

## **The Enigmatic Return (Neera and Jean)**

### **Chapter 1101**

Avery nodded, then asked, "Is it convenient now? Could you help me check how well my body has recovered?"

Neera didn't mind, so she asked, "Are you feeling unwell?"

Avery let out a soft "Hmm", clutching his chest. His brows furrowed slightly, then relaxed quickly.

"I feel a slight discomfort in my chest these past few days. I'm heading back to the Free State in a couple of days, so I thought I'd see you while you're available."

Neera nodded and said, "Alright." Then, she joined him in the lounge on the first floor.

After taking his pulse, she reassured him, "You're just recovering from a serious illness and are still a bit weak, but there's nothing seriously wrong. As long as you take care of yourself over the long term, you'll get better. There's no need to be overly anxious."

Avery withdrew his hand, fastening his exquisite cufflinks, and smiled, "Since you say it's fine, then I'm relieved."

Off to the side, the triplets were watching the interaction between the two people intently. Their gazes were unwavering and subtly intense.

Sammy clenched his fist, and was somewhat unhappy.

"I can see, he's just deliberately trying to win Mommy's sympathy!"

Penny was also indignantly whispering in his ear.

"Exactly. Isn't this just him playing the sympathy card? Is he trying to make Mommy feel sorry for him?"

Harvey squinted his eyes, and remained silent.

Over here, they were whispering amongst themselves.

Over there, Avery's gaze shifted and looked in that direction suddenly as if he sensed something. [Search the FindNøvel.net website](http://FindNøvel.net) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

The moment the triplets met his gaze, they immediately fell silent, standing even more upright than a poplar tree.

Avery was a bit amused. He raised an eyebrow and teased them, "You don't have to watch me so closely. I won't do anything to your mom."

Upon hearing this, Neera felt somewhat embarrassed.

The triplets didn't believe him, and secretly muttered in their hearts. Judging by your overly solicitous behavior, you don't seem to be as harmless as you appear.

Their intentions were seen through, yet they didn't panic at all. They simply played dumb instead.

"Mr. Cox, what are you talking about? We just want to spend more time with Mommy. After all, she's been so busy lately that she hasn't had time to play with us. Now that she finally has some time off work, of course we want to stick around her more."

Avery let out a laugh as he could see through their act, yet he chose not to reveal it.

"I heard you guys play chess. Would you like to have a game? Everything's all set up here."

At that moment, he asked in a good-natured manner.

Without a second thought, Harvey declined promptly, "Thank you for your kindness, Mr. Cox, but there's no such need. We don't feel like playing chess right now."

This man is definitely trying to seize the opportunity to get closer to us, hoping that we would switch sides and support him being with Mommy.

Hmph, we wouldn't give him this opportunity!

"I see. Alright then. Wait until you're ready, then we shall play a game."

Avery nodded nonchalantly, then suggested, "On the third floor of this cruise ship is a large amusement area. It's filled with high-tech electronic devices and even robots. Would you like to go check it out?"

Upon hearing about electronic technology and robots, Sammy's eyes lit up instantly with a hint of excitement stirring within.

A "yes" almost slipped from his lips, but he swallowed it back forcefully, suppressing the excitement in his heart. Then, he shook his head with much difficulty.

"Thank you, but I'm currently not interested in those things, nor do I want to go check them out."

Upon hearing this, Neera's lips twitched slightly, almost breaking into a laugh.

She knew her child better than anyone else, so she was well aware of how much her child, Sammy, loved high technology.

How could he possibly not be interested in those things?

This little rascal seems to watch Avery very closely...

Despite being rejected repeatedly, Avery didn't give up and laughed it off nonchalantly.

"Is that so? What a pity. I was thinking if you guys were interested, I could take you to see it. Not only that, there's a specially designed mini aquarium on the first floor. It's filled with a variety of fish. Standing inside, it feels as if you're submerged under the sea, swimming with the schools of fish. Since you're already here, it would be somewhat regrettable to miss such a beautiful sight."

Penny was so moved by his words that she couldn't help but swallow her saliva.

This... is just too tempting!

Avery observed the three of them composedly. Seeing the hesitation in Penny's eyes, his smile deepened, luring her relentlessly.

"Well, there's nothing else going on right now, so let's go take a look. It's a rare opportunity, and it would be such a pity to miss it."

Penny glanced at her two older brothers. She felt somewhat conflicted after noticing their silence.

Seeing the situation, Sammy pondered for a moment, then sidled over to Harvey and whispered softly.

"Harvey, Penny really wants to go. Let's just go and take a look. There's no harm in just looking. As long as we firmly choose Dad in our hearts, it doesn't count as betrayal."

After much hesitation, Harvey finally gave in and agreed, unable to muster another refusal.

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## Chapter 1102

Avery was finally satisfied. He stood up with a smile. "Let's go then, I'll take you all for a tour."

The triplets followed closely, yet they deliberately stayed to his left, creating a distance between him and their mother.

Neera naturally understood the little schemes of her three treasures. She couldn't help but feel both amused and nonplussed, yet she didn't say anything.

They first went to the third floor.

Indeed, the technology amusement park was filled with a plethora of high-tech electronic devices, including some electronic games that were quite sophisticated.

However, after witnessing the high-tech electronic exhibition of their father's subsidiary company, these seemed a bit less impressive in comparison.

Sammy was polite, so he wouldn't say it outright, but his enthusiasm had waned, lacking the initial excitement.

Avery observed this, and was somewhat taken aback.

Logically speaking, if a child was a tech enthusiast, they should be quite excited whenever they saw these things.

But Sammy was completely different.

However, he quickly realized that he was, after all, Neera's son, so he was surely different from most ordinary kids.

Seeing his intelligence and quick wit, he must be someone who had seen the world.

So, without wasting too much time with them here, he decided to head to the aquarium on the first floor.

Fortunately this time, the children's reactions did not disappoint him. They were truly amazed by the scene before them.

Especially Sammy and Penny, they kept exclaiming, "Wow", with their eyes and mouths wide open. They looked incredibly adorable.

There were massive panels of glass all around in this aquarium.

Inside, there was deep blue sea water, along with schools of swimming fish.

Within it, there were both large and small fishes, separated to provide a unique visual experience.

Neera was also taken aback, and she asked in surprise, "How is this possible? Can these glasses withstand such tremendous pressure?"

Avery chuckled. "Of course it's possible. How do you think those aquariums outside were built? I specifically hired professionals and used special materials to construct it, just to display the most beautiful scenes.'

Neera found it quite fascinating. She slowly walked along the glass, observing the design with leisure.

She felt a magical sense of enclosure surrounded on all sides by the sea, yet it wasn't frightening.

A spectacular school of fish whizzed past her, creating a truly awe-inspiring scene.

The triplets couldn't help but gasp in awe. They pressed themselves against the glass with their noses squashed flat, wishing they could crawl right into the water.

Behind them, Avery saw how happy they were. A corner of his mouth lifted in a subtle, silent laugh.

Over half an hour later, the tour was complete, and it was already lunchtime.

Neera took the triplets, who were still full of energy, to the restaurant. [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

The elders had all arrived, and they sat down together for a delightful lunch.

Afterwards, Avery felt a bit tired, so he returned to his room to rest.

Neera also took the triplets back to the room.

The moment she stepped through the door, she was sternly lectured by the triplets.

"Mommy, it's true that Mr. Cox is exceptional and well-off, but we can have that too. You mustn't be swayed by him. You have to stay true to yourself and not let him touch your heart!"

Neera was taken aback for a moment, then burst out laughing.

"So, who exactly was the one being tempted? It was you guys, wasn't it? I saw how your souls were completely captivated at the aquarium just now. How do you have the nerve to lecture me?"

The triplets felt a bit embarrassed as they were aware of their action earlier.

As the eldest, Harvey took responsibility with a strong sense of duty, willingly admitting his mistakes and shouldering the blame.

"This time, I couldn't resist the temptation and had a blast playing with Sammy and Penny. But it won't happen again next time."

Seeing the situation, Sammy and Penny quickly made their stance clear.

"Absolutely, next time we will definitely hold our ground, and won't fall for it again!"

Neera was left in a state of bemusement, torn between laughter and tears. Yet, deep down, she understood that everything they did were all for the sake of Jean.

In fact, she didn't need their reminders for she was well aware of the situation.

Her heart wasn't that big. Once it had made room for one person, it could no longer accommodate anyone else. It would not be so easily tempted...

Two hours later, the cruise ship smoothly arrived at the vacation island that Chad had designed for Adriana.

After disembarking from the ship, Neera looked around. From afar, she could already see the breathtaking natural scenery of the island, which brought a gentle smile to her lips.

Uncle Chad really cares a lot about Aunt Adriana, doesn't he? I bet she would really like it here too.

At the marina, several luxurious Rolls-Royces were already parked.

After picking them up, the cars headed straight for the mansion.

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## Chapter 1103

On the way, Neera gazed at the beautiful coastline not far from the window, and her mood relaxed automatically.

The sea in this region was slightly different from the one she had seen from the cruise ship.

The color of the sea was closer to emerald green, crystal clear and incredibly beautiful.

Leaning against the car seat, her thoughts drifted off, and she couldn't help but think of that person again.

Who knows what he's doing at this moment...

Several minutes later, the group arrived at a mansion.

Nadine looked at the beautiful surroundings and thanked Adriana with a smile.

"Adriana, Mr. Gordon has been very kind to you. We are all here because of you, and get to experience such a beautiful place."

"Indeed, you can tell at a glance that a lot of thought has been put into this..."

The group entered the mansion with laughter and chatter. They took a look around, then assigned rooms and settled down for some rest.

After drifting at sea for half a day, Neera felt a lot more reassured now that her feet were stepping firmly on solid ground.

Standing on the balcony, she gazed at the scenery outside with her hand clutching her phone. She looked hesitant.

Since the message she received from Jean last night, there had been no news at all. [SEARCH THE website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Should I tell him where I am at this moment?

She was also about to head to Phison soon, he probably didn't know about that yet...

The triplets were constantly reading her mood, and to some extent, they guessed the reason for her distraction.

For them, this was indeed a good thing.

This shows that Mommy still has Daddy in her heart.

The triplets exchanged glances, then secretly sent a message to their dad...

In the blink of an eye, it was already evening.

Chad had a luxurious banquet hall specially built for the occasion. The birthday dinner would be held there.

As night fell, the invited guests began to arrive one after another.

These people were all familiar with the Gordon family. Upon meeting, they all exchanged pleasantries with smiles.

Neera was dressed in a simple yet elegant white evening gown, assisting in entertaining guests by the side of Chad and Adriana.

The triplets were also dressed exquisitely.

The boys were dressed in tiny black tuxedos, while the girl was in a beautiful dress. They looked just like dolls and utterly adorable.

The atmosphere was growing livelier by the minute. By the time the sky had completely darkened, all the guests had arrived.

After the banquet began, everyone present came over to toast Adriana one after another.

This lady was none other than the only woman acknowledged by Chad personally. They would soon get married, and she was considered the future lady of the Gordon family. Naturally, no one dared to treat her lightly.

Neera stayed behind and accompanied them, so she also saw the rest of the Gordon family.

Including Baxter who came to cause trouble at her birthday party.

This time, when he saw her, his attitude was still poor and he pulled a long face.

When Neera looked back, he gave her a cold, piercing stare.

However, Neera didn't mind. She didn't have the ability to make everyone accept and like her.

She had grown accustomed to taking things lightly whenever she faced hostile glances and not let them bother her at all. With a natural demeanor, she casually shifted her gaze away.

At that moment, a tall young man, holding a wine glass, walked over.



He looked refined, sporting a pair of gold-rimmed glasses, exuding an elegant demeanor. At first glance, he was unmistakably a gentleman of high breeding.

Approaching closer, he first cheerfully called out, "Uncle Chad", then followed it up with a beaming congratulation to Adriana.

"Wishing you a happy birthday, dear Aunt Adriana. Although this is our first meeting, I've heard much about you from my uncle. From now on, we are family. I look forward to learning from you."

Adriana was very familiar with the people of the Gordon family. Although she had never seen this face before, she recognized him immediately.

"You must be Shane, right?"

The young man nodded with a smile.

Upon closer inspection, Neera noticed that he had a pair of captivating eyes. They were incredibly enticing.

The only thing that lessened his enchanting aura was the pair of gold-rimmed glasses he wore.

"Indeed, it's me. Aunt Adriana, you are not only beautiful but also full of charm. No wonder my uncle treasures you as if you were the apple of his eye."

Even though it was just a polite remark, Adriana found it sweet to her ears. She laughed shyly and said, "Oh boy, you really fit your uncle's description on you. You really know how to flatter others."

Chad looked over and introduced Neera.

"His name is Shane, my elder brother's son. My elder brother and his wife passed away early, so I essentially raised this boy myself. He's four years older than you. I've been able to spend time with your aunt as I please all thanks to him helping me manage part of the business."

Next, he introduced Shane to another person, "This is Neera, your Aunt Adriana's niece. She is as dear to her as a daughter."

Shane looked at Neera. His eyes were filled with admiration, his demeanor warm and enthusiastic.

"I've been longing to meet Neera for a while now. When Uncle Chad announced your identity last time, I wanted to come, but unfortunately, I was held back by some matters."

That's why I couldn't make it to your birthday celebration. I'm glad that I finally get to meet you today."

After he finished speaking, he glanced at the person following him. Immediately, a blue velvet brocade box was handed over to him, which he then passed to her.

"Nice to meet you for the first time. This is a small token of affection from me as your elder brother."

Upon taking a look, Neera discovered that it was a rather valuable necklace inside.

Not only that, even the triplets received his gifts.

Adriana didn't expect him to be so well-prepared, she praised, "You're really thoughtful, my child."

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## Chapter 1104

Neera felt that this gift was somewhat hot to handle.

"Mmm... Shane, this is our first meeting and you're giving such a lavish gift... It's a bit too much..."

Shane laughed lightly, not particularly bothered.

"I can tell that Uncle Chad sees you as his daughter. In that case, you're my sister. We're all family here, there's no need for formalities."

Neera hesitated for a moment while glancing at Chad.

Seeing him nod with a smile, she didn't refuse any further.

"Alright, I'll accept it then. Thanks for your sweet thought, Shane."

After she finished speaking, she lowered her gaze and gently patted one of the triplet's head, signaling them to express their thanks as well.

The three of them were very well-behaved. Their voices were soft and childlike as they said, "Thank you, Uncle Shane. We will cherish it."

Shane smiled warmly, lovingly caressing their little faces. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"I've heard that you're all smart kids. When I have time in the future, I'll come play with you..."

The group was chatting away merrily when suddenly, Baxter walked over.

"Chad, there are some things we should take this opportunity to discuss now."

Chad knew exactly what he was going to say, so he rejected it without a second thought.

"Uncle Baxter, today is Adriana's birthday, so she is the priority. Whatever matters there are, let's discuss them after the celebration."

He finished talking, but the smile still lingered on his lips, and his eyes slightly squinted.

"I'm in a good mood today, and I hope nothing unpleasant happens. Uncle Baxter knows my temperament well, so you wouldn't dampen my spirits, would you?"

His words were as gentle as jade, yet they carried an unmistakable hint of warning in his tone.

Clearly, he was still upset about the ruckus Baxter had caused at Neera's birthday banquet, when he had publicly announced Neera's identity.

Baxter was taken aback by his words. His expression became even more unpleasant.

But he understood Chad well, knowing that if he truly upset him, things would look rather bad.

So in the end, all he could do was snort coldly and turn to leave for somewhere else.

Neera was relieved to see that Baxter hadn't caused any commotion.

Tonight was Auntie's birthday feast, as well as Chad's proposal ceremony. She didn't want anyone to ruin such a memorable day.

Next, the scene continued with the guests coming forward to offer their congratulations and engage in friendly conversation.

Halfway through the banquet, the lights in the banquet hall suddenly dimmed a bit.

Adriana looked up, and asked in confusion, "What's going on? Is there a power outage?"

Chad smiled faintly, gently said to her, "Wait for me."

After he finished speaking, he entrusted the puzzled Adriana to Neera, then stepped onto the stage.

Soon, several spotlights were shining on him.

He held the microphone in his hand, delivering his speech with refined eloquence.

"Today is the birthday of my fiancée, Adriana. I am deeply grateful to everyone for honoring me with your presence at this birthday feast, and for sending your sincerest blessings to my fiancée. Once again, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks. And to my fiancée, I want to wish you, Happy Birthday."

Below the stage, Adriana looked at him with a hint of surprise, feeling an indescribable joy.

Although she had guessed that this man would probably throw a grand birthday celebration for her, she never expected that he would present her with birthday wishes in front of everyone.

After all, they were middle-aged now, and no longer possessed the fervor of the young.

So when she saw him like this, it was as if she had returned to the time when they first fell in love. For a moment, she felt a touch of melancholy.

And there was something even more unexpected.

Chad gazed intently at Adriana who was standing below the stage, then once again spoke into the microphone, "Today, I've invited you all here for another reason. I want you all to bear witness to an important event."

Knowing the inside story, Neera was a bit excited at this moment, her gaze constantly wandering between Chad and Adriana, not wanting to miss any detail of this important moment.

The triplets huddled together with their eyes sparkling brightly. It was clear that they were very excited.

At this moment, Avery leaned in, looking at Neera's expression and asked curiously, "Why are you making that face? It's as if you knew some insider information?"

Neera made a hush gesture at him, her eyes curving in amusement as she lowered her voice and said, "You'll see in a moment."

Adriana didn't notice their subtle action as her entire focus was on the stage.

Chad pulled out a diamond ring that he had prepared in advance from his pocket and held it up towards Adriana before the watchful eyes of

Under the light, the tenderness in his eyes was clearly visible. It was lingering and affectionate, all for that one person beneath the stage.

"Adriana, we've missed most of our lives already. It's truly not easy now that we have the chance to be together again."

everyone present.

"Even though you've already agreed to marry me, I still want to give you a formal proposal. I don't want there to be any regrets in your life, our love, or our marriage. So, will you marry me?"

