seek revenge.

The five men that were with him were those who worked alongside him as mercenaries years ago, and were now key players in his team.

They and their lethal skills were a main reason why Incandescent Security Services rose to become the largest security company in Channing.

So this time, he brought these five elites with him on his mission naturally.

After getting off their SUVs, they strode into the restaurant.

Many of the patrons in the restaurant looked to them in awe. A pudgy little boy even asked his father, "Daddy, what do these uncles do? They look so cool! And their cars are cool too!"

Then, his father explained, "Those are army vehicles, so they must be special forces."

The pudgy boy's eyes sparkled in amazement and looked towards Jackson and his men. "Mister! Are you all soldiers? I think you're really cool!"

Jackson Quelch and his men weren't actual soldiers. But they were once mercenaries and were now working in the security field, so they weren't that different from soldiers.

Thus Jackson didn't bother doing any explanation. Instead, he reached out and ruffled the boy's hair. "You keep working hard. And when you grow up, you can be just like us."

The boy was so thrilled by the encouragement that he let out an exclamation of excitement.

Jackson led his men across the hall and went up the stairs in search of Nathan.

Very soon, they reached the Peony room on the second floor.

He gave the door a swift kick and it flew open with a loud bang.

Nathan and his family were happily eating dinner when they were startled by the door being banged open.

Nathan looked at the men piling in and his expression stiffened. "It's my mother-in-law's birthday today, so I do not wish to lose my temper. Whoever you are, you have three seconds to get the hell out of here."

Jackson jeered, "You have injured Mr. Zabinski, so I'm here to even the score. I'm afraid it's not a matter of you losing your temper, but rather how you're going to deal with mine."

He had just finished speaking when he saw a large shadow looming before him, and suddenly he saw Nathan standing right in front of him.

That speed!

Jackson's eyes widened in terror.

The worst was yet to come, he hadn't even had the time to react and Nathan raised his hand and smacked him square across the face.

Oof!

Jackson stumbled to the side in agony, spitting out a mouthful of blood and a few broken teeth.

He was a highly-skilled mercenary and yet he couldn't even defend himself in front of Nathan.

Jackson's men were outraged to see the state he was in and lunged towards Nathan.

But they too were incapacitated within a matter of seconds.

"Seeing that this is my mother-in-law's birthday, I'll spare all your lives. But, you can be sure I won't go easy on any of you should I see you again."

Nathan pulled up Jackson and the rest, then dragged them over to the staircase and chucked them.

## [Chapter 127](#)

In the open hall on the ground floor, the pudgy boy's father was holding a bowl and trying to coax him into eating more food. "If you want to grow up to be as cool as those soldiers, then you'll have to eat your food."

"Did you know? Those soldiers are so brave and strong and great at fighting! No one is able to lay a finger on them..."

The father hadn't even finished his sentence when cries of agony filled the hall. He looked up and saw Jackson and his men tumbling down the stairs, one by one.

The father and the pudgy boy, and all the other patrons in the restaurant had their jaws dropped in awe as they stared on speechlessly.

The pudgy boy noticed Jackson's swollen face as well as the others who were being thrown down the stairs. Terror filled his little face and he shook his head fervently. "I don't want to be a soldier anymore!"

"

Jackson overheard the little boy's frantic pleas as he struggled to stand up. He felt his face burning out

of pain and humiliation.

His comrades were also looking equally pathetic and embarrassed.

They helped each other up, before turning to Jackson. "Quelch, Nathan is way more capable than we imagined. What do we do now?"

Jackson tilted his head and looked up the stairs, seething with anger. "Retreat. We need another plan."

...

Benson and Leah were still in shock. They turned to Nathan, "What just happened?"

Nathan replied calmly, "A pompous rich guy tried to take advantage of Penn earlier, so I beat him up. These idiots were probably trying to help him settle the score."

Penny could tell that Jackson and his men were there to avenge the insult on Jerry Zabinski. It was a good thing Nathan was able to take care of them.

Benson and Leah could only gasp at the appalling behaviors of the ruthless rich. Then, they nagged at Penny and Nathan to watch their safety and to call the police if anything else happened.

Ultimately, their night of celebration was dampened by the arrival of Jackson and his men.

So they decided to just call it a night seeing that they had pretty much finished eating.

When they arrived home, Nathan walked out onto the balcony and gave Colin Dunne a call, asking him to fortify the protection for his family.

Colin agreed right away when he suddenly remembered something. "General, do you remember that battle up North? The Battle at Serpent Pass?"

Upon hearing Colin, the events of the battle immediately flashed through Nathan's mind.

A large group of invaders had started one of the fiercest battles in the North in the recent thirty years and that battle was named the Battle at Serpent Pass.

It was then that Nathan's capabilities took the world by storm, thus allowing him to be promoted to General and was given the title of Ares.

As the saying went, a general's success is built on a bedrock of dead bodies.

In that battle, Nathan led a hundred thousand men to decimate five hundred thousand invaders.

He was bestowed the title of Ares, but eight thousand soldiers of the North lost their lives in that war.

That battle was both Nathan's pride and pain.

His most treasured subordinate, Aaron Forst, led an infantry battalion of two thousand men in the battle which none of whom had survived.

Nathan's eyes misted over, but his voice remained steady. "Of course I do. But I nearly forgot that Aaron and quite a few of his men were from Alberesque."

Most of the men in the Iron Regiment including Aaron Forst were born and raised in Alberesque.

Colin spoke his next words carefully. "The Southerners are a very sentimental bunch. It's the Ghost Festival tomorrow, and everyone will be lighting bonfires and burning joss paper in remembrance of their deceased loved ones."

"I know that Captain Forst was one of your most cherished subordinates. So I was wondering if you would like to follow their traditions and do the same for the comrades who had lost their lives in the war?"

A pained look flashed across Nathan's eyes. "Everyone knows how the war started and how it ended. But no one realizes just how much suffering and agony the Southerners had gone through."

"You'll accompany me to Alberesque tomorrow. I'll pay a visit to the families of Aaron Forst and his comrades. And we'll light a bonfire by the river for all the brave souls that we have lost."

"Yes, sir!" replied Colin.

## [Chapter 128](#)

The next day, after notifying Penny and the rest of the family, Nathan and Thomas Dunn took a flight to Alberesque.

Whereas Colin, the Elite Eight, and the two thousand soldiers in the Dragonfury Special Forces flew there by military aircraft.

When Jackson Quelch heard that Nathan and Thomas were heading to Alberesque, he was in disbelief and surprised at the same time.

The disbelief was because Nathan and Thomas had provoked the Zabinski family, and yet they had the gall to set foot in Alberesque. Did they not know that the Zabinski family were based in Alberesque?

He was also surprised as they would be on the Zabinski's turf and would be easier to deal with.

Jackson immediately rounded up three hundred men from his Incandescent Security Services and they

all headed to Alberesque.

He was itching to put on a good performance and get revenge for Mr. Jerry.

After Nathan and Thomas arrived in Alberesque, they assumed the identities of regular soldiers and went to visit the families of their fallen comrades.

When they met with the families, Nathan made sure he observed in discrete whether they were facing any difficulties.

If so, he would took a mental note and have Colin take care of it.

In the afternoon, Nathan and Thomas arrived at Aaron Forst's house.

When Aaron died, Nathan had ordered for the death gratuity to be doubled, which came to two million.

He had also topped up another million from his own pocket, then had Colin delivered it to Aaron's parents.

And yet when they arrived at his house, they were taken aback by the condition of the dilapidated house in front of them.

The purpose of the death gratuity was so that the family members of the fallen soldiers could worry less about their financial situation.

And so why was the Forst family living in such a rundown place?

Nathan furrowed his brows and led Thomas to the front door.

The door was wide open, and they could vaguely hear sounds of people having a shouting match in the living room.

As it turns out, Aaron's parents, Eddy and Bianca Forst, were in a fight with their nephew, Alexander Forst.

Aaron was Eddy and Bianca's only child. So after Aaron died, their lineage also stopped with him.