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## Chapter 1105

Adriana's eyes suddenly welled up with tears.

So, the bigger surprise was here all along!

She never imagined that he would do such a thing...

Even though she was of considerable age, she still maintained the heart of meeting her first love, and was instantly moved to a state of utter disarray.

She felt a lump in her throat, a hint of embarrassment, yet her heart was brimming with happiness.

Under the gaze of everyone, and the expectant look of that man, she didn't hesitate at all and quickly nodded in agreement.

In an instant, the scene was filled with enthusiastic applause.

Even though he knew she would agree, under such a ceremonial atmosphere, Chad couldn't help but feel a bit excited.

His eyes burned with passion, and his love for her was obvious. He descended the stage, step by step, until he reached Adriana's side.

The two of them locked eyes, all their emotions unspoken. No one understood both of them better than they did.

Neera was filled with joy, her smile never fading.

Her aunt was the person who loved her the most in this world. She always accompanied her and supported her. Seeing her aunt achieve happiness, she was happier than anyone else.

Seeing the two of them gazing affectionately at each other but not making a move, she couldn't wait any longer and urged, "Uncle Chad, what are you waiting for? Hurry up and put the ring on Aunt Adriana's finger."

With a slight smile, Chad took Adriana's hand and solemnly put the ring on her finger.

The diamond ring sparkled between her fingers. Overwhelmed by emotion, Chad couldn't help but press a kiss to the back of her hand.

The scene was once again greeted with thunderous applause, and blessings echoed one after another.

"Wishing you a marriage filled with everlasting happiness!"

"May the years ahead be filled with love and joy!"

"May the love you share today grow stronger as you grow old together..."

Adriana's cheeks were flushed, and she was experiencing palpitations. She felt as if she had fallen into a honey jar, completely overwhelmed with happiness.

Neera also took this opportunity to present her own gift.

"Aunt Adriana, this set of jewelry is designed by me personally. It's the only one of its kind in the world, named 'Eternal Love'. It represents my most sincere blessings. I hope that the love between you and uncle can be everlasting, enduring a lifetime of happiness and sweetness."

Adriana was overjoyed, and she hugged her. "Thank you Neera. I will."

Chad also started to laugh. For him, there was no gift better than being married to Adriana.

"I am so happy Neera. From now on, we are truly a family."

Neera smiled slightly. "Indeed, Uncle Chad, congratulations on achieving your dream. You must treat my Aunt Adriana well."

Chad nodded. "Of course, to me, she is my life. How could I ever let myself down..."

Avery and Shane also stepped forward to offer their blessings.

Everyone in the Park family cheerfully said, "Congratulations."

After the hustle and bustle, everyone finally dispersed.

At this moment, Neera presented another gift.

Adriana asked in confusion, "What is this...?"

Neera smiled as he gently held her, "This is a gift from Jean. He wishes you a happy birthday."

It had been a long time since she mentioned Jean. Adriana couldn't help but was taken aback. "Neera, have you... forgiven him?"

Just as Neera was about to reply, someone walked in to report at that moment.

"There's a guest outside. He doesn't have an invitation, but he said he has brought a gift. Should we invite him in?"

All the guests present today have come upon the invitation of either Chad or Adriana.

Suddenly, this person appeared out of nowhere, which puzzled Adriana, but she still invited him in.

Soon, a tall and slightly burly man walked in.

His stern, unsmiling demeanor might seem a bit intimidating, but his posture was very respectful.

"Madam."

First, he slightly bowed towards Neera, indicating his identity. "I am the bodyguard assigned by Mr. Beauvort. He sent me here."

Neera was taken aback, "Do you mean... Jean?"

"Yes." He nodded, then turned to Adriana, presenting the prepared gift with both hands.

"Ms. Adriana, this is a birthday gift from Mr. Beauvort to you. Happy Birthday! We hope you'll like it."

Adriana was somewhat surprised, so she couldn't help but glance at Neera.

At this point, Neera felt a bit awkward.

She hadn't expected that the man had also prepared a gift. She thought he wouldn't be able to deliver it and didn't want him to look bad, so she took it upon herself to do Jean a favor.

As it turned out, it was all a big misunderstanding.

Adriana was left with no choice but to accept it. After doing so, she had someone escort the bodyguard out. Then, she lightly tapped Neera's forehead, and said, "You, oh you..."

She knew, this girl just couldn't let go of Jean.

Even though their relationship hadn't improved, she still found herself thinking about him in every situation... [SEAR\\*ch the FIndNøvel.nEt website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera gave an "Mmm" sound, awkwardly touched her nose, and said nothing.

This incident was merely a minor hiccup, and it quickly passed.

But not far away, Avery's eyes were filled with gloom.

He had thought that the relationship between Neera and Jean had already hit rock bottom, but upon seeing them today, he realized that their bond was even deeper than he had imagined.

Just as his brows slightly furrowed, Shane leaned in, having already seen through him.

"Do you fancy Neera? From what I see, you don't stand a chance."

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## Chapter 1106

The two of them were quite familiar with each other, so there was no need for formalities when they talked to each other.

Avery was displeased with his teasing, and him a cool sidelong glance. Then he said coldly, "Why do I get the feeling that you're taking pleasure in my misfortune?"

Shane chuckled and said, "I wouldn't go as far as to say I'm reveling in your misfortune. It's just that I'm used to seeing you have everything your way, and smooth sailing. It's rare to see you at a disadvantage, so I'm just here to enjoy the show."



Avery was long accustomed to his straightforwardness and didn't bother to argue with him. He merely responded with a cold huff.

"No matter what, she is my fiancée in name, and this engagement was set long ago. To put it simply, she is mine. Since she belongs to me, I will naturally find a way to keep her. There's no need for you to spectate, nor trouble yourself with concern." [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Shane gave a nod, patting his shoulder. "Alright then, you give it your all. It's not my place to worry about your relationship anyway. However, if you ever need help, don't be shy, and just tell me. We've known each other for so many years, we have a bond. I'm a loyal person, so I definitely won't stand by and do nothing."

Avery was utterly annoyed by his incessant chatter. He shrugged his shoulders, coldly avoiding his hand.

"No need. This is none of your business."

Having said that, he couldn't bear to listen to his sarcastic remarks anymore, so he turned around and left.

Later on, the banquet came to a successful end, and the guests were gradually escorted back to their hotels.

The people who stayed behind were all family. Jeremiah didn't drink, so he drove everyone back to the mansion.

After returning home, everyone was tired. After bidding each other goodnight, they all retreated to their respective rooms to rest.

Just as the group ascended the stairs, they heard the hurried footsteps of a servant rushing up to them.

"Mr. Gordon, the third elder has arrived."

Upon hearing this news, Chad and Adriana exchanged glances, while Shane slightly squinted his eyes.

The third elder was Chad's third uncle, Baxter. Adriana thought of his actions at the banquet today and felt somewhat worried.

"Why is he here so late? Is he here to trouble Neera again, or is it you he's after this time?"

Chad comforted her, "Don't overthink. You've had a long day. Rest early. I'll go down to meet him, send him off, and then come back up."

Adriana pursed her lips and nodded in agreement.

Before long, Chad descended the stairs with his hands tucked in his pockets, exuding an air of nonchalant grace.

It was clear that Baxter had followed him all the way. Upon seeing him, he was the first to speak.

"Chad, I understand that you were busy during the banquet, but surely you can sit down and have a proper conversation with me now, can't you?"

His words were phrased as a question, but his tone was rather brusque.

Chad knew that this was bound to happen sooner or later, so he simply nodded and sat down across from him.

"Uncle Baxter, it's quite late and yet you've made a special trip here. Is there something important you wish to discuss?"

Baxter grunted, cutting straight to the chase. "There's no need for you to beat around the bush or play coy with me. You know exactly what I want to discuss."

Chad raised an eyebrow, feigning realization. "Ah, I remember now. Are you here about the matter concerning Phison."

Baxter's brows furrowed in frustration, unable to suppress his temper any longer as it started to rise. Thus, his words also became rude.

"Are you really going to send that girl who has no connection to the Gordon family?"

This remark immediately irked Chad, the corners of his mouth tightened as he responded in a clear and articulate manner.

"Firstly, it's not that she has no relation to the Gordon family. She is Adriana's niece, and also my niece. I've said before that I will treat her as my own daughter. Therefore, she is a part of the Gordon family."

Secondly, I have already announced that she is the successor of the Gordon family. This decision will not change in any way. Thus, there is no problem with her representing the Gordon family at Phison's election.

Upon hearing this, Baxter became anxious. "Chad, as the head of the family, you should understand how important Phison's election is. Even if you regard her as your own flesh and blood, she is still a young girl. Won't you look like a fool for sending her there?"

"When the time comes, what will people say about the Gordon family? They might even think that there's no one left in our family! Besides, those people in Phison are extremely ruthless. Aren't you afraid she won't be able to cope with them?"

Chad responded with ease, "I will arrange for someone to go with her. I will also have Shane accompany her on this trip. He will assist Neera, so you need not worry."

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## Chapter 1107

Baxter was instantly filled with rage, angrily slapping the side table several times in a row.

"Chad! The Gordon family isn't just about you alone. You act recklessly, disregarding the consequences. How do you intend to lead the Gordon family? If something irreversible happens, can you bear the responsibility? Can you face the entire Gordon family?"

"You were so presumptuous back then, choosing that bratty girl as your successor without considering the feelings of the rest of the Gordon family. That was already way out of line. And now, you dare to continue acting recklessly Do you think I'm dead?"

Chad, unassuming and unflappable, was not at all affected by his anger. He casually lifted his gaze. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"So, what do you want, Uncle Baxter? I respect you as my elder, but don't forget that I am the head of the Gordon family. Are you trying to threaten me?"

Baxter was taken aback for a moment, then he swallowed hard.

Even though he was Chad's uncle and a senior member of the Gordon family, ultimately, Chad was the head of the family.

At that moment, his expression was a picture of displeasure. He gritted his teeth, refusing to back down just yet.

"Anyway, I can agree to the rest, but I hope you reconsider this matter! This election is about the fate and future of the Gordon family. If you let that girl go, isn't it like handing over the life and death of the Gordon family to her? This is too much of a child's play!"

"Anyone from the Gordon family would be more authoritative and suitable than her. How can we let someone from outside the family take over such a significant position? What's going on here!"

Chad leaned casually against the sofa, speaking in a leisurely manner.

"In this election in Phison, the emphasis is on participation. The Gordon family has no intention of winning. It's like a hot potato; once you hold it, you'll be in a lot of trouble. I don't plan to involve the Gordon family in any turmoil. I'd rather let this pass as a mere formality. There's no need for her to establish any authority or save face for the Gordon family. You are really overthinking it."

Baxter was choked up again, his face looking worse than if he had eaten a fly.

Upstairs, Neera and a few others didn't return to their rooms as they were worried about the situation downstairs. Instead, they stayed by the staircase, listening intently.

Upon hearing this, Neera's expression darkened slightly.

It seems that Mr. Baxter is quite ambitious.

Although he didn't explicitly say it, it was clear that he has been vying for the position of district president.

Beside her, Avery's eyes slightly narrowed, he couldn't help but went downstairs.

"Mr. Baxter, in fact, you don't need to worry at all. This time Neera will go to Phison with me. She is my fiancée in name. With the Gordon family backing her, who would dare to disrespect her?"

Soon after, Shane also came downstairs.

"Granduncle Baxter, I will also protect little sister Neera, so you can rest assured."

Baxter lifted his eyelids, only to see Neera around the corner, standing on the stairs and looking at him. His brows furrowed even tighter.

What irritated him even more was that these people had actually sided with Neera.

He attempted to persuade Shane.

"Shane, don't forget that you are a member of the Gordon family. You have more rights to inherit the Gordon family and become the successor than she does. You are also more qualified to participate in the election for the district president of Phison. Don't you care about all this?"

Shane simply wouldn't fall for his tricks.

"Grandfather San, I have no say on who will be the successor of the Gordon family. My uncle is the head of the Gordon family, so it is up to him to make the decision. I don't need to worry about that. Besides, everyone should know their place. Most importantly, I am very clear about my identity and position, so I won't indulge in unrealistic fantasies."

On the surface, this remark seemed to be about him, but in reality, it carried a hint of sarcasm towards the other party.

Baxter could tell, and he was far from pleased.

He said everything that should and shouldn't have been said, yet it had no effect whatsoever.

At that moment, all he could do was snort coldly, "Fine, fine! Since you won't listen to me, then pretend I was never here and never said these words. In the future, don't blame me for not warning you if that girl ends up getting into any kind of trouble!"

Having said that, he left in a huff. He was livid.

Chad squinted his eyes, a sharp and cold glint seeping from the depths of his gaze. It was something that no one had ever seen before.

However, it was quickly vanished into thin air in a flash.

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## Chapter 1108

The expressions on Avery and Shane's faces weren't looking too good either.

One had a furrowed brow, the other with slightly squinted long eyes. It was hard to tell what they were thinking.

Although Neera didn't fully understand the pros and cons yet, she had a rough guess in her heart.

I'm afraid this trip to Phison for the election might not be so peaceful.

If possible, she would rather not get involved in these whirlpools of power struggles.

But she had already agreed, and with that, she couldn't back down.

Otherwise, if Chad went, Aunt Adriana will surely start worrying again.

Her health has just improved. If anything were to happen because of this matter, it would break my heart as her niece.

With this in mind, she suppressed her emotions, and said nothing at all.

Chad looked up at her. His expression softened, and he said gently, "Neera, don't worry about this anymore. Go upstairs and rest. You've had a long day."

Neera could tell that he still had something to discuss, so she nodded, said goodnight, and then went upstairs.

Downstairs, Shane was feeling somewhat uneasy. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Uncle Chad, what did Granduncle Baxter mean by what he just said? He wouldn't possibly..."

Chad shook his head with a serious expression. "No matter what, I've made up my mind about this trip to Phison. I'm determined to let Neera go."

Shane also understood "That is such a great opportunity, so you want her to show her face in front of those people as the successor of the Gordon family. Indeed, it would be beneficial for her future control of the Gordon family."

"Not only that, I also want her to experience the trials and tribulations of Phison. After all, even if the Gordon family wishes to remain uninvolved, they are still part of Phison. This connection cannot be erased. In the future, whether she takes over or not, she will have to deal with these people to some extent. It wouldn't hurt to familiarize herself with it in advance."

As the sound faded, Chad looked up solemnly at Avery and Shane.

"In order to play safe, I hope you can accompany Neera to Phison and protect her. I'm not afraid of outsiders hurting Neera. With Charles around, he can handle it. But it's hard to guard against a thief within the family. I'm afraid of our own people disliking her and wanting to trip her up when they get the chance. At that time, Charles' status may cause a lot of inconvenience."

"Rest assured. I will stay with Neera and protect her well."

Shane sighed, and his expression somewhat speechless.

"Why is Granduncle Baxter still behaving the same way..."

Back then, when Chad took over the Gordon family, managing the entire clan, Baxter was the first one stood up against him.

Back then, even though Chad was young, he was extremely capable and decisive in his actions, so no one dared to harbor any ill intentions.

However, Neera's situation would be rather different. Many people were not convinced because she bore a different surname.

Moreover, others would certainly think she was easy to manipulate seeing the fact that she was young and a woman with no significant achievements in business to rival the Gordon family.

"For this trip to Phison, I'd rather have Neera attend and act in the place of my fiancée."

At that moment, a glint flashed in Avery's eyes as he suddenly spoke.

"The Gordon family holds some prestige in Phison. With such a status, so anyone who dares to harm her must first consider if they can bear the consequences."

Chad hesitated for a moment, weighing the pros and cons, but he didn't object in the end.

In his view, he was not certain whether the young man from the Beauvort family could still be with Neera.

Besides, the Gordon family and the Cox family were related by marriage, so this course of action was not entirely unacceptable.

No matter what, the most important thing would always be Neera's safety.

"Alright. I'll see Neera and have a proper conversation with her about this matter."

In no time at all, the group finished their discussion and each retired to their own rooms to rest.

The next day, Neera was awakened by the triplets.

"Mommy, wake up. It's time for lunch!"

Neera reluctantly opened her eyes in a daze, only to be blinded by the dazzling sunlight, and quickly closed them again.

Then, she sat up slowly but still feeling a bit groggy.

"What time is it now?"

She rubbed her eyes and asked.

Starry chuckled, "It's already past eleven. Mommy, you have really slept in today."

Neera would rather not think about how late she had woken up, feeling a bit embarrassed.

Harvey was very considerate. "Mommy has been too tired lately, so she should get more rest. The elders also said there's no need to wake you up, and they suggested for you to sleep a little longer."

Penny nodded with a smile. "Yes, indeed. But lunch will be ready soon. We were worried you might be hungry, so why don't you get up, freshen up, and get ready for the meal?"

Neera chuckled, "Alright, Mommy's getting up now."

She rolled out of bed, and Sammy followed her like a little tail.

"Mommy, the scenery here is so beautiful! After we eat, can we go diving? Uncle Shane said he would teach us!"

Neera saw how excited and eager they were to go, so naturally, she wouldn't refuse.

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## Chapter 1109

After lunch, the group was so eager to have fun that they didn't even want to waste their afternoon break as they clamored to head to the beach.

This place was originally designed as a vacation island in the first place, so it was well-equipped with all sorts of entertainment facilities, including diving gear and the like.

The three little ones, brimming with excitement, quickly changed into their wetsuits and rushed eagerly to the seaside.

"Uncle Shane, hurry up! The little fish in the sea are waiting for us!"

They waved toward Shane, calling out excitedly.

The whole family was kept laughing by the lively antics of the triplets.



"Indeed, children are always full of energy. It feels like it's been a long time since they've had this much fun."

Neera smiled slightly. "Yes, it's been quite a while. I've been so busy that I haven't had time for them. Thankfully, they're very understanding and don't cause me any trouble or worry. They're always considerate. It's funny. I'm the adult while they're the children, but sometimes, I feel like they're the ones who are more mature, taking care of me more than I take care of them."

Nadine patted her hand. "Having such well-behaved children is a testament to your good upbringing. Their bond with you is a blessing."