The couple couldn't help but worried that when they themselves passed on, no one would take care of their funeral arrangements and other affairs.

So they considered adopting their nephew in name, and have him be their surrogate son.

This was supposed to be a good thing, but as it turned out, Alexander Forst was a lazy, good-for-nothing bum who was also a gambler.



These past two years, Alexander's losses were in the millions. And each time he needed money, he would pay a visit to his surrogate parents.

And thus all of Aaron's death gratuity was spent on paying off Alexander's gambling debts.

However, Alexander never learned his lesson. Just recently, he racked up another debt of around three hundred thousand. With his back against the wall, he came to the Forsts for money again.

Bianca wailed as she tried to cope the grief, "Just what did we do to deserve all this?"

Alexander pursed his lips and answered. "Mother, there's no point in crying. I'm gambling so I can have money to look after the two of you when you're old. It's not my fault that I was having an unlucky day. Just hurry up and give me the money."

Eddy was furious. "We must've been blind to have you put under my name! There's no more money left! Get lost now!"

Alexander frowned. "Father, I may not be your biological son, but I'm still your son!"

Eddy's expression hardened. "You've gambled away all our money. We are broke! Get out of this house right now!"

"This time, I owe money to Big Brother Baron! If I don't pay them in time, they'll kill me," yelled Alexander anxiously.

"You have brought this on yourself."

Alexander grew desperate. "Dad! Mom! Think about this! If anything happens to me, then no one will take care of your funeral and other affairs. You won't even have a proper burial!"

## [Chapter 129](#)

When Nathan Cross and Thomas Dunn heard that, their gazes began to turn fiery with anger.

Eddy Forst and his wife were shaken. "That's none of your business. We have no money left anyway. Aaron's death gratuity is long gone all because of you!" he shouted.

"Didn't Big Brother Baron say that this area is slated for development?" Alexander Forst yelled back.

"They're going to pay us a couple million to move out of this house, so why don't we do just that? Not only can we pay off our debts, but we can also get a good sum of money as well."

The Forsts started to tremble when they heard that. "You bastard! How dare you say that?"

Alexander Forst was not going to back down so easily. "I'm your stepson after all. This house is going to be mine after you die, so why can't I sell it right now?"

Before he could finish his sentence, two strangers walked through the door.

One of them was tall with sparkly eyes, while the other was muscular and well-built.

They were no other than Nathan Cross and Thomas Dunn.

Alexander Forst frowned. "Who the heck are you?" he asked rudely.

"We're Aaron Forst's comrades, and we're here to visit his family," Nathan Cross answered without a hint of warmth.

The Forsts immediately wiped their faces dry upon hearing that they were Aaron Forst's friends. They walked up to the two visitors and said, "You're Aaron's comrades? Welcome. Please have a seat."

Eddy Forst suddenly felt a little embarrassed. "We don't really have anything good to offer you. I hope you don't mind."

Nathan Cross smiled. "My name is Nathan Cross, and he's Thomas Dunn. We're like brothers to Aaron, so please don't treat us like outsiders."

Seeing that his parents ditched him to welcome Nathan Cross and Thomas Dunn, Alexander Forst began to get annoyed. "Mom! Dad! Stop fussing over those soldiers! Can we at least discuss how we're going to hand this house over to Big Brother Baron?"

"There's nothing else to talk about," Eddy Forst said coldly, before announcing that he was going out to pick some fresh grapes from the grapevines.

Bianca Forst left to boil some water to make tea for the two visitors.

Realizing that the Forsts were not going to give in to his request, Alexander Forst's expression started to get hysterical. "Old bastards!" he snarled.

Nathan Cross' gaze on Alexander Forst grew chilly within a second.

Alexander Forst noticed Nathan Cross staring at him. "What are you looking at?"

Nathan Cross' lips curved upwards slightly as he pointed to an ashtray sitting on the table nearby. "Pass me that, if you don't mind."

Alexander Forst was slightly taken aback. He's asking for an ashtray to smoke in? Man, I didn't expect him to care about cleanliness that much.