Beside her, Chad was coaxing Adriana, "We've come all this way to relax, so why don't we join them for a dive?"

Adriana was rather interested, yet she was also somewhat hesitant. "It's been a long time since I last went diving..."

Chad took her hand. "What are you afraid of? I'm here. No matter where we go, I will always hold your hand tightly."

Overwhelmed with sweetness, Adriana couldn't resist and went with him to change into their wetsuits.

The elderly Park couple, advanced in years, leisurely sipped tea under the sunshade, basking in the sunlight.

The old lady waved to Neera, smiling warmly as she told the latter to have a good time.

Upon seeing that, Avery lifted his eyebrows slightly as he asked her, "Do you know how to dive?"

Neera shook her head and chuckled. "No. To be honest, I can't even swim, let alone dive."

Avery smiled. "That's okay. I can teach you."

Neera was taken aback for a moment, imagining the scene in her mind. She immediately felt a bit embarrassed and hastily declined.

"No need. I'm not particularly fond of the water. A stroll along the beach will do just fine."

After she finished speaking, she put on a stern face and warned him, "You're still not fully recovered, yet you want to go into the water. Are you trying to throw your life away?"

Avery was helpless, so he had no choice but to give up.

Before long, the children, Adriana, and the others had gone into the water.

Everyone was in high spirits, and even Nadine and Jeremiah had joined in the fun.

Accompanying them were several professional divers, just in case.

Neera stood on the beach for a while, watching. When she noticed that Avery remained by her side, she felt a bit uncomfortable, so she turned around and went under the sunshade to find her grandparents.

It seemed as if Avery hadn't noticed her discomfort, for he, too, turned and followed along.

Thankfully, she was able to engage in conversation with her grandparents, which prevented the atmosphere from becoming too awkward. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Time slowly trickled by, and Neera suddenly felt a bit dazed.

Unconsciously, the image of that man surfaced in her mind again, and she couldn't help but miss him.

This scene, so leisurely and beautiful, would be perfect if he could be by my side...

She was deep in thought when suddenly, her phone rang.

Seeing the caller's name displayed on the screen, she was momentarily stunned.

It was actually a call from Jean.

He's been sending me messages only recently. Why is he suddenly calling now?

Neera hesitated, clutching her phone and unsure whether to answer.

While she was still deliberating, the phone stopped ringing.

Neera stared blankly at her phone, inexplicably filled with anticipation.

However, the phone didn't ring again, though a message suddenly came through.

It was Jean who sent the message: You didn't answer my call. Are you busy?

Neera stared at the words on the screen for quite a while before snapping back to reality.

However, she didn't respond. If she did, then he would know she had deliberately not answered his call.

If that were the case, he would probably feel upset, wouldn't he...

When she didn't respond, Jean sent yet another message.

"Was Aunt Adriana disappointed that I didn't attend her birthday party last night?"

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## Chapter 1110

Jean sent several messages in a row, showing great patience.

He was still in the hospital today.

In reality, he had already recovered, but Wrenn couldn't shake her worries. She insisted that he stay in the hospital for two more days for continued observation, just in case.

He was bored, and the more he stayed idle, the stronger his longing for Neera became.

When he woke up that morning, he felt somewhat despondent.

He couldn't help but recall how Neera had always stayed by his side whenever he was ill.

Yet, despite him being injured now, she was not by his side. Apart from his parents, everyone around him was a stranger, as they were all medical staff he didn't know.

Such a disparity left him feeling hollow inside, and he wished he could instantly fly to her side.

After a long wait, he didn't receive a reply from Neera. His sense of disappointment deepened.

Just as he was about to sigh, his phone screen suddenly lit up. A message had come in.

It was a reply from Neera.

His eyes instantly lit up, and he hurriedly tapped the message to view it. Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera: Aunt Adriana wasn't too disappointed. She received your gift. I'm conveying her thanks to you on her behalf.

Even though it was just a few brief sentences, and the words seemed quite indifferent, Jean's lips couldn't help but curl up into a smile.

Even such a lackluster response was enough to satisfy him.

At that moment, he began to bombard Neera with messages, expressing his longing and apologies.

Jean: Since you're willing to talk to me, does that mean your anger has cooled a bit?

Jean: I miss you dearly. If it weren't for pressing matters, I would surely be by your side by now. I'm truly sorry for not making it to Aunt Adriana's birthday party and for not being there with you.

Jean: I heard Uncle Chad's proposal was successful. Please pass on my congratulations. I regret missing such an important moment.

Jean: Don't worry; I'll sort things out here as quickly as possible, then fly over to see you immediately.

Jean: Whether you want to see me or not, whether you're willing to talk to me or not, even if you don't smile at me, it's okay. I will stand by you until the day you're ready to forgive me...

Looking at the screen full of sweet nothings, Neera strangely felt like laughing.

When he was around her before, he never seemed to talk this much.

Why does it suddenly seem like he's become a different person, talking as if he can't stop?

However, the torment in her heart seemed to be blown away like a gust of wind with those words.

As a result, Neera was in a rather good mood.

Beside her, Avery had been closely observing her. Seeing her fixated on her phone as a smile appeared on her face, his eyes darkened slightly. That was a smile she had never shown him before.

He could already guess what she was looking at.

Intense displeasure coursed through him. He felt he couldn't let it continue like this and decided to find an opportunity to interrupt her.

"Neera, we're finally out having fun, so don't keep looking at your phone. Whatever work you have can wait. It's not like it's so urgent that you have to handle it right now. You can always do it later. Here, have some fruit."

As he spoke, he thoughtfully passed over the fruit platter.

Neera took it, politely expressing her thanks.

Avery sighed helplessly. "Do you really have to be so formal with me? It's fine here, but if we were in Phison, such behavior would easily give us away. After all, the people there are all quite smart; they'd figure it out quickly."

Neera was puzzled. "Figure what out?"

Avery smiled slightly. "Uncle Chad probably didn't get the chance to tell you yet. This time, when we go to Phison, we'll be acting as an engaged couple to avoid unnecessary trouble."

Upon hearing these words, Neera was taken aback. She had heard him mention this yesterday, but she didn't expect him to be serious about it.

Although Avery was indeed a good person, she subconsciously didn't want to put on a show with him in public, especially one where they were in that sort of relationship.

After a moment of hesitation, she tactfully voiced her doubts.

"Why do I need to act under that identity? Uncle Chad said it himself—I'm just heading there to show my face, that's all. Besides, the Gordon family should have some influence over there, so isn't this a bit unnecessary..."

Avery had expected her to refuse, so he swiftly explained the reasons to her.

"You may not be fully aware, but the situation in Phison is quite chaotic. Despite the Gordon family's strength, they face many constraints there. I know you might feel uncomfortable, but this identity can provide an extra layer of protection for you. Even if there were no danger, it can still intimidate the people there, preventing them from daring to offend you lightly."

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## Chapter 1111

Despite that, Neera was still reluctant.

"In that case, wouldn't it feel like I'm taking advantage of you, Mr. Cox? I don't want that. I think our relationship should remain pure and distinct. Besides, Uncle Chad will also have people following me. If anything happens, Charles and Zephyr will also protect me. If all else fails, I'll just adapt to the situation. That's better than pretending."

Her reasoning was sound, but Avery was unwilling to give up just like that. He still wanted to persuade her.

Neera made a "stop" gesture, effectively silencing his next words.

"Mr. Cox, there's no need for further discussion. My mind is made up. Whatever happens, I'll bear the responsibility. I don't want to take advantage of you, nor do I want to trouble you. Let's leave it at that."

This time, she spoke in a very blunt manner, making it clear that she was determined not to accept his suggestion.

When Avery saw this, his brows slightly furrowed as he realized her deep-seated resistance. He pursed his lips.

Given the circumstances, if he continued to speak, it might come off as insensitive. There was even a chance it could backfire on him.

Since that was the case, he might as well just go with the flow.

Either way, he believed that once they reached Phison, the plan to act as an engaged couple would still happen.

Hence, he didn't persist any further, respecting her thoughts instead.

"All right, let's just go with the flow and adapt as necessary when the time comes."

Neera nodded, feeling a sense of relief in her heart.

Even though she and Jean were currently entangled in unresolved conflicts, she didn't want to become Avery's fiancée, not even a pretend one.

In her heart, she was simply Jean's fiancée.

Even if there were conflicts between the two, that didn't change that fact.

If she were to go along with Avery's plan, wouldn't that be a betrayal to Jean?

With these thoughts, she sighed, gazing blankly at the sea's horizon.

A melancholic voice echoed within her mind.

Admit it, Neera, you've already chosen him. Deep down, you love only him. No matter what happens, this is something that can't be changed.

If that's the case, why make things so difficult? It's only going to torture yourself and that person...

Nearby, Elmer had pricked his ears as he listened to the conversation between the two. His face remained expressionless, though he snorted in his mind.

I know full well what this youngster from the Cox family is up to.

He simply wants to take advantage of the discord between Neera and Jean.

Acting under the guise of an engaged couple is but a load of nonsense. It's nothing more than a ploy to solidify this status and make sure everyone knows about it.

What a malevolent young man!

Does this brat think he can mess with our Neera? In his dreams!

Even Jean didn't impress Elmer much, let alone Avery!

Luckily, Neera was a sensible woman and didn't fall for his tricks.

At that moment, Adriana and the others returned from their diving.

Aside from Chad and Shane, everyone else was a novice, so they couldn't stay in the water for too long.

The little ones still had energy to spare, showing no signs of fatigue. They ran over to Neera and began to chatter excitedly, eager to share their joy.

"Mommy, Mommy! The sea is so beautiful! It's such a pity that you didn't go in the water and see it for yourself!"

"Yeah, we got to see a bunch of beautiful corals and all sorts of little fish swimming around us. Some even darted into the corals. It was absolutely stunning!"

Penny, as if presenting a treasure, held out something to her mother with both hands.

"Mommy, I found a super beautiful seashell. I'm giving it to you. Do you think it's pretty?"

Neera took it and laughed, saying, "It's really beautiful. The gifts from our Penny are always the best. How about I make it into a wind chime and hang it in your room?"

"Sure! I'll do it with you!" Penny said, her eyes curving into crescents as she laughed with delight.

After playing for several hours, everyone started to feel a bit hungry.

After changing clothes, Chad suggested, "Let's have lunch at the seaside restaurant. In the afternoon, we can drive around the island for sightseeing."

Everyone agreed without objections, but Neera was somewhat worried about her grandparents.

Elmer waved his hand. "No need to worry about us. We're not tired, so let's go together."

Mariah was also full of energy. She held Neera's arm and said with a beaming smile, "Indeed. It's not often that I get to go out and have fun with you. I'm not tired; I just want to be with you."

Hence, Neera chose not to say anything further and spent the afternoon having fun with them. [Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

By the time they returned to their villa, everyone was worn out from exhaustion. The little ones had played the hardest, to the point where they could barely lift their legs.

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## Chapter 1112

Neera found it amusing and led them upstairs. She first bathed them before taking a shower herself.

When she came out, she saw at a glance that the three little ones were sitting on the bed with their backs to her, video-calling Jean on their mobile phone.

The three little ones were so overjoyed earlier that they didn't react in time. Now, caught red-handed, they were suddenly startled and quickly hid the phone.

Neera eyed them, somewhat speechless.

This time, she didn't ignore it. Instead, she feigned indifference and said, "Go ahead and chat if you want to. It's not like I can stop you."

After she finished speaking, she went off to the side to dry her hair.



Seeing that she didn't object and didn't seem upset, the little ones looked at each other and became excited.

Now, they could finally chat with their father openly and without any fear!

Sammy patted his little chest and sighed before pulling out the phone. With a beaming smile, he began to chat with his father on the screen, asking him warmly about his well-being.

"Daddy, have you eaten yet?"

Jean had heard the conversation between Neera and the children, so when they continued the video call with him, his eyebrows raised slightly as joy welled in him.

"Yeah, I've eaten. How about you guys?"

"We've already eaten. It's evening here now. We were out having fun all day today."

"That's right! We went diving today! We saw so many beautiful little fish in the sea, and corals too. They were all so stunning!"

"We even toured around the island this afternoon, Daddy. This little island is just so beautiful. It's such a pity you couldn't make it."

Jean quietly listened to the little ones share their day with him, feeling a touch of regret in his heart.

"I think it's a pity too. But it's okay. When I have time in the future, I'll take you all to even more beautiful places and play with you."

"Okay!" Sammy nodded vigorously, then asked, "Daddy, where are you now? Why is the background all white. Are you at the office?"

Jean didn't want them to worry, so he calmly said, "Yeah. I just finished with my work, so I'm resting for a while."

"Oh, I see." The children accepted his words without suspicion, then chattered on. "Daddy, how have you been these days? Do you miss us?"

Jean smiled. "Of course! I miss you all the time. In fact, I was already preparing to go abroad to meet up with you all, but I was unexpectedly held back by some matters and had to remain here temporarily. These days, I even dream of you all. Without you guys by my side, even food doesn't taste as good."

In the past, he would hardly ever say something so cheesy.

Now that there was no one around, he didn't need to feel embarrassed at all. He could just say what was on his mind.

The triplets giggled, their hearts filled with mischief. They clearly understood that these words were actually meant for Neera, and they sneakily glanced at their mother.

Behind them, Neera had chosen to turn her back to them as she absentmindedly dried her hair.

When she heard all the sweet nothings that Jean had just uttered, her heart involuntarily quickened its pace.

This man... He really has no filter and says whatever comes to his mind.

Seeing that she didn't look back, the little ones chuckled mischievously and expertly aimed the camera in her direction.

Jean got his wish. He stared at her back, almost entranced, and was unable to take his eyes off her.

Even if all he got to do was stare at her back, he still felt very content.

Just then, a knock suddenly sounded at the door.

Neera went to open the door, only to find Avery standing outside, which surprised her a bit.

"Is there something you need at this late hour?"

Avery smiled. "There are fireworks outside tonight. Would you like to go see it?"

In the room, the warm atmosphere was instantly shattered. Jean fell into silence, his eyes darkening as his gaze became intense and somewhat frightening.

The children swallowed nervously. They clearly sensed their father's jealousy and displeasure but were unsure of what to say.

Neera also felt a bit awkward. Even though she had her back to the children, she could still sense that the man was watching her through the screen.

Avery's sudden appearance had her inexplicably feeling guilty.

However, even without Jean overhearing, she was planning to reject the offer.

Before she even had a chance to speak, though, Adriana and the others had already arrived.

"Neera, are you going or not?"

Mariah was quite excited as she reached out to grab Neera's hand. "Sweetie, shall we go watch the fireworks together? What do you say?"

Seeing her grandmother like this, Neera naturally couldn't bear to refuse. After a moment of hesitation, she could only agree.

"All right, I'll be there as soon as I change my clothes."

After closing the door, she turned around to look at the three little ones, wanting to say something but hesitating. She couldn't help but steal a glance at their phone.

Harvey told her, "Daddy has ended the video call."

Neera was rendered speechless.

After heading out, she was plagued by a sense of guilt in her heart; even the fireworks had lost its charm.

The little ones were also not in the mood as they gathered around her with heavy hearts.

"Mommy, should we explain to Daddy? Otherwise, he's all alone back home. What if he overthinks things?"

Neera instinctively responded, "No need." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Despite her words, her heart was filled with unease.

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## Chapter 1113

Meanwhile, in the hospital under Beauvort Group in Kingsview.

As it turned out, Jean hadn't hung up the phone himself. His phone had run out of battery and shut down automatically.

He originally wanted to hear how Neera would respond, but now he couldn't anymore.

The mere thought of Avery, with his dubious intentions, daring to knock on Neera's door in the dead of night to invite her to watch the fireworks stirred a wave of irritation in his heart.

Hah! Thinking of taking advantage when I'm not around to steal my woman? Well, I'd like to see if you have what it takes!

He charged his phone, and as he was about to return the call, Storm and Cloud suddenly showed up.

"Mr. Beauvort, we have found the whereabouts of Asher!"

With pressing matters at hand, he had no choice but to temporarily set his phone aside. With a stern face, he asked, "Where is he now?"

Storm was somewhat irritated and spoke with a hint of annoyance. "That b\*stard is actually hiding in Kingsview. Despite all our calculations, we never considered this possibility!"

Cloud was much calmer than him. "I think he probably believes that the most dangerous place is the safest place. As for his exact hiding spot, we're still investigating..." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Just as they were speaking, Nathaniel also arrived.

Storm and Cloud greeted him respectfully, then stepped aside to wait.

"Nathaniel. Any news?" Jean invited Nathaniel to sit down, taking the initiative to ask.

Nathaniel waved his hand. "I won't sit; I have things to do. To cut a long story short, the culprits of the car accident you were involved in have been apprehended by the police with my assistance. Those two were indeed hired to take your life. The mastermind they confessed to is a foreign man named Stephen. I checked his background. He's not ordinary, but I haven't found out more yet. He seems to be connected to Asher. Presumably, after you eradicated their black market headquarters, they became desperate and resorted to such extreme measures to take your life."

When he heard those words, a storm seemed to gather on Jean's face.

He let out a cold chuckle. "Take my life? They're not up to it yet!"

After Nathaniel left, he turned to look at Storm and Cloud, issuing his orders in a cold voice.

"Find out Asher's whereabouts as soon as possible. This time, no matter what, Asher must not be allowed to leave Kingsview alive!"

He gave them a deadline of two days to resolve this matter.

He had been stuck here for quite some time and couldn't wait any longer.

If things kept dragging on like this, his woman might really be stolen away by someone else!

Both brothers could sense that their boss was in a bad mood. Not daring to slack off in the slightest, they hurriedly set off to get the job done.

Eventually, the group finished watching the fireworks display.

Neera returned to her room, only to find that Jean had not sent any more messages or called. She felt a sense of unease in her heart.

Could it be... that guy is genuinely angry this time?

Is he for real?

There's nothing between me and Avery to begin with, absolutely nothing!

What happened tonight was clearly an unexpected event. Is his trust in me so limited?

With this matter weighing on her mind, she found herself unable to sleep that night.

Even though she had been playing all day and her body was extremely tired, her mind was still active. She tossed and turned, her thoughts racing.

The more she tossed and turned, the more frustrated she felt. She wanted to send a message to Jean but felt that doing so might seem a bit too deliberate.

But if she said nothing at all, she couldn't be sure that man wouldn't get the wrong idea...

After enduring through most of the night, she simply couldn't take it anymore. She sat up and dialed Isabella's number.

"Bell, are you asleep? I hope I'm not disturbing you," she asked as soon as the call connected.

Isabella looked at the bright sun outside, feeling somewhat bewildered.

"It's daytime here, so why would I be sleeping? What's wrong with you? Have you forgotten about the time difference?"

"Ah..." Neera rubbed her nose, laughing awkwardly. "I see. I really did forget about that."

"Speaking of which, it must be late at night over there. Why aren't you asleep yet? Is there something going on?" Isabella asked.

Neera responded vaguely with a "yeah" and began rambling on without making much sense.

As she spoke, she suddenly began to fabricate a story and uttered some rather strange things.

"Hey, Bell, let me ask you something. I have this friend who's been having some issues with her boyfriend recently. And out of the blue, another man has appeared in her life, and there seems to be some sort of connection between them."

Isabella listened carefully and sighed before asking, "Ah, what's the connection?"

"Well, it's like this... Technically, there's a marriage agreement, but my friend doesn't acknowledge it, nor does she want to fulfill this agreement with that man. The problem now is, because of this man, there's been a misunderstanding between her and her boyfriend. She didn't explain anything, and now her boyfriend is ignoring her. She's not sure if he's angry or what. If you were in this situation, how would you handle it?"

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## Chapter 1114

Isabella sharply sensed something unusual from these words, her eyes narrowing. She then asked bluntly, "What's going on? Why do you suddenly have another fiancé popping up around you?"

Neera didn't expect Isabella to so quickly guess it was her in that situation and hurriedly denied it.

"W-What nonsense are you going on about? It's not me! This matter has nothing to do with me; it's my friend." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After speaking, she corrected, "Moreover, the man who appeared isn't her fiancé. They're only engaged due to an agreement between their families, but nothing has been finalized."

Isabella knew Neera was feeling self-conscious, so she kindly went along with her.

"All right, all right, this is your friend's problem, right? Now tell me, what's the deal with that man?"

Neera could hear Isabella's stifled laughter, causing her face to turn somewhat red. She had no choice but to play dumb, however.

"It's like this. My friend is set to inherit the family business, and her family once agreed to a marriage agreement with this man's family. The successors of both families were supposed to be united in marriage. Now, she and this man are each the successors of their own families, so according to the agreement, they are technically engaged. However, nothing is confirmed yet, so it doesn't really count..."

"So that's how it is." Understanding dawned on Isabella, who had grasped the crux of the issue.

"Is your friend still mad at her boyfriend? If she is, this could be a perfect opportunity to teach him a lesson."

Neera clutched the quilt, feeling conflicted as she said, "Actually, it's not about whether I-she's angry or not, it's just... my friend is unsure if her boyfriend trusts her."

"I see." Isabella analyzed, "Given your situation, he was already lacking confidence in your relationship because you ignored him. Your recent actions might make him think that you're looking for someone else. The situation is unique now; it's no longer about trust. Anyone would feel upset and tend to overthink in this sort of situation."

Upon hearing this, Neera became even more uncertain.

She shook her head slightly, finally coming to her senses. Embarrassed, she defended herself, "I've already said it isn't me..."

With a smile that wasn't quite a smile, Isabella answered in a tone that carried a hint of teasing, "Yeah, yeah, it's not you. I was just saying it off the top of my head."

Neera was rendered speechless.

After hanging up the phone, she hesitated for a long time. In the end, she couldn't help herself and sent a message to Jean.

However, she didn't send it under her own name.

She sent: Daddy, the fireworks weren't actually that impressive. Mommy only went to keep Great-granny company, so don't overthink it, okay?

This explanation made it seem like she was trying too hard to cover up the truth, which only made it seem even more suspicious.

Neera felt her cheeks flush as she read the message. She never thought there would come a day when she would have to pretend to be her children to clear up a misunderstanding.

It was truly quite embarrassing.

Back in Kingsview, Jean's lips curled up into a smile when he saw that message, and he immediately responded.

Jean: Is that so? But your mommy didn't even think to explain it to me. Besides, she and that man are still engaged. Who knows, she might even have developed feelings for him...

Upon seeing those words, Neera felt quite disappointed and, at the same time, a bit angry.

What does he mean by I might have developed feelings for Avery? How could that happen?

This is all just a misunderstanding, yet he's already overthinking things to this extent?

This guy... Does he really lack confidence in himself like this?

And what about his promise to pursue me, his vow not to let go?

I didn't expect him to give up so quickly!

She was quite upset and took this opportunity to scold him.

She replied: If Mommy really does like Mr. Cox, do you plan to just give up? Didn't you say before that you would keep Mommy company for a lifetime? That no matter what happens, you would never let her go?

As she watched the message being sent, she felt both a pang of anxiety and a touch of embarrassment.

I can't believe how much acting like the kids feels like second nature now even though the first message felt a little strange.

Upon seeing this, Jean lifted his eyebrows slightly and messaged: I don't want to give up either, but your mommy hasn't paid any attention to me. I'm not sure what to do now.

Neera: Why are you being so silly? If she really didn't want to have anything to do with you, she wouldn't have allowed us to talk with you tonight. Isn't this her silent approval for you to keep in touch with us? If you think about it more deeply, isn't this her silent consent that you are still our father?



Upon seeing this, Jean could no longer hide the laughter in his eyes.

He realized that this new way of chatting was quite interesting.

Is this her way of encouraging me?

At that moment, he replied earnestly: Thank you for your encouragement, darling. I will work hard and won't give up.

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## Chapter 1115

Neera felt a bit flustered at seeing the term of endearment.

However, she was completely oblivious, not realizing that she had already given herself away. She thought he was talking about the children.

A moment later, Jean sent another message: It's getting late, so you should head to bed. Goodnight and sweet dreams.

His tone appeared to be the same as when he spoke to the children, with no discernible difference.

Hence, Neera didn't harbor any doubts. She glanced at the time and, indeed, it was already quite late, so she responded with a simple: Good night.

Having finally spoken her mind using another method, her restless heart finally settled down, and this time, she fell asleep quickly.

For the next two to three days, Neera spent time with her grandparents, having fun exploring the island.

Ever since Mariah arrived here, her mood had been quite delightful. She was all smiles every day, and with her spirits lifted, she seemed physically stronger than before.

Neera felt that this island would be a good place for convalescing, so she made a suggestion.

"Uncle Jeremiah, if you have no other matters to attend to, why not stay here a bit longer? I see that both Granddad and Granny really like it here. The environment is great, and the air is fresh. Staying here longer will be good for their health, and it will also improve their mood."

Jeremiah had no objections.

Nadine also felt that this was a good idea.

"Since Neera will be leaving for Phison after we return, it doesn't matter where we stay. We might as well spend more time here with Mom and Dad."

Upon hearing this, Elmer nodded. "All right, then. Let's stay here. Once Neera returns, we can go back. After they leave, we can move to the hotel."

Upon hearing this, Chad smiled gently.

"What are you talking about? We're all family here, so there's no need for you to stay in a hotel. During this period, just make yourself at home here. Do as you please. I'll leave the servants here to take care of your meals and daily needs. If there's anything inconvenient, feel free to tell me anytime. I'll help you sort it out."

Nadine felt a bit embarrassed. "Won't this be too much trouble for you?" [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Chad chuckled. "As long as Mrs. Park can recuperate in peace, there's no such thing as trouble. We're all family here; there's no need to be so formal."

Upon hearing that, Elmer nodded and praised, "You are thoughtful."

The three little ones tilted their heads, looking at Neera. "Mommy, what about us?"

Neera playfully tweaked their little noses with a smile.

"You all should stay here to spend more time with your elders. Be good, and don't cause them any trouble. When I return from Phison, I'll come to take you home."

The children felt a bit down at the thought of having to part with their mother again.

However, they were very understanding and didn't want to worry Neera, so they agreed.

"Okay. We'll behave ourselves, so you don't need to worry about us, Mommy. As for you, remember to rest and don't forget to eat even when you're busy."

Neera rubbed their little heads, smiling and saying, "Got it."

Beside them, Mariah listened for quite some time before she finally understood what was going on.

"Baby girl, are you leaving? Won't you stay here with me?"

She quickly stepped forward to take Neera's hand in hers, her face filled with worry while her eyes shimmered with unease.

"Indeed, I'm leaving, but I will return." Neera comforted her, "I need to step out for a bit to take care of something. The children will stay here with you. Be good, take your medicine when it's time, and sleep when you need to. I'll come back for you in the future. If I see that you're not looking well, I might get upset."

The old lady let out an "ah," but this time, she didn't make a fuss. Instead, she obediently nodded.

"All right, I'll listen to you, my child. I'll definitely take good care of my health. You must... You must come back, okay?"

At night, the triplets, reluctant to part with their mother, came to sleep with Neera.

The bed was quite spacious, but it was inevitably a bit cramped when one adult and three children lay down together on it.

However, Neera didn't mind at all. Hugging the children, she felt both immense happiness and a touch of reluctance.

Her trip to Phison this time would indeed be risky, and it was uncertain what might happen, so it was for the best not to take them along.

"I'm always saying I need to spend more time with you, but it's been hard trying to make it happen. I'm sorry, my babies. I've neglected you."

Penny wrapped her arms around her mother's neck and, with a "smack," planted a kiss on her face.

"Mommy, you haven't been neglecting us. Didn't you just spend several days playing with us? Don't think like that."

"Yeah! We understand that you have a lot on your plate, and it's okay. You don't need to worry about us."

"During this trip to Phison, you must be careful and take good care of yourself. We'll be waiting for your return..."

Neera's heart melted at their concern, and she cooed, "All right. I'll be back in a few days. Just think of it as a business trip. You'll see me again very soon."

The very next morning, after packing up their belongings, Neera and the others bid farewell to their family and embarked on their journey back home.

After disembarking from the ship, Avery first arranged to send Neera and the others back home.

When they arrived home, Avery got out of the car and leaned against the door as he said to Neera, "You start unpacking first. I'll come to pick you up later."

Neera nodded and entered the mansion.

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## Chapter 1116

After entering the house, she went upstairs and quickly tidied up her luggage.

When she headed back downstairs, both Charles and Shane were present.

"All packed up, I see." Noticing her carrying a small suitcase, Chad pointed at the two men. "For this trip, both of them will accompany you, as well as Zephyr. They will protect you. If you have any issues, feel free to ask them."

Neera nodded. "Thank you, Uncle Chad."

Next, she turned to the two men and expressed her gratitude, "Shane, Mr. Lambert, I'm afraid I'll have to trouble you this time."

Charles chuckled. "Ms. Garcia, you're too polite. Just call me by my name."

Shane also said, "We're all family here; no need to be so formal."

Then, he solemnly assured Chad, "Uncle Chad, rest assured, I will definitely protect Neera. I will ensure she returns safe and sound; not even a single hair on her head will be missing."

Chad nodded before reminding Charles, "Take good care of her."

"Understood. Even if it costs me my life, I will ensure Ms. Garcia's safety."

An hour later, Avery came to pick Neera up in his car.

Chad and Adriana originally intended to accompany her all the way to the airport, but Neera managed to dissuade them.

"No need to go through all this trouble. We can just go with Mr. Cox. Once we arrive, I'll send you a message."

Nonetheless, Adriana couldn't help but worry. Holding Neera's hand, she couldn't bear to let the younger woman go.

"When you get there, you must take good care of yourself. Be careful with your words and actions. Try not to offend anyone if possible. After all, you're in a foreign and unfamiliar place. If anything goes wrong, I'll be worried. If anything happens, consult with Shane and Charles. Remember, no matter what, your safety is the most important thing."

Listening to Adriana's endless reminders, Neera felt a warmth in her heart and hugged her.

"I know, Aunt Adriana. Just stay at home and wait for me to return. Don't overthink things. If you're not busy, why not go out with Uncle Chad? Pay more attention to him. Otherwise, if he gets jealous of the attention you're giving me, your niece, I would feel so wronged."

Exasperated, Adriana couldn't help but chide, "You little rascal! You still have the mood to tease me?"

She personally escorted them to the manor's entrance, watching as Neera and the others got into the car. Only then did she reluctantly withdraw her gaze.

Chad wrapped his arms around her shoulders, gently comforting her, "Don't worry, everything will be all right."

Over an hour later, in Kingsview.

Jean received a message from the subordinates he had left in Essley.

Mrs. Beauvort has just boarded the plane heading to Phison.

After reading it, his eyes hardened, his expression inscrutable.

Putting away his phone, he suppressed the irritation bubbling within him and grumpily ordered Cloud, "Book a flight to Phison for the day after tomorrow!"

These past few days, Cloud had been sticking around Jean. The tense atmosphere perpetually surrounding the latter had him treading on eggshells, afraid to upset his boss.

Right away, he headed out to do as ordered.

Once he left the hospital room, he let out a long sigh of relief.

If Mr. Beauvort doesn't reconcile with Mrs. Beauvort soon, I'm afraid we won't have any good days ahead...

In truth, if possible, Jean wished he could fly over right now to meet Neera sooner.

When he thought about Avery, who was secretly scheming by her side, he became utterly infuriated.

However, he had yet to fully resolve the matters here, so he really couldn't get away for the time being.

Now that they had discovered Asher's whereabouts, he had to end things once and for all to permanently eliminate any future trouble.

That evening, at a bustling dock, a massive cargo ship was moored.

Workers bustled about, moving goods in preparation for international shipment.

Asher disguised himself as a porter by donning ragged clothes. Then, carrying a box of supplies, he seized the opportunity to sneak onto the ship.

In order to leave with this ship, he had spent quite a bit of money, even going so far as to borrow someone else's identity.

At first, everything went smoothly. It seemed as if no one had discovered his identity, nor did anyone notice his existence.

After boarding the ship, he hid himself on the lowest level of the cargo vessel.

The place was filled to the brim with goods and had an unpleasant odor. The surroundings were pitch black, making for a rather poor environment.

However, it was a great place to hide.

For the sake of successfully escaping, Asher, despite his distaste, chose to endure.

After all, once he was out of this country's jurisdiction, he would regain his freedom and could move freely again!

Whenever he thought of this, he couldn't help but feel a bit smug.

Accompanying him were several foreign men who specifically came over to warn him.

"Behave yourself! Otherwise, none of us will be able to save you!"

Times had changed from the past. Asher naturally didn't dare to act rashly as he obediently complied. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

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## Chapter 1117

At precisely eight o'clock, the export cargo had been meticulously loaded and secured. The freighter resonated with the sonorous blast of its horn, signaling its readiness to set sail.

Amid the inky darkness of the cargo hold, Asher remained hidden, his instincts telling him that the ship had silently begun its voyage. Within the hold, the dangling ropes danced rhythmically, swaying to the ship's motion.

In a moment of elation, he exclaimed with excitement, "D\*mn. I've been skulking about, like a rat darting across a busy street. At last, I can bid farewell to this godforsaken place!"

Once he was abroad, he could start over and relish life under the warm embrace of the sunlight.

Certainly, he had not forgotten that the person responsible for his humiliating predicament was none other than Jean. In the depths of his heart, he had nurtured a profound resentment toward this man for a long time.

"Just wait until I rise to success again. I'll find an opportunity to kill that son of a b\*tch!"

About half an hour later, he grew a bit restless.

Thinking that the ship must have sailed far from the dock by now, he let his guard down, slipped out of the cargo hold, and made his way to the deck on the first level.

At this moment, the sea's surface lay cloaked in darkness. As far as the eye could discern, only occasional, distant lights offered a feeble glimpse of the world beyond.

He completely relaxed at that point and couldn't help throwing his head back and erupting into hearty laughter.

"This is awesome! Hah, still want to catch me, you bunch of good-for-nothings? Dream on! Sooner or later, I will crush you all like an ant!"

He spat out harsh words through gritted teeth, his eyes ablaze with fierce determination before bursting into an uncontrollable fit of wild laughter. [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

However, at that very moment, a nonchalant and icy voice reverberated from the second floor.

"Who do you want to crush?"

Amid the surrounding silence, with no one else in sight, the unexpected voice jolted Asher.

His laughter came to an abrupt halt as if an unseen hand had gripped his throat. Instantly, a shiver coursed through him, starting from the soles of his feet and creeping all the way to the crown of his head. His neck stiffened as he turned his gaze toward the second floor, his pupils contracting sharply.

Jean stood perched at the railing of the second floor, his icy gaze fixed firmly upon him.

He was dressed in a black suit that nearly merged with the night, but his presence was utterly unmistakable, impossible to ignore.

At that moment, Asher looked as if he had seen a ghost, his face filled with disbelief.

After a long while, he seemed to have finally found his voice again, asking in astonishment, "You... How come you're here?"

Jean's gaze was cold and indifferent as he looked down at the other man disdainfully, as if he were merely observing an insignificant ant.

"What's the matter? Surprised to see me? Have you realized that perhaps you celebrated a bit too early?" he asked.

Asher stood there, his mouth agape in utter bewilderment, struggling to comprehend the situation.

Nevertheless, he didn't have time to figure out what was going on. As his senses snapped back, a grave expression overcame his face. Clenching his teeth, he pivoted and sprinted away.

Unexpectedly, he had barely taken a few steps when he witnessed a group of his fellow companions, who had boarded the ship alongside him, held hostage by the police. At gunpoint, they emerged, trembling with fear.

Upon witnessing this scene, he was shocked and terrified, thrown into a state of panic.



How could this be? Why is this happening?

"When did you... When did you guys board the ship?" Left with no way out, he could only question in frustration and despair.

Jean let out a cold, humorless chuckle. "Since you're so curious, I might as well enlighten you before your demise. My men were there long before you even reached the dock. They were with you when you were putting on that little act with the cargo."