He picked up the ashtray and handed it to Nathan Cross. "Here you go!"

Nathan Cross took the ashtray and slammed it onto Alexander Forst's forehead.

With a loud pop, the ashtray exploded into tiny pieces, and blood started to run down Alexander Forst's head. He collapsed onto the ground with a scream.

Nathan Cross glared at him as he stood up. "Aaron Forst is my brother, so his parents are my parents too!"

"What right do you have to gamble away the money he left for his parents?"

"What makes you think that your parents should sell their house to pay off your debts?"

Nathan Cross grabbed Alexander Forst and smacked him across the face multiple times, leaving bruises all over his cheeks and blood streaming from his mouth.

Eddy and Bianca Forst hurried back upon hearing the commotion.

However, they froze the moment they saw Nathan Cross slapping Alexander Forst repeatedly while scolding him. They were so shocked that they forgot about intervening.

Nathan Cross gave him one final slap and said coldly, "I'll give you one more chance to say something reasonable. If there's anything I'm not satisfied with, I'll dispose of you personally."

### [Chapter 130](#)

Alexander Forst was nothing more than a useless scum, so Nathan Cross' aura chilled him to the bone.

He burst into tears immediately and started babbling, "I'm sorry! I shouldn't have gotten into gambling, and I shouldn't have taken Aaron's death gratuity to pay off my debts or force my parents into selling their house..."

"And?" Nathan Cross growled.

Alexander Forst gave him a confused look, not knowing what he meant by that.

Nathan Cross smacked another couple of teeth out of Alexander Forst's mouth. "Who were you cursing just now?"

"Ah yes, after Dad and Mom pass away, I'll send them off to heaven..."

Nathan Cross kicked him aside without warning. "You're not fit to be uncle and aunt's son."

“Aaron is like a brother to me, so his parents are my parents too.”

“From now on, I’ll be the one to pamper them and the one to see them off at their deathbeds. Now scram!”

Alexander Forst had no choice but to stumble out of the house with his hand covering his injured chest.

However, the moment he got out of earshot, he turned around and spat, “Do you wrinkly idiots really think that this man is here to play a filial son?”

“He’s just after your money and this house since he’s heard about the eviction notice. Just wait and see!”

He ran out of sight after that.

Eddy Forst’s eyes were trained on Nathan Cross, as though he wanted some kind of confirmation.

Nathan Cross couldn’t help but smile bitterly. “Uncle, I’m not a con man.”

Eddy Forst suddenly got jittery with excitement. “You’re the General! The General of the North! You’re Aaron’s chief! He showed me a picture of you last time and told me that you’re his greatest hero!”

Nathan Cross had not expected Eddy Forst to point out his true identity.

He shook his head and whispered, “I’m no hero. We share the glory of our victories with everyone including those who fell during battle.”

“I’m being serious. Mom and Dad, Aaron may be gone, but I’ll be your son forever!”

The Forsts burst into tears, and they took one of Nathan Cross’ hands each . “Good, we have a son again! And you are the Chosen One too!”

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Meanwhile...

Jackson Quelch arrived at the Alberesque City Airport right after the sun dipped below the horizon, with three hundred of his men trailing behind him.

A huge group of military transport aircrafts zoomed across the sky when they arrived, startling the people at the scene.

Alberesque was the state capital, and the airport there had been used for both commercial and military flights, so seeing a few military aircrafts every now and then was nothing out of the ordinary.

However, it was rare to see two dozen of them appearing simultaneously.

Jackson Quelch looked on as the aircrafts landed one after another. Their doors opened and hordes of elite soldiers exited the aircraft in an orderly fashion.

He couldn't help but mutter, "Man, that's a lot of people. They're probably from the Dragonfury Special Forces of the North. Looks like some prominent figure from the Northern troops is paying Alberesque a visit!"

He had barely finished his monologue when a well-built officer appeared in front of him.

To his surprise, the officer turned his gaze to meet his own all of a sudden, filling the air around him with his intimidating aura.

That person was no other than Colin Dunne, the Captain of the National Guards serving under Nathan Cross.