Upon hearing this revelation, Asher was overcome by an overwhelming and paralyzing fear.

He couldn't believe that when he was moving cargo on the dock and boarding the ship disguised as an ordinary worker, he was already surrounded by Jean's men!

Cold sweat trickled down his skin as he was consumed by fear.

His plan, which he thought was foolproof, had actually been exposed long ago.

Ironically, he had been utterly oblivious, akin to a jester performing his antics under their scrutinizing gaze, striving for a futile escape.

"You b\*stard..." He was both shocked and angry, raising his voice. "If you knew I was here all along, why didn't you act sooner?"

Maintaining an air of calm and composure, Jean delicately tugged at the corner of his lips, his voice steeped in cold, mocking tones.

"What's the rush? After all, you can't escape from the palm of my hand. I'll let you enjoy yourself for a while before you experience the bittersweet transformation from jubilation to despair."

Asher seethed with such anger that it left him breathless. "You... you're heartless!"

Jean chuckled, "I'm flattered. Compared to your intention of crushing me, this little trick of mine is nothing."

Right then, Nathaniel's men appeared on the deck, sternly warning Asher, "If you don't want to suffer, you'd better surrender now!"

How could Asher be willing to concede defeat so readily?

He was well aware of Jean's tactics and could imagine what horrible consequences would await him if he fell into Jean's grasp.

At that moment, his only option was to retreat, and before long, he found himself pressed up against the railing.

It'll be the end for me if I get caught anyway, so I might as well take a risk and fight for a chance to survive!

With that thought in mind, he made a snap decision, turned around, vaulted over the railing, and without the slightest hesitation, plunged into the depths of the sea.

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## Chapter 1118

Jean clearly saw that coming, and at that critical juncture, he swiftly pulled out his gun and aimed it at Asher. A gunshot rang out as the bullet left the chamber.

"Ah!" A scream of agony burst from Asher's lips as the searing pain gripped him.

His shoulder had taken the bullet, and he crumpled like a tattered cloth, tumbling into the boundless sea.

Jean observed the spray rising from the sea's surface, wiped the muzzle of his gun, and casually holstered it, his eyes brimming with contempt. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"What a fool," he said.

Does he really think jumping into the sea can help him escape? No way!

Jean remained motionless, his icy gaze locked onto the surroundings of the freighter as more than a dozen speedboats emerged. These speedboats had, in fact, been tailing the cargo ship all along, discreetly keeping a certain distance without any lights.

Furthermore, the pitch-black sea made it challenging for anyone to spot the boats.

He had arranged this long ago, specifically to prevent such a situation from occurring.

Consequently, even if Asher plunged into the water, he wasn't worried. There was no way for that guy to escape no matter what.

Asher was adrift at sea, his injured shoulder throbbing with a searing pain upon contact with the saltwater. The agony was so overwhelming that he winced, completely immobilized.

At that moment, he caught sight of the speedboats. His entire body tensed, his heart sinking as if there was a weight in his chest.

To his astonishment, Jean had orchestrated things so meticulously that all his escape routes were already sealed off.

No matter how hard he attempted to escape, he would be walking straight into a well-laid trap.

Before long, the people aboard the speedboat hoisted him up on deck. All his struggles were in vain.

Forty minutes later, the freighter was forced to reverse course, heading back to the dock.

Jean and his group disembarked and made their way up the shore.

Meanwhile, Asher's companions were transported to the police station for interrogation.

As for Asher himself, Jean had already notified the police station, instructing them to detain him. Jean's subordinates apprehended Asher and transported him to a different undisclosed location.

Nathaniel was aware of the situation, but he didn't say a word and provided his silent approval.

He understood well enough that Jean still had some questions for Asher. A cunning old fox like Asher would certainly not speak the truth if the interrogation was handled by the police.

It was better to handle it themselves and show that guy what they were capable of to make him spill the beans.

Thinking of that, he followed along.

On another section of the dock, a luxurious cruise ship owned by the Beauvort Group was moored.

This was the place Jean had instructed his subordinates to prepare for the express purpose of interrogating Asher.

Meanwhile, Asher was unceremoniously tossed onto the deck, his hands and feet securely bound. He was drenched to the bone, with a bloody wound in his shoulder that continued to ooze. He appeared thoroughly disheveled.

What added to the dread was that he found himself encircled by imposing, brawny men, each gripping a firearm. The ominous barrels of their weapons were all trained on him.

Asher trembled from the cold, his heart filled with trepidation. Nonetheless, he summoned the courage to maintain a fearless facade, steadfastly concealing any traces of fear.

After Jean and Nathaniel boarded the ship, their subordinates immediately brought over two chairs.

They settled into their seats, directing a frigid, penetrating gaze toward Asher, as though they were observing a man at the brink of death.

Asher's trembling grew more pronounced, a profound fear welling up uncontrollably.

Internally, he berated himself for being a coward, but outwardly, he continued to act tough, adamantly refusing to yield.

"What exactly are you trying to achieve with all these elaborate schemes to capture me?" he asked.

Jean found his question amusing. "Don't you know what you've done yourself? Do I really need to spell it out for you?"

Asher's countenance shifted through various hues, then he retorted, "What about what I did? There's a culprit for every wrongdoing. If you hadn't obliterated my headquarters and all my bases in the first place, what reason would I have to seek vengeance against you?"

"Hah... You're quite good at playing the victim, aren't you? What about all those shady dealings you had with Alfonso? Aren't you going to mention those? Asher Garraway, you're such a coward for not having the guts to admit what you did. Do you even deserve to be in charge of the black market?" Jean snorted.

"You!"

Jean couldn't be bothered with idle chatter and went straight to the point. "I just want to ask you, who is the mastermind behind you?"

Naturally, Asher remained tight-lipped. He was determined to play dumb.

"What mastermind? I have no idea what you're talking about. My luck's run out now that I'm in your grasp. I won't deny what I did at this point. Since it's already come to this, you can decide to kill or torture me all you want. Cut all the cr\*p!"

Jean chuckled lightly, speaking in a calm and unhurried manner, "It seems you're quite the tough nut to crack. Well then, I'm curious to see if I can pry open your mouth."

As soon as he said that, Cloud immediately understood his boss' intentions and promptly dragged the man away.

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## Chapter 1119

Soon, the cabin resonated with Asher's harrowing screams, each one more intense than the last, as if he sought to scream his very guts out.

Outside, Jean and Nathaniel listened with indifference, their expressions unchanged, not a single eyebrow raised.

Several minutes later, Asher was hauled out, resembling nothing more than a discarded rag, crumpled on the ground.

He was covered in wounds, his face smeared with blood, his features horribly bruised and swollen.

Even his mouth was filled with blood, and two of his teeth had been knocked out. He was truly in a sorry state.

Having witnessed their ruthless tactics this time, he could no longer summon his courage. His body quivered like a leaf, terror filling his eyes.

One of his eyes was half-lidded, the other wide and round, gazing fearfully at Jean. He stuttered the word "you" for an extended moment but couldn't muster a complete sentence.

Jean regarded him with indifference and repeated, "Who's the mastermind behind you?" Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

This time, Asher didn't put up a stubborn front. He was clearly shaken.

Yet, it appeared he had something in mind. He spat out a mouthful of blood but continued to maintain his silence, refusing to utter a single word.

Jean waited for two minutes, then wore a faint smile. "Looks like you're a loyal one. Even after getting beaten into a pulp, you still won't talk. Interesting. I'm becoming increasingly curious just how resolute you can be."

After he finished speaking, he glanced at Cloud.

Consequently, Asher was dragged away once more, and the agonized screams reverberated again.

Such a situation repeated over the course of an hour, and Asher was nearly half dead by then. He couldn't even muster the strength to cry out, and could only groan unconsciously.

Jean was very patient, never showing any signs of irritation or annoyance. He asked the same question again, "Now can you tell me the name and identity of the mastermind behind you?"

Asher panted heavily, his breath ragged, and he looked so feeble as if he were close to dying. One of his eyes had taken such a harsh blow that he couldn't open it any longer.

He lay sprawled on the deck, his fingers twitching involuntarily, but he continued to maintain his silence.

Jean raised an eyebrow and said in a leisurely manner, "Still not willing to talk? Fine, I'm not in a hurry. I have all the time in the world to wear you down. Don't worry, I won't let you die. If you can't stand it and pass out, I'll have someone splash you with chili water to wake you up. I believe you guys have used this method before, right? You know how it feels, and now you can have a taste of it yourself."

Asher trembled uncontrollably, his gaze fixed on the man before him who bore a calm, unruffled expression. It felt as though he was confronting the Grim Reaper himself, and his fear reached its peak.

What a terrifying person this is!

Previously, Asher had only heard of Jean's notoriety for being cold-blooded and merciless, but he had never fathomed it would be to such an extreme degree.

When it came to employing ruthless methods, Jean clearly didn't lag behind those in their line of work. In fact, he proved to be even more savage than them.

Asher finally couldn't bear it any longer and began to speak with a shaky voice after coughing up more blood.

"I-It's not that I don't want to tell you. It's just that I really don't know. I don't know who's behind all this, honestly..."

Jean clearly didn't believe it, narrowing his eyes and staring at him coldly. "I see you're still stubborn, huh? Or are you trying to fool me?"

Asher was so scared he was about to wet his pants. "I'm not lying to you! It's true! Everything I said is true, I swear. I really don't know..."

Jean was clearly not happy with the result he got after all the fuss. His expression was gloomy and intimidating.

"You've been involved with the black market in Essley multiple times, and even have connections with the black market in Huspela. Does this mean that the black markets in various countries are interconnected?" he questioned.

Asher was utterly astonished. He didn't expect Jean to know this.

At this point, there was no use in hiding anything. He didn't want to endure that kind of pain anymore, so he decided to just tell the truth.

"Since you already know, why bother asking? Just as you speculated, the black markets of various countries are indeed connected," he admitted.

"So, you're telling me that the black markets of all countries are under the control of a single power. As the person in charge domestically, I find it hard to believe that you don't know who is managing you."

They circled back to the same question, and Jean drawled nonchalantly, his tone gentle as he delivered the harshest words. "Cloud, since he still won't tell us, let's not waste our effort and give him a taste of chili water right away."

Upon receiving the order, Cloud took out the chili water he had prepared in advance without a word and poured it directly onto Asher's wound.

That move caused Asher so much pain that he almost passed out.

His face contorted in pain as he shrieked and wailed until his voice turned hoarse.

The pain was so intense it made him wish he were dead.

Unable to bear the agony, he kept crying out, "Kill me... Just kill me..."

Jean's expression remained unchanged, "You want to die? Sure. I could easily send you on your way. But like I said, I won't let you die. You can stop dreaming about such an easy way out. If you still don't spill the beans, I'll keep you this way, hanging your life by a thread, making you live a life worse than death. Think about what you should do."

His tone was indifferent, yet his aura was as intimidating as the Grim Reaper, horrifyingly ruthless and merciless.

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## Chapter 1120

Right now, Asher was filled with immense regret.

Just how blind and foolish I am to offend such a terrifying person?

He was well aware that Jean would certainly do as he said. By then, he would be stuck in a hopeless situation.

Just the thought of such agony made him tremble uncontrollably.

In the end, he could only say what he knew.

"What lies could I possibly tell when I'm in such a state? I genuinely have no idea about the details of the force behind all this."

Jean's eyes narrowed, his gaze flickering with a dangerous intensity. "Does that mean you know something other than that?"

Asher swallowed hard, the metallic taste of blood filling his mouth.

"All I know is that the upper management of the black market is run by people from the mafia. But anything beyond that, I'm not sure..."

This piece of information, indeed, took Jean by surprise.

Before this, he had conjectured that the black markets of all countries were under the mafia's sway.

However, Asher contended that the mafia constituted merely one managerial tier within the black market. There were additional higher-ups above them.

This implied that further up the hierarchy, there were powers of even greater influence. They must have truly exceptional background.

Jean and Nathaniel exchanged glances, their expressions somewhat solemn.

Nathaniel finally spoke up at that moment. "Tell us everything you know, or else, you'll have a taste of chili water again."

Asher, cowed into submission, answered whatever questions they had.

"Actually, black market managers from all countries don't know much. This organization operates with utmost secrecy. Despite the illusion of high-ranking positions and



influence, we aren't genuinely regarded as significant or wholly trusted. We're frequently left uninformed about various matters, essentially receiving a paycheck for our efforts. Furthermore, I've only held this role for a mere two years, so I possess even less knowledge about the upper echelons of the operation..."

As he spoke, his breath quickened slightly, and he coughed twice before continuing in a frail voice, "Typically, I only have contact with black market managers from neighboring countries. I heard some speculations about the higher-ups from them."

Growing impatient, Jean pressed Asher with a direct question, "What kind of speculations?"

After a moment of contemplation, Asher responded, "There are two more plausible theories. One suggests that the individual in charge might be the leader of a prominent Western family, or possibly a high-ranking official from a major nation. Currently, no one can confirm the accuracy of these speculations."

Upon hearing this, Jean pondered over the possibilities of these two speculations.

To orchestrate a vast black market network spanning multiple countries, one that had endured and expanded for many years, was undeniably remarkable. It seemed unlikely that a family alone could have orchestrated such an enterprise.

Even though he lacked concrete evidence, a faint hunch began to take shape in his mind.

It occurred to him that this matter might be intricately connected to the situation in Phison. In that region, there were several powerful family clans, their influence nearly rivaling that of the nation itself.

Therefore, it seemed plausible that only those influential families in Phison could have established an operation of this magnitude.

Furthermore, Bartitsu Guild might have something to do with it as well.

Naturally, Nathaniel had also considered this possibility, and his expression darkened slightly.

A moment later, he pressed, "Is there anything else you haven't disclosed? Come clean now, or you understand the consequences."

Asher's face contorted with fear and helplessness. "I swear there's nothing more! I've confessed everything I should have. Please believe me..."

Jean cast a brief, knowing look at Asher, sensing that further interrogation might yield no additional information. With that in mind, he chose to let the matter rest.

With a respectful tone, Cloud asked, "Mr. Beauvort, what do you plan to do with him next?"

Before Jean could utter a word in response, Asher had already started to plead for mercy.

"Spare me, please! I've told you everything I know. I beg you, don't kill me! Please don't kill me!" [search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

Jean let out a cold, mirthless chuckle. "Weren't you so stubborn just moments ago, telling me to do as I please? Now, where has all your courage gone?"

Asher was momentarily at a loss for words.

Not wanting to waste more time on him, Jean glanced at Cloud and said indifferently, "Take him away. Lock him up first and make sure he doesn't die."

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## Chapter 1121

After Asher left with Cloud, Nathaniel asked Jean, "What's your next move?"

Jean spoke in a cold voice. "I want to go to that place."

He didn't make it explicit, but Nathaniel understood what he was referring to immediately.

"Do you also suspect that, as Asher suggested, those in the upper echelons of the black market might be influenced or manipulated by forces from that place?" he inquired.

The two seemed to be speaking in riddles, each fully aware of what the other was thinking.

Jean nodded. "There's also a possibility that the forces there are fully in control. Who knows?"

Nathaniel's expression turned solemn as he nodded. "It seems we're on the same page. I also believe that's more likely."

Then, he asked, "When are you leaving?"

"I'll leave first thing in the morning," Jean replied. "I'm afraid I won't be able to return for a while this time. Nathaniel, I'm entrusting everything here to your care."

Naturally, Nathaniel had no objections, but he was somewhat surprised. "So soon?"

Jean gave a brief explanation, "Neera went there. I need to bring her back. Besides, the situation there is chaotic. They're about to hold a district president election conference soon. I'm afraid some trouble might be stirred up again. I need to go back and handle some things first."

Upon hearing this, Nathaniel became even more puzzled.

He had long been aware of the relationship between his cousin and that woman, and he also knew some details about Neera, which was why he was so surprised at this moment.

Furthermore, he also knew that there was going to be an election for the district president in Phison.

However, Neera should have nothing to do with Phison. Why would she go to that kind of place?

"She went there as the successor of the Gordon family."

"The successor of the Gordon family?"

Recently, Nathaniel had been busy investigating Asher's affairs, so he hadn't been paying attention to the Gordon family's matters. He was even more surprised when he heard that.

"Isn't she from the Garcia family? How did she suddenly become the successor of the Gordon family? She doesn't even share the same surname with the Gordons. Will the Gordon family accept her?"

Jean couldn't help but feel a sense of helplessness as he thought about the series of events that had recently occurred.

"This is a long story. I'll tell you all about it when we have free time."

Nathaniel didn't ask any more questions and nodded in agreement. "All right. Be extra careful over there. If anything comes up, feel free to contact me at any time."

Jean nodded, patting Nathaniel's shoulder. "Thanks."

It was already very late into the night by the time they finished dealing with Asher.

When Jean returned home, it was already midnight. He quickly washed up and went to sleep.

The next day, he went to see Frederic and Wrenn first.

"You're going to Phison?" Frederic furrowed his brow upon hearing his words.

Wrenn also had a worried look on her face, "Why are you going there? I thought you were going to Essley to find Neera?"

Knowing they were worried, Jean comforted them with a gentle voice, "I'm going over there to bring Neera back. It's quite a long story, but rest assured, everything will be fine."

Just like Nathaniel, the two elders were also confused when they heard about this, having no idea what was going on.

However, they knew their son well. When he set his mind on something, there was no swaying him from his course.

Frederic let out a resigned sigh and remarked, "If you must go, then go, but please take care of your health. You've recently had a car accident and another episode. The journey will take more than twenty hours. You might not be able to handle it."

Jean smiled. "Don't worry, I know my limits. Neera left me some medicine she specially prepared before she left. I'll take it on time." [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

After bidding farewell to his parents, he set off immediately with Cloud, Storm, and Ian, heading toward Phison.

As he was about to step out of the hospital, Wrenn suddenly rushed out, calling after him, "Jean, wait a moment!"

Jean paused in his tracks, turning back to look at his mother. "Mom, is there anything else?"

Wrenn walked up to him, hesitated for a moment, then said, "When you get there and see Neera, could you apologize for me again? I was foolish before, I made many mistakes that hindered your relationship. It was my fault. I don't expect her to forgive me, I just hope that my past mistakes won't affect her feelings for you, as well as the relationship between the two of you and the three children. I won't ask for anything else. Even if those three children refuse to acknowledge me and your father, we're fine with it. Nothing else matters as long as you all can be well and happy."

She forced a sorrowful smile after saying that.

"Go on. Go and bring Neera back from that place. You all must be safe and sound. Only then can your father and I be at ease."

Jean gazed at her for a long while without saying anything. In the end, he gave her a hug.

Even though the hug only lasted a brief while, emotional tears still welled up in Wrenn's eyes.

"Be careful and have a safe journey," she urged again, holding back her tears.

Jean nodded slightly, then turned around and strode away.

The journey from Essley to Phison covered half the globe, and the flight took nearly twenty hours.

When Neera disembarked from the plane, she stretched her body. Her back and waist felt sore.

Avery asked with concern, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Neera stretched her waist, shook her head, and surveyed the unfamiliar surroundings. "Where is this place?"

"This is District Fourteen within the jurisdiction of Bartitsu Guild, which is also the Cox family's stronghold. Let's settle down in the Cox residence first. The situation with the Gordon family is currently chaotic. You don't know any of the elders living here, which is even more troublesome. So, for now, let's not go there," Avery explained to her.

After some thought, Neera felt that it made sense.

She was utterly unfamiliar with this place and needed someone to guide her.

And so, the group set off for the Cox family's headquarters.

As the car arrived at its destination, Neera was taken aback by the towering structure before her eyes.

This was an extraordinarily luxurious mansion with security that was exceptionally stringent, unlike anything she had ever seen before.

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**Read Chapter 1122**

## Chapter 1122

The guard at the entrance, upon seeing Avery alight from the car, immediately reported it through his walkie-talkie.

In less than a minute, the butler inside, along with the servants, briskly stepped out in a hurried yet orderly manner.

Those people lined up on both sides of the main gate, creating an extremely extravagant spectacle.

"Welcome back, Mr. Cox!" They greeted in unison and sonorously.

Avery nodded without changing his expression, clearly accustomed to it.

"This is the successor of the Gordon family, soon to be the new head of the household. You may address her as Ms. Garcia. Mind your manners, and do not disrespect her." He introduced Neera with a casual demeanor.

As soon as he ended his sentence, everyone immediately greeted in unison, "Ms. Garcia!"

Neera felt rather embarrassed as she was a bit uncomfortable with all that fuss.

She initially wanted to tell them that there was no need to be so formal with her. However, on second thought, she thought it may be better not to be too casual there. Maintaining a certain level of formality could perhaps work in her favor.

After entering, Avery comforted her with a gentle smile. "Feel at ease. Consider this place as your own home. You're free to do as you wish. If you need anything at all, don't hesitate to ask me anytime."

Neera nodded politely, saying, "Thank you. I appreciate your help."

Avery's consistent display of politeness and distance toward her left him feeling quite resigned.

However, he also knew that rushing wouldn't help; the more he rushed, the more likely his plan would backfire.

Thus, he smiled, his eyes and brows exuding a gentle humility. "You must be tired after such a long flight. I'll have Violet take you to rest. Later, we'll have some food sent to you. Once you've had a chance to freshen up, we can discuss the important matters."

"All right." Neera had no objections.

Violet led Neera upstairs. "Neera, this room is for you. Satan has already instructed the servants to tidy it up. I hope you'll like it."

After Neera entered, she found that the room was decorated entirely in warm colors, creating a very cozy atmosphere.

"I should thank Mr. Cox for his care," she said, her expression unchanged, revealing nothing.

Violet waved her hand playfully, saying, "You should rest now. If there's anything you need, don't hesitate to ask me, even if it's inconvenient."

After she finished speaking, she stepped out.

Neera let out a long sigh of relief and sat down by the bed.

Even though she was curious about everything around her, she had no intention of looking around at the moment.

She could tell that Avery was making a sincere effort for her, and that was exactly what was giving her a headache. It seems that after Phison's election, I must find him and clarify everything thoroughly.

After a long and exhausting journey, she was indeed tired, but she didn't forget to let her aunt and the others know that she was safe.

After sending the message, she glanced at her texts and scrolled through WhatsApp. To her surprise, she realized that Jean hadn't sent her a single message in almost two days.

He didn't even call her. [Search the FindNøvel.net website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera minded that a lot.

During the time they were at odds with each other, Jean would send messages to her almost every day.

The longest interval between his messages was only on Adriana's birthday.

Yet, so much time has passed, and he still hadn't messaged or called Neera.

So much for not giving up. I bet it was just all talk... Neera grumbled discontentedly, "Liar! Big liar!"

After she finished speaking, she felt a sense of suffocation in her heart. She decided not to take the initiative to contact him, tossed her phone aside, and went to freshen up.

When she was done, the servant had already served the food to her room.

Neera had a simple meal and then went to sleep.

Several hours later, at the airport of Phison's District One, the plane that Jean was on had landed.

His group exited the airport. A car was already waiting for them outside.

A luxurious Rolls-Royce led the way, followed by several business Mercedes-Benz. They formed an impressive convoy.

Additionally, two rows of bodyguards lined up on both sides of the airport entrance, looking formidable.

Ahead, a young man stood.

The individual sported a head of silver hair, dressed in a crisp silver-grey suit, standing tall with an extraordinary demeanor.

There was a nonchalant smile on his handsome face.

Upon seeing him, Jean lifted his eyebrow as he walked over.

"Why did you come here personally?" he asked, his tone casual and nonchalant.

The man grinned and bowed at Jean with respect. Yet, his tone carried a hint of teasing. "After many years, My Lord returns once again. How can I not personally welcome him on such an important day?"

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## Chapter 1123

Upon ending his sentence, the man opened the rear door of the Rolls-Royce. "You've had a tough journey, My Lord. Please, get in the car."

Jean nodded, strode toward the car, and sat inside.

The man closed the car door and turned around to greet Ian and his companions.



"It's been a while, but why do you appear injured?" He pointed to the bandage wrapped around Ian's head, somewhat curious.

Ian touched his forehead and chuckled. "I got this when I was attacked a few days ago, and the car flipped over. It's nothing serious. I appreciate your concern, Mr. Tiago."

The man known as Mr. Tiago was indeed Tiago.

"I see. It seems that no matter where we are, our lord will always be surrounded by chaos." After Tiago finished speaking, he noticed the unmistakable fatigue on their faces and decided not to ask any more questions. "Let's go. We should head back first. We can catch up on old times once we're home."

Ian's group nodded in agreement. "Let's head inside, Mr. Tiago."

Tiago promptly walked around the back of the car and directly sat in the back row with Jean. [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

Before long, the convoy slowly departed from the airport. The grand spectacle attracted countless onlookers who stopped to watch.

On the way back, Tiago leaned against the back of the chair, unabashedly sizing up Jean.

Jean's beautiful upturned eyes, inexplicably shimmery, exuded an air of charm.

Jean casually lifted his eyes to meet Tiago's gaze. Then, as if somewhat disdainful, he shifted his gaze away. "If you keep staring at me, the others may start questioning your sexual orientation."

The car suddenly swerved to the left, the driver drenched in sweat.

Tiago couldn't help but laugh. "After all this time apart, you've actually learned to tell jokes. Who would have thought?"

Jean revealed a half-smile. "Whether it's a joke or not is still uncertain."

"

Tiago teased leisurely, "Don't worry, my sexual orientation is perfectly normal. Even if it weren't, I won't dare lay a finger on someone as noble as you, My Lord."

That time, the car swerved to the right. The driver was completely flustered.

The person next to him, Ian, was quite calm. He glanced at the driver and said, "Your driving skills still need some polishing."

The driver stammered, "Y-Yes."

Jean was speechless.

The conversation was veering off course, but fortunately, Tiago knew when to stop. He changed the subject and asked, "Why do you still look so worn out? Are you feeling any better?"

"Feeling better," Jean answered indifferently.

Tiago sharply countered, "That doesn't sound at all convincing."

Jean lightly pursed his lips, too lazy to explain, and steered the conversation back on track. "How are things in Phison now?"

"The unregulated five districts are in chaos right now. There are five families and three factions participating in the election, and the slots have been confirmed. Among them, five are affiliated with Bartitsu Guild. As for the Guild itself, all Eight Elders will be present."

After listening, Jean narrowed his eyes. His fingers bent, idly tapping on his knee.

He couldn't be bothered to inquire about the families and factions. He simply ordered, "Keep an eye on the Cox family from the Eight Elders and the Gordon family, who's also attending the election."

Upon hearing that, Tiago was taken aback. "How did you know the Gordon family is on the election list? And why are you keeping an eye on the Cox family? Are they up to something behind the scenes?"

Jean glanced at Tiago, not really wanting to explain.

He still wanted to maintain his pride in public. How could he possibly admit that he was acting that way because he was worried about his woman being taken away from him?

Tiago was perplexed. The more Jean kept silent, the more Tiago wanted to know. "What, you can't even tell me why?"

Seeing the situation, Ian had no choice but to respond on Jean's behalf. "Actually... Mrs. Beauvort is the successor of the Gordon family, and also, well... The one from the Cox family Mr. Beauvort's love rival."

Upon hearing that, Tiago was taken aback. He hadn't expected such a turn of events.

He remembered that the Gordon and Cox families were connected by marriage. As he raised an eyebrow, an amused expression quickly surfaced on his face.

"Oh? I didn't expect My Lord to have taken a liking to someone from the enemy's side. In that case, I'll have someone keep a close eye on them. Don't worry," said Tiago.

Jean corrected with displeasure, "What enemy? She was originally mine. It's just that due to some unexpected circumstances, she ended up as the successor of the Gordon family. Moreover, in the future, the Gordon family will belong to Phison!"

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## Chapter 1124

Tiago was amused by the dissatisfaction in Jean's words. Speaking of which, this is my first time seeing My Lord in such a state, all for a woman... Ah, it seems My Lord has truly had his heart stolen by that woman.

In the midst of their conversation, the group arrived at the Governor's Mansion.

It was an extravagantly luxurious castle, standing majestically halfway up the hill.

From the foot of the mountain, there were layers of guards leading up to the castle.

At the entrance of the ancient castle halfway up the mountain, the security was incredibly tight. Security personnel were arranged meticulously, covering every possible angle without any blind spots.

The grand landscape of the mansion at the entrance was truly spectacular, boasting a scale that was both majestic and impressive.

After getting out of the car, Jean surveyed the ancient castle, a familiar feeling washing over him.

When he thought about it, it had indeed been many years since he last returned. Yet, everything here remained as it was, unchanged from the past.

The butler, Dickson, had received the news and, along with his staff, lined up at the door to welcome them.

"Welcome back, My Lord!" As soon as Jean stepped out of the car, a chorus of voices rang out in unison.

Jean gave a quick glance around, his gaze finally landing on Dickson. In a calm voice, he said, "You've worked hard managing this place for the past few years."

Dickson was pleasantly surprised and quickly responded, "Thank you for your praise, My Lord. This is my duty, and I dare not neglect it in the slightest."

Jean nodded slightly and strode in.

When he disembarked from the plane, he was draped in a long black trench coat, which accentuated his tall and slender figure. He walked as if he carried the wind with him, exuding an extraordinary aura of dominance.

Tiago and Ian, along with a few others, were all following behind.

After pushing open the heavy doors of the ancient castle, the servants respectfully lowered their heads, inviting the guests to enter.

"My Lord, you must be weary from your journey. Why not rest first? We can discuss important matters once you've recuperated." After finishing his statement, Tiago added, "The seven branch leaders have already set off from their respective areas and will arrive later."

Jean had no objections. Before going upstairs, he didn't forget to remind Tiago. "Don't forget the task I entrusted to you in the car."

Tiago smiled leisurely. "How could I possibly forget the instructions of My Lord? Rest assured, I will send someone to investigate the news from the Gordon and Cox families shortly."

Jean was satisfied and returned to his room upstairs.

Even though he was somewhat tired, he had no plans to rest.

Walking onto the balcony, he tilted his head back to gaze at the sky.

Even though he and Neera were both in Phison, he was still quite a distance from District Fourteen.

Taking a flight there would still take at least two to three hours for Jean.

However, compared to before, when he was in Kingsview, and she was in Essley, separated by half the globe, they had become considerably closer.

His lips curved slightly as he murmured, "I've come to find you, Neera. Wait for me patiently..."

As Neera woke from her sleep, her eyes were still not fully open when her hand was already groping toward the bedside.

Picking up her phone, she sat up and rubbed her eyes, eager to see if there were any messages from Jean.

Fortunately, that time, she was not disappointed.

Upon seeing a message from Jean, her sleepiness instantly vanished. Her eyes lit up as she hurriedly clicked to read it.

Jean: I've been quite busy these past few days, being on a plane and all. Thus, I couldn't send any messages. I haven't been able to contact you during this time. If I've kept you waiting, I'm truly sorry. I'll make it up to you when we

meet.

There were two messages from him. The first was an explanation for his lack of messages. The second was: Neera, how have you been these past few days? Are you doing well? Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera's heart leaped with joy, and a smile involuntarily settled on her countenance. He didn't give up. He's still thinking about me.

However, she soon furrowed her brows, and her smile vanished instantly, replaced by a look of deep concern. He has only recovered slightly from his illness a few days ago, and now he's about to get busy again. I'm worried. He's taking a plane, but where is he going, and what is he going to do? Can it be that he's on a business trip? Can his body handle a long flight?

As Neera's worry deepened, she quickly typed, eager to seek clarity.

However, just as she was about to send it, she paused, feeling it wasn't quite right, and hurriedly deleted all the text.

After a moment of hesitation, she simply resorted to her old trick, typing in the children's style: Where did you go, Daddy?

With experience under her belt, she could impersonate the children with ease and without any guilt.

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## Chapter 1125

Jean hadn't fallen asleep. He just lay there with his eyes closed, patiently waiting for her reply.

Upon reading her message, he couldn't help but want to laugh. She won't chat with me using her own identity, but she seems quite comfortable using the children's identities.

At that moment, he chose not to call her out in good humor and was happy to communicate with her in that way.

He typed: I'm on a business trip. There's an important matter to attend to.

Then, finding it amusing, he playfully teased: Why have you two been using Mommy's phone these past couple of days? Aren't you using your own phones anymore? Are they broken? What's going on?

Neera was still somewhat embarrassed in the end. Jean's straightforward question made her blush, and she quickly made up an excuse to distract him.

She typed: Mommy has been busy these past few days and didn't carry her phone with her, so we just casually picked it up and used it.

Jean chuckled, his fingers gently caressing the screen, murmuring softly, "I never thought you'd be such a little liar..."

After a laugh, his fingers danced lightly on the screen, continuing to ask: Oh? What's keeping her so busy that she can't even pick up her phone? What if someone is trying to reach her?

Upon reading those words, Neera began to doubt whether he had fallen from grace. On second thought, if he found out that it was me pretending to be the kids, his tone would probably be different, right? So far, he has been typing to me in the way he types to the children.

Neera touched her nose, feeling that it was unlikely. Without giving it much thought, she continued to respond to him, feigning ignorance.

She typed: Daddy, don't worry. If anyone tries to contact Mommy, we'll let her know. Mommy has been busy with work these past few days and doesn't have a moment to spare.

Jean replied: Really? Didn't you tell me that Mommy was planning to run away with Avery? So, is she now busy helping Avery get better?

Upon seeing that, Neera experienced a slight headache. I ran off with Avery? What the heck? Did the triplets really say that to Jean? Could it be that Jean misunderstood

something after receiving their messages, and that's why he didn't come to Essley to find me? What the heck!

With a throbbing headache, she buried her face into the pillow, pondering over how to reply to the message.

After hesitating for two minutes, she quickly sat up and responded: It's nothing of that sort. Mommy was only helping Mr. Cox with his treatment before, and she certainly didn't plan to run away with him. Now that his treatment is almost over, Mommy won't be spending too much energy on him anymore. Daddy, you mustn't slander us. We won't carry this blame!

Upon seeing that, Jean felt elated and beamed. So, she's indirectly explaining things to me, huh? Although I never thought she would have anything to do with Avery, her message still eased my worry.

He pondered for a moment, then replied in a leisurely manner: Is that so? Then you need to help your daddy keep an eye on your mommy. You need to be especially careful of Avery. His intentions toward your mommy are as clear as day to everyone. However, even if there is any engagement, it doesn't count. In this lifetime, your mommy can only be mine. Since I'm not by her side right now, it's up to you to guard her against those with ulterior motives.

When Neera saw his possessive desire in those sweet nothings, she instantly felt as though she had fallen into a jar of honey.

She was giggling under the covers, yet coolly responded: Okay.

Since we are still at odds right now, I can't let that man get too arrogant! She thought.

Jean didn't mind, his mood quite good as he reminded once more: Be good, okay?

As Neera gazed at those few words, Jean's face involuntarily surfaced in her mind. She imagined the gentleness in his voice as he spoke those words, and her longing for him deepened.

If possible, she really wished he could be by her side at that moment.

It was as if a tiny hook had snagged her emotions. She tried to resist, but her resolve crumbled, and she couldn't help but ask: So, when are you coming to see Mommy? You two have been apart for quite some time now... Upon reading those words, Jean felt his heart melted.

He wanted to hear her genuine thoughts about him. Thus, suppressing his excitement, he asked her a question instead: Does your mommy miss me? Aside from a few indifferent words, she still refuses to pay attention to me.

Upon reading those words, Neera inexplicably felt aggrieved.

Afraid of upsetting him, Neera hesitated for a moment but decided to follow her heart: I suppose... she does.

Nothing could bring more peace to Jean's heart than those words.

He laughed, feeling as if all his fatigue had been swept away and everything was worth it. [search the FindNovel.net website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

He responded: If that's the case, then I'll find her as soon as possible, and we'll never part again. I'll stay by her side forever.

Neera felt as if her heart was being coated with sugar icing, yet she also felt a touch of melancholy. How soon is as soon as possible? No matter how fast things progress, he still has to wait for me to return from Phison, right? Doesn't that mean there are still many days to go?

At that thought, Neera felt a bit gloomy. She turned over and, facing the ceiling, sighed.

After the two had chatted casually for a while, someone came knocking at the door.

Neera quickly sat up, straightened her blanket, and changed into her regular clothes before saying, "Come in."

Violet pushed the door open. "Neera, you're awake. Come down and have something to eat. The meal's ready."

Neera nodded. "All right, I'll come down as soon as I finish freshening up."

By the time she had tidied herself up and descended the stairs, Avery was already waiting in the dining room. Shane was there, too.

"Did you sleep well?" Avery asked as he pulled out a chair for her.

Neera smiled gratefully and sat down. "I did. Thank you for going to the trouble of preparing such a nice guest room for me. The environment is great. I really like it."

Avery laughed gracefully. "That's good to hear. I was worried that you might not get used to living here. Glad to know my efforts weren't in vain."

Then, he changed the subject and said, "After we finish eating, I'll take you out for a stroll."



Neera was taken aback. "I'm already rested. Don't I need to pay a visit to the Gordon family?"

Avery nodded. "You must, but there's no need to rush. We should at least be fully prepared."

He paused for a moment, then turned to Neera. "You should know what you're up against when you go to the Gordon family this time, right?"

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## Chapter 1126

Of course, Neera understood clearly.

"I'm an outsider. I've never lived with the Gordon family, nor have I been nurtured by them. Now, all of a sudden, I've become the successor of the Gordon family. I'm like a fly in the ointment, which is bound to cause a lot of controversy. I suspect this news has already reached the Gordon family headquarters, and they probably have their opinions. They're just waiting for me to arrive before they start making things difficult for me. Hence, what I'm going to face when I go back, I fear, will be endless difficulties." She knew well enough that there would be wave after wave of doubt waiting for her.

Perhaps those who were eager to act were trying to find her weaknesses.

Perhaps they might even be planning to deny her the successor's role while Chad was not around.

The mere thought of that possibility gave Neera a headache as if a bucket was weighing on her head.

At first, she knew that the Gordon family was wealthy and influential, but she only considered it from a business perspective. She hadn't thought it through deeply, which was why she agreed.

If she had known the depth of the Gordon family's influence, perhaps she would have backed off in the beginning.

However, since she had agreed, there was no turning back. Therefore, she might as well make the best of it.

She needed only to adapt to the situation. There would always be a solution to her problems.

Shane said, "Apart from the significant task of electing the district president, there's an even more important matter you need to attend to."

Neera was taken aback. "What is it?"

"Declare your identity to the entire Phison and gain recognition from the Gordon family headquarters."

After hearing that, Neera felt a sinking feeling in her heart. "How can we get the Gordon family headquarters to acknowledge me? I'm afraid it's not going to be an easy task."

She felt as though accomplishing that goal was more difficult than ascending to the sky.

After all, in Essley, even just the third elder alone had already shown strong opposition.

Avery noticed her worries and comforted her in a gentle voice. "Don't worry, it's okay. I'll go with you. The Gordon family, after all, will give some respect to my Cox family. When we go, I'll bring more people to back you up."

Neera understood all at once and felt a slight chill in her heart. "Is it time to take action?" [SEARCH THE WEBSITE TO ACCESS CHAPTERS OF NOVELS EARLY AND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY.](#)

Avery nodded. "There are some battles that indeed need to be fought, and must be won. In fact, I've already discussed this matter with Mr. Gordon, and he has given his approval."

Uncle Chad actually allowed me to lay a hand on the Gordon family? Isn't this a bit too extreme? Is there really no other way? Neera contemplated.

Her gaze swept over Shane, and then she glanced at the nearby Zephyr and Charles, wanting to speak but hesitating.

Zephyr had been with Neera for the longest time, and he was very familiar with her. He knew what she was hesitating about, and immediately started to explain things to her. "Ms. Garcia, your primary objective for this visit is to establish authority. Only when your authority is recognized will they submit to you wholeheartedly. Once that's done, they won't dare to overstep again. This is crucial for your future succession of the Gordon family. Otherwise, I fear it will lead to endless troubles."

Neera understood the pros and cons but couldn't help feeling a bit helpless. It seems that what I'm about to face is a completely unknown world. This kind of power struggle is nothing like the family feuds I knew before. It's incomparable. Still, what other choice do I have but to deal with this? After all, I don't want this journey to be in vain. I want to take responsibility for Uncle Chad, not wanting to let him down.

Avery served her a bowl of soup. "Just relax, don't be too nervous. We're all here to protect you. No one can bully you."

"Thank you..." Neera picked up the spoon, but there was still some concern in her heart.

After breakfast, Avery took her out for a leisurely stroll.

Shane said, "I won't be going. I'll head back to the Gordon residence first."

Neera looked puzzled. "You're not going to wait for me to go together?"

Shane nodded. "I need to go back first and help you get things ready so that I can pave the way for you."

After he finished speaking, he laughed and affectionately ruffled Neera's hair as if he were her older brother. "Neera, don't overthink anything right now. Just rest here for the time being. Let Avery show you around. It's quite fun here. Once I've got everything sorted out, I'll come and take you back to the Gordon residence."

A warmth spread through Neera's heart. "All right, Shane, you must be extra careful."

"Hey, don't worry about me." After saying goodbye, he quickly left with Charles.

Neera followed Avery out the door.

Avery personally drove her around, playing the role of a tour guide, introducing her to the specifics of District Fourteen.

Upon hearing that place was actually just one of the cities in District Fourteen, Neera was utterly astonished. "We've been wandering around all morning, and we're still not done. This is just one city. How big must District Fourteen be?"

Watching her stare in astonishment, Avery smiled, "District Fourteen is probably about the size of two Essley."

Neera was even more astonished, unable to fathom just how vast the entire Phison must be.

At noon, the two of them had lunch outside.

Neera suddenly remembered something and asked him, "By the way, I still don't know the exact election date. When is it?"

Avery replied, "It will be in a week."

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## Chapter 1127

Neera nodded, murmuring, "A week, huh..." It seems that returning to Essley will take at least a week. Well, thankfully, it's not that long.

Avery didn't know who she was thinking about in her heart. He only saw that she was deep in thought. "It seems you really aren't in the mood for the election."

Neera regained her senses and spoke the truth. "Of course. I don't like trouble, nor do I have the energy to manage any district. That responsibility is too heavy for me. I'm self-aware enough to know that I can't shoulder such a burden. Besides, my uncle doesn't intend for that either. He told me that my role here was merely a formality. So, I don't need to vie for the title of district president. Observing and learning from this experience will be beneficial enough for me."

Upon hearing those words, Avery did not immediately respond. Judging from the current situation, it doesn't seem that Neera can do whatever she pleases. Firstly, Bartitsu Guild will not allow it. Secondly, the Gordon family is truly ambitious, and I'm afraid they won't give up this election opportunity. Once Neera returns home, they will surely bring that up with Neera. After all, who won't be tempted if they have the chance to become the district president with even greater power in their hands? Back when Mr. Gordon was around, he could still keep them in check with his authority. Now, as Neera is about to take over as the next head of the family, the controversy and opposition it has sparked are likely too overwhelming to suppress. I can already anticipate the kind of difficulties that will arise when I accompany her to the Gordon residence...

However, Avery didn't want to voice his thoughts because he did not want to upset Neera. As such, he simply chose to remain silent.

No matter what, he would always protect her, helping her smoothly handle that pack of wolves from the Gordon family headquarters. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Later on, when Neera was tired from strolling around, he took her back.

"Thank you for taking me out today. I'm going to head back and rest for a bit. You shouldn't overexert yourself, either. Why don't you get some sleep, too?" said Neera.

Avery smiled. "All right, I understand."

The two exchanged midday greetings, after which Neera ascended the stairs.

Avery watched as her figure disappeared around the stairwell corner. Only when he heard the sound of her closing the door did his smile fade.

He walked over and sat down by the couch, suddenly speaking up. "Come out."

Subsequently, the door to the study on the first floor was opened from the inside, and Rio and Ronald walked out.

An hour ago, Avery received their messages. He was surprised to learn they were there. "Why have you two come over? Is there a situation in Essley?"

Rio and Ronald both shook their heads together.

"No, there's no issue with Essley. We came because we were concerned about you. Rest assured, everything over there has been arranged, and there won't be any hiccups." Next, Rio changed the subject, informing Avery of an important matter. "Mr. Cox, we just received word that the Guild has issued a decree. They insist on supporting the Gordon family's rise to power and want to incorporate the remaining five districts under their control!"

Upon hearing that news, Jean furrowed his brows, letting out a soft grunt. "The Guild sure has grand ambitions, but there's no way Phison will agree. We'll have to wait for the election convention to take place to know the actual outcome."

The two elders nodded. "Indeed, that's the case."

Ronald hesitated for a moment, then asked, "What do you think about this matter, Mr. Cox? Supporting the Gordon family isn't necessarily a bad thing. After all, the Cox family and the Gordon family have always been closely related. If the Gordon family becomes the district president, then our family will likely occupy the position of the first elder in the Guild."

Without a second thought, Avery immediately shook his head in refusal. "The Cox family and the Gordon family are on good terms, capable of mutual benefit. However, I don't want to take advantage of Neera. I've already asked her opinion, and she doesn't want to participate in this election. She has no interest in the position of district president. Since she's unwilling, I won't force her."

In the past, for the sake of profit, he could scheme and strategize, resorting to any means necessary, stopping at nothing.

However, after realizing his feelings and falling for Neera, he no longer wanted to do so.

He couldn't bear to use his past schemes when it came to Neera.

He only wished to cherish her.

After hearing that, the two elders, however, enlightened him. "If you truly care for Ms. Garcia, shouldn't you be supporting the Gordon family even more? In doing so, as the

district president, Ms. Garcia will be even more tied to Phison. Only in Phison will you have more opportunities to be with her!"

Avery was taken aback. His expression instantly froze.

Clearly, he hadn't considered that aspect before. I'll have more opportunities to be with her... I must say, I'm tempted...

Upstairs, Neera was still unaware of all that.

Lying in bed, she found herself missing the triplets, so she gave them a call.

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## Chapter 1128

Neera and her children expressed how much they missed each other. Then, the triplets seized the opportunity to give their mother earnest advice.

"Mommy, you must be careful. You have a fiancé! Your engagement with Mr. Cox doesn't count!"

"Remember, you must absolutely keep your distance from Mr. Cox!"

"Mommy, we really don't want Mr. Cox to become our stepfather..."

Neera couldn't help but laugh heartily, "All right, All right. Do you think I don't know what I'm doing? You kids shouldn't be worrying about this. Otherwise, your worries will weigh you down so much that you can't grow taller."

"Huh? That won't happen. You're talking nonsense, Mommy. Take it back!"

After going back and forth with them, Neera decided to call Chad again. "Uncle Chad, how have you and my aunt been these past few days?"

On the phone, Chad's voice was very kind. "We're fine. You don't need to worry about us. Instead, how are you adjusting over there?"

Neera leaned against the balcony railing, laughing as she said, "I'm doing quite well, actually. Mr. Cox took me around District Fourteen. This place is really huge..."

After a bit of small talk, she got down to business. "Uncle Chad, Shane has already returned to the Gordon family to make arrangements. He said he would come to pick me up in a few days."

"Shane has told me." Chad reassured, "Just set your mind at ease. I've made arrangements. You can go back without worry. Don't hesitate to fight back if anyone gives you a hard time there. Show your strength as needed. If anything happens, I'll take responsibility."

Upon hearing those words, Neera immediately felt at ease. "Uncle Chad, thank you. With you as my strong support, I fear nothing."

Chad was quite pleased, grinning from ear to ear. "I'm glad to hear that. You're not the type to admit fear."

Adriana was also listening nearby. Seeing him hang up the phone, she voiced her concerns to him uneasily. "I still feel uneasy. Don't you think it'll be better if we go with her? If you're there, your family members probably won't be too reckless."

Chad peeled an orange for her, soothing her with a smile. "You don't need to worry. I believe Neera's in good hands. Despite her young age, she's reliable. You can tell from how she handles her matters that she's a steady one. Besides, she may encounter such situations in the future. Giving her a chance to handle things independently and gain some experience is better than her stumbling later on."

Adriana sighed, unable to resist blaming him. "Why insist on handing over the Gordon family to Neera, letting her take over? Why not give it to Shane? Even though he's a man, he's the most outstanding of the younger generation in the Gordon family. He can handle those matters more adeptly, and I don't think there'll be much objection."

"What you've said, I've considered it all before. However, my elder brother and his wife died tragically. All these years, Shane has been burdened with this unresolved grief. I've asked him about this before, and he has no interest in the position of the Gordon family's head. In his heart, revenge is his top priority."

"Besides him, there are others in his generation, right? Surely, someone can be chosen from them as a successor?"

"The younger generation of the Gordon family is spoiled now, spending their days in pleasure without much real ability. Who among them can bear significant responsibilities? If it weren't for the lack of options, I wouldn't have placed this heavy burden on Neera's shoulders, putting her under such immense pressure. However, I really have no other choice..." Chad sighed, finding himself somewhat at a loss for words when it came to that topic.

"Rest assured, in the future, if Neera is unwilling to be the head of the family, she can choose her successor as long as they are suitable. I think it wouldn't be a bad idea to consider the triplets. Harvey and Sammy are quite impressive. These two lads are very much like Jean. They are definitely top-notch talents in the future. Entrusting the Gordon family to them will be quite appropriate."



Adriana chuckled, giving him a light shove. "You sure have a knack for reaping the benefits of others' work, always picking the ripest peaches, so to speak."

Chad didn't deny it, leaning over to give her a kiss. "Regardless of what happens to the Gordon family, it's all up to the younger generation now. As for me, I don't have the energy to interfere anymore. The rest of my life belongs only to you."

Adriana's face suddenly turned red.

On the third day of Neera's arrival in Phison, news of the Gordon family's heir returning to the family spread like wildfire. [Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

That time, the Gordon family was on the district election list. It was safe to say that the entire Phison was paying close attention.

Hence, one could only imagine the amount of attention the soon-to-be next family head was receiving!

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## Chapter 1129

The outside world was buzzing with discussions.

Some people were saying that the successor was a greenhorn who wasn't even part of the family and that there was no way she could keep the Gordon family in check.

That afternoon, at the Lordsworth Estate in District One of Phison, Jean was listening to Tiago reporting on that matter.

"Now, every district is focusing on Mrs. Beauvort, questioning whether she has the capability to take on the role of the Gordon family's head." At that point, Tiago paused, carefully choosing his words, trying to express what came next as tactfully as possible. "Most people are skeptical about Mrs. Beauvort, not holding out much hope for her. After all, she's so young, and they don't know about her reputation or experiences before. Hence, it's understandable. Some even say that once she enters the Gordon family, she'll be at their mercy. One can only imagine the kind of difficulties she'll face when she returns to the Gordon family. These are all inevitable. What's worse, the old folks in the Gordon family may even harm her for power..."

Tiago had thoroughly investigated everything about Neera in a single day. His findings included matters related to the Cox and Gordon families.



After hearing that, Ian exclaimed, "Now that's what I call impressive! Mrs. Beauvort is truly awesome. She's become a well-known figure throughout Phison as soon as she arrived!"

Tiago glanced at him, speaking leisurely. "There's even more impressive gossip out there. People are saying that Mrs. Beauvort and Avery are engaged. What's with the situation? Isn't the Cox and Gordon families' engagement still not finalized? How did this news spread?"

Ian hadn't anticipated that turn of events. He immediately closed his mouth, not daring to utter a word. He stared at Jean nervously, fearing the latter might explode in anger.

Indeed, Jean was on the verge of losing his temper. He was scowling and was in an extremely foul mood.

Every time he thought of Neera having to face all those troubles, he felt both heartache and worry. [Search The FindNovel.net website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Tiago looked at Jean's face. Instead of scared, he was rather quite intrigued. The lord I knew always managed to keep his emotions hidden, making it impossible for anyone to gauge his feelings. I didn't expect to see a different side of him in this discussion.

"My Lord, what's your plan?" He asked, more out of amusement and curiosity than anything else.

What's the plan? Is there even a need to ask me that? My only plan is to rush to Neera's side and support her. I'm curious to see, with me around, who would dare to bully her! thought Jean.

Ian knew Jean too well, so he immediately tried to dissuade the latter. "Mr. Beauvort, you mustn't go looking for Mrs. Beauvort right now. District Fourteen is the territory of Bartitsu Guild. If you suddenly appear there and word gets out, it will definitely cause a lot of trouble! Moreover, at present, aside from us, no one else knows that you have returned to Phison. If you expose yourself now..."

Jean certainly knew the consequences, but he couldn't care less about that.

Just the thought of the troubles Neera would have to face and that insufferable Avery by her side made him almost unable to sit still.

At that moment, he found Ian be too talkative and glared at him.

Tiago hadn't expected Jean to have that idea, and was even more surprised. Is he really still the lord I know, the one who could keep calm even in a crisis? It's such a small matter, and yet he's in such a rush to find his lover. Indeed, love changes people!

He pondered for a moment, then said, "It's indeed not suitable for you to leave right now, My Lord. Even a local gangster is above the law. If the people in District Fourteen discover you, who knows what kind of trouble may arise? Besides, with the Cox family around, they will surely protect her."

Choked on his own saliva, Ian suddenly started coughing. All the while, he was giving Tiago meaningful glances as he coughed. What on earth is Mr. Tiago thinking? Is he trying to hit Mr. Beauvort's sore point?

Sure enough, upon hearing that, Jean scowled. His brows and eyes were chillingly cold, almost as if the frost in his eyes was about to solidify.

However, he also knew that he couldn't disregard the bigger picture.

After a fierce internal struggle, he could only temporarily suppress his anger and worry. In the end, he issued orders to Tiago. "I'll refrain from going, but you'll have to head there on my stead!" Tiago was stunned, pointing at himself "Me?"

Jean narrowed his eyes slightly, his voice stern. "Yes, you! Tell them that if anyone dares to bully her, they will die! Why should my woman need the protection of a small fry? Go immediately!"

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## Chapter 1130

A small fry... Ian grinned. To think that's how Mr. Beauvort describes Avery. That's quite harsh.

Seeing Jean's serious face, Tiago couldn't help but be astounded. "So, this is how you act when talking about feelings, My Lord. I've seen something new today."

As Ian watched, he silently made sarcastic remarks in his mind. You think that's bad? You'll find out soon enough what he's like every day and what I have to endure.

With a cold snort, Jean paid no mind, only urging Tiago to hurry up.

Tiago let out a long sigh, his face full of resignation. He had no choice but to accept his fate and proceed as instructed.

Neera had been staying at Avery's place for three days.

Over the past three days, she had also seen those rumors circulating online.

She hadn't expected that matter to blow up so much. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Although, she didn't think much of those people's pessimistic views.

After all, it was only natural that no one would be convinced that she was dependable, given that she didn't really have any influence or power.

During that time, she had nothing to do, so she took the opportunity to familiarize herself with the situation there and learned a lot.

It turned out that Phison revered fighting arts. It was a place where strength was held in high esteem, and they had their own set of management regulations.

There, one was allowed to carry any weapon that wasn't a firearm.

If one violated that rule, they would be punished by Phison laws.

At the same time, she also roughly understood the formation of the two major forces, Phison and Bartitsu Guild.

Under Bartitsu Guild, there were Eight Elders.

In Phison, under the Lord of Phison's rule, there were the Seven Executioners, also known as the branch leaders.

The power between both sides was balanced.

Besides that, she also learned about the messy history and relationships of the fighting arts families there, which made her head spin.

In short, she felt that in just a few days, her worldview had been repeatedly reshaped and renewed.

Before, she had never imagined that such a place could actually exist in that world.

Then suddenly, she found herself becoming the center of discussion in that place, highly debated by the people there.

She couldn't help but feel a bit hesitant. If she had known it would be that troublesome, she might not have agreed to her uncle's request in the first place.

No matter how she thought about it, she just felt like she had been duped!

That afternoon, she was sulking on the swing outside the yard when Violet emerged from behind her. "Neera, would you like some juice? This passion fruit juice is both sweet and sour. It's really tasty."

Neera gratefully accepted the drink and took a sip. The cool fruit juice slid down her throat, causing goosebumps all over her body.

Violet sat down on the swing beside Neera, sipping her juice with delight, and curiously asked, "Neera, why the long face? Is something bothering you?"

"Um..." Neera responded vaguely, hesitated for a moment, then decided to share her troubles with Violet.

Upon hearing that, Violet laughed, her eyes curving beautifully, looking utterly adorable. "So that's what this is all about. There's nothing to be afraid of. Once we return to the Gordon residence tomorrow, if anyone dares to bully you, I'll beat them to death!"

She spoke harsh words with a sweet voice. That contrast was oddly endearing.

Neera couldn't help but recall the scene when she was treating Avery and Violet shot at Chandler.

That scene still shook Neera to her core.

At that moment, she reached out and patted Violet on the head. "You know, an adorable woman like you really shouldn't be handling a gun. It's so dangerous. I wonder what Mr. Cox has been teaching you all these years, letting you get involved in such perilous matters..."

Violet spoke without a care. "He just let me be, you know. When he was busy, he'd have me hang out with Irwin and the others, even wanting me to learn skills from them. He said that without any real abilities, it would be hard for me to survive in this world. Neera, you have no idea what he was like. When I was little, I thought he was like the Grim Reaper, completely inhuman."

Neera couldn't help but chuckle as she saw violet roll her eyes.

The two chatted for a while, then Violet hopped off the swing. "Neera, let's go. Satan has sent over a dress for you. He said it's for you to wear when we return to the Gordon residence tomorrow. You should try it on quickly."

"All right." Neera also got off the swing and walked in with her.

No sooner had they returned to the hall than they bumped into Avery throwing a tantrum.

"Are you purposely stirring up trouble? You can't even handle your own affairs, yet you have the time to meddle in the Gordon family's business?" shouted Avery.

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## Chapter 1131

Neera paused for a moment, halting her steps.

Though she had known Avery for quite a while, that was the first time she had seen him lose his temper so dramatically.

At that moment, she shifted her gaze and saw four people sitting across from him.

Apart from the two elders, Rio and Ronald, there were also two middle-aged men whom she had never seen before.

Neera was unsure, but Violet recognized them. Immediately, Violet leaned in close to the former and whispered, "Those two men are Satan's uncles. Over the years, they've always been at odds with Satan. Whenever they see me, they wear a sour expression. They're really unpleasant people."

Upon hearing that, Neera immediately understood and thought, Why is it that this kind of drama can be found everywhere? Or is this the usual *modus operandi* of these prestigious families? Back in Kingsview, Jean was also targeted by the elders of his family, all for the sake of wresting power from his hands. As for those two of Avery's uncles, what are they up to now? Just a moment ago, I heard them mention something about the Gordon family. How does their matter concern the Gordon family?

While Neera was still puzzled, over there, Avery was looking down at his uncles. He was scowling as he spoke impolitely. "When did I ever need you to teach me how to handle my affairs? Since you're so capable, why don't I just hand over the position of the head of the house to you? How about that?"

The uncles were quite upset, their chests heaving. Their faces were flushed with anger as they argued with him. "We are still your uncles, regardless of your position! Is this how you speak to your elders? What kind of attitude this is?"

"You can sit here and accept my attitude or get out!" Avery silenced them with a single sentence, expressing his stance with stern words and a serious tone. "Should I remind you all that, in the Cox family, there is only the head of the family, no elders! If you're not accustomed to this, you can leave the Cox family. I will not hold you back!"

"Avery, you-You're simply insolent!"

"Insolent?" Avery sneered, "Go ahead. report me to the family elders. I'd like to see what good it will do! Unless you can pull me down from this position, you better bear with me! If you don't want to hear these harsh words, then mind your own business and don't dare to lecture me! In this Cox family, I call the shots! It's not your turn to play the fool!"

The uncles were so infuriated by his increasingly offensive remarks that they were nearly out of breath. Even their necks were turning red.

In the end, they were outmatched in both words and ruthlessness. All they could do was leave.

As soon as they left, Avery spotted Neera and Violet, who were hiding nearby.

Neera felt as if she had been caught peeping and somewhat awkwardly touched her nose, stepping out from behind the balcony.

It was clear that Avery was still upset as his frown remained.

"I see you witnessed our argument," he said, his tone brusque.

Neera nodded, hesitating, unsure whether to ask or not, "They..."

Avery didn't want to say more, interrupting her. "They're just unimportant people. Don't worry about it."

Neera didn't care about his uncles. Instead, she was focusing on another thing. "I heard them mention the Gordon family just now. Were they talking about me? Does it concern me, or is there something going on with the Gordon family?"

Avery shook his head. "It's nothing. We just talked about some past events. Really, it's nothing. Don't overthink it." [Search The FindNovel.net](http://SearchTheFindNovel.net) website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

He said it in such a way that Neera couldn't force him to say more. It wouldn't be appropriate for her to press further.

Avery calmed himself down and suggested in a gentler tone, "Let's not talk about this anymore. The clothes have arrived. Why don't you go try them on first?"

Neera nodded slightly and went upstairs with Violet.

Once the sound of a door closing echoed from upstairs, the expression on Avery's face darkened again. He turned to look at the two elders, asking in a cold voice. "Any leads on the matter I asked you to investigate earlier?"

Rio shook his head regretfully, "I'm sorry, Mr. Cox. I've let you down. I haven't found anything yet. Your parents passed away too early, and too much time has passed, making it difficult to investigate. Moreover, the bug inside you

has been lurking for so many years before it was discovered by Ms. Garcia. Despite being captured and interrogated, Charles and Chandler haven't provided any valuable information."

Ronald was also quite troubled. "Indeed, we're back to square one without any leads. We can't even be sure if it was Mr. Liam and his people who did it."

Avery grimaced icily. "Keep investigating. Leave no stone unturned! Don't let anyone responsible slip through!"

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## Chapter 1132

When Neera returned to her room, she found that the bed was already covered with new clothes.

"It was this much?" She was somewhat surprised.

"Mmm-hmm." Violet pulled out a lollipop from nowhere and popped it into her mouth. "Satan wasn't sure about your style preferences, so he had people sent a variety of clothes in all sorts of colors."

Neera couldn't help but laugh as she looked at the clothes strewn all over the bed.

However, she was unsure about what kind of situation she would be facing at the Gordon residence the next day. Therefore, for a moment, she was at a loss, unsure of what to choose.

It was only after Violet roughly described the situation to her that she decisively chose a dark blue gown from the multitude of clothes.

That color of gown could easily make one look older.

However, Neera had fair skin, a good temperament, and a perfect figure. When she dressed up, the gown not only made her look youthful but also enhanced her charm.

After she changed, she picked out a pair of stilettos of similar height. She looked at herself in the full-length mirror and let her hair down.

Neera was quite pleased with herself as she turned to ask Violet. "How does it look? Do you think it looks good?"

Violet was utterly stunned, her mouth slightly agape. She held a lollipop in her hand, her eyes scanning up and down, then down and up again, taking the sight of Neera in the gown all in. "It's so stunning! This gown looks absolutely beautiful on you! It gives you an air of elegance and grace. This one is definitely a keeper!"

Her eyes sparkled brightly, eagerly leading Neera outside. "Let's show this to Satan!"

Neera quickly refused. "There's no need."

After all, Avery wasn't related to her in any way, so why would she show him that?

Violet might be petite, but her strength was surprisingly immense. She firmly pulled Neera out of the room and led the latter down the stairs.

"Satan! Satan! Come quickly and see Neera!" she called out as she descended the stairs.

Downstairs, Avery had already shifted his gaze upon hearing the footsteps.

The moment he saw Neera, his eyes widened in disbelief. His gaze seemed to stick to her, unable to move away no matter what.

Neera wore a dark blue gown that perfectly outlined her figure, enhancing her elegance beyond the ordinary.

That captivating beauty almost stole his heart away.

He gazed at her intensely, whispering softly, "You look beautiful. This suits you perfectly."

Neera reluctantly smiled. "Let's go with this, then."

After she finished speaking, she turned and walked away, trying her best to appear calm and composed. However, her heart was pounding inside.



The way Avery was looking at her earlier made her feel completely uncomfortable. If she didn't avoid him soon, she wouldn't know how to face him. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Back in her room, she changed her clothes and sat on the bed, hugging her knees, feeling somewhat frustrated. We can't keep going on like this. Once the Gordon family's matters are settled, I should still move out from here and find a new place to live. I know what Avery's thinking. Staying here any longer will ultimately be unwise. Moreover, rumors are currently circulating that Avery and I are engaged. If I don't clear up this misunderstanding soon, it will only become more difficult to explain in the future. Most importantly, what will Jean think if he hears about this?

The thought alone made her feel a twinge of guilt.

Even though she hadn't betrayed him, she always felt a sense of guilt.

After sitting blankly for a while, she took out her phone, opened the chat with Jean, and kept thinking about what to type.

Before, she would type whatever came to her mind. However, she found herself hesitating.

In the end, she deleted all the words and just sent an emoji.

Jean quickly replied to the message: What's wrong?

Neera stared for a few seconds before making an excuse: It's nothing. I just pressed it by accident.

Jean naturally wouldn't believe such a clumsy excuse, but he didn't expose her either: Are you missing Daddy?

Neera couldn't help but burst into laughter. Does he believe whatever I say? He's so gullible. However, chatting like this is also good. It's much more convenient.

At that moment, she carefully chose her words and replied: No, I just wanted to discuss Mommy's current situation with you. She's... a bit anxious right now.

Jean's eyes sparkled slightly as he brought his phone close to his lips. He sent an incredibly gentle voice message, "What's making her so anxious?"

Neera had not heard his voice for a long time. She was taken aback for a moment, replaying the voice message repeatedly. Then, she responded: Well... She has to meet a client for work, and there may be some complications. That's why Mommy is a bit nervous...

Jean chuckled lightly. She sure knows how to reframe her situation.

However, he also knew what she was afraid of. Thus, he reassured, "Don't be scared. No matter what happens, I'm here for you."

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## Chapter 1133

Upon seeing those words, Neera couldn't understand why, but her fear was inexplicably quelled.

He had always been like that in her memories, uttering simple phrases that seemed to possess a magical power capable of soothing her restlessness.

After bidding each other goodnight, she buried her face in her pillow, his words still echoing in her mind. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

She felt as if her heart was filled to the brim, and she couldn't help but smile.

That night, she didn't think about anything and had a good, peaceful sleep.

Early the next morning, Shane came over.

Seeing Neera dressed in a gown and exuding a touch of dignified elegance, he was momentarily stunned. Then, he grinned, his eyes filled with pure admiration.

"Neera, let's go. I've come to take you back to the Gordon residence."

Neera nodded and followed him out the door.

Avery also accompanied them all the way, even bringing along a team of subordinates to closely follow.

The scene was somewhat grand.

On the way, Shane asked Neera, "In the past couple of days, have you come to understand the structure of the Gordon family members? Do you need me to explain it to you again?"

"Yes. Currently, apart from Uncle Chad, the Gordon family only has two of the eldest elders. One is the second elder, Robin Gordon, and the other is the third elder, Baxter

Gordon. The majority of the remaining people are of the same generation as Uncle Chad."

"Indeed, that's the case," Shane added. "You need to pay special attention to the two sons of Granduncle Baxter, Troy Gordon and Ollie Gordon. These two have always been overshadowed by Uncle Chad. They've always been at odds with him and have tried to trip him up in the past. However, their attempts have always been thwarted by Uncle Chad. Although they are resentful, they have been holding back due to Uncle Chad's capabilities. But this time..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Neera fathomed his intention. I've met Troy at the birthday banquet last time. He's no pushover. This time, with Uncle Chad not around, the two brothers will surely vent their frustration on me, doing everything they can to cause a scene.

"But you don't need to worry too much about the two of them. I will protect you. As for the rest of the family, they are divided into two factions. Granduncle Robin supports Uncle Chad, while the other faction supports Granduncle Baxter. The influence between the two sides is roughly equal. That's pretty much the situation."

"All right. I understand." Neera made a mental note of everything.

In the midst of their conversation, the group arrived at the Gordon residence.

The Gordon residence, too, was a lavish and luxurious mansion.

At that very moment, outside the main gate of the manor, two rows of tall and formidable bodyguards stood ready, forming an impressive line-up.

When Neera looked out the car window, his face remained impassive, but there was a slight ripple in her heart.

She had never seen such a grand spectacle before. Moreover, knowing that she was about to face a situation akin to a bloody storm, it was inevitable that her emotions would be in turmoil.

She quietly took a deep breath at that moment, ready to drive on.

However, Avery grabbed her arm to stop her.

"Hold on. Now that you're here, you need to assert your authority. Always remember that you are the heir to the Gordon family, the soon-to-be head of the household. At all times, you must maintain your dignity. You cannot show even the slightest weakness in front of others. The more you do, the easier it will be for them to manipulate and bully you."

Clarity washed over Neera. "It's my oversight."

After she finished speaking, her gaze lowered subtly, and she gently freed her wrist from his grasp.

Looking out the window at the countless pairs of eyes, her gaze deepened. She composed herself, reining in all humility and kindness, her expression subtly turning cold.

When she got out of the car, her aura had noticeably changed.

She was born beautiful, naturally exuding an aura of aloofness. However, she usually didn't put on airs, adding a touch of approachability and charm to her mien.

At that instant, she stood expressionless before the crowd, her slender figure tall and upright. Her aloof and noble demeanor, which suggested she was unapproachable, was immediately apparent.

Avery's eyes were filled with admiration. She's truly smart, understanding everything with just a hint.

Even Shane was quite surprised.

Walking up to her, he reassured her softly once again, "Neera, there's no need to be nervous. If they intentionally make things difficult for you, I'll stand up for you."

While that was easier said than done, Neera understood that if she couldn't resolve the issue today, it would only give people more ammunition to use against her in the future.

She nodded in agreement, her face showing compliance, but inside, she was devising her own strategies.

Under the watchful eyes of bodyguards on either side, the group entered the manor, making their way through the grand mansion.

At that moment, all the important members of the Gordon family had gathered there. The hall was packed with people, creating a solemn atmosphere. The air itself seemed to be taut with tension.

After a quick glance, Neera immediately recognized the two elders leading the group.

One of them was Baxter, and although she'd never met the other, she could guess he was Robin.

The spirit of the venerable second elder was vibrant; he wore an air of authority, yet when he looked over, there was a faint hint of amiability.

Clearly, her arrival disrupted the stagnant status quo, drawing everyone's attention.

Others gazed at her with looks of assessment, scrutiny, and criticism, and in the eyes of some young people, there was a full measure of playful teasing and disdain.

Neera swept her gaze over everyone, taking in their expressions without betraying her own emotion.

She appeared nonchalant. Her expression was very calm, and she exuded an air of composed ease.

However, she didn't walk in right away.

Given her current status, she should be sitting in the main seat.

However, no one had prepared a seat for her.

That was clearly a sign of disrespect toward her. It was as if none of them was taking her seriously.

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## Chapter 1134

Shane immediately furrowed his brows, expressing his displeasure quite bluntly, "Why hasn't any preparation been made for the successor of the family head?"

It seemed as if Baxter had been waiting for him to ask that question. He let out a contemptuous sneer, and without further ado, he sneered provocatively, "Ha! The head of the family is absent from the family's meeting. Instead, a successor pops up. Do you take us for fools? Also, this is the Gordon family. Naturally, the successor should bear the Gordon family name and be part of the Gordon family. If you're referring to this little girl beside you, then I'm sorry, we don't acknowledge her!"

Shane didn't seem annoyed at all. He immediately laughed and uttered prevaricatingly.

"Granduncle Baxter, you seem to have forgotten the rules our Gordon family's ancestors set. The head of the family is the one we follow stoically, and his word is law. Uncle Chad personally announced Neera as the successor of the Gordon family. You were present when he said it. Surely, you haven't forgotten so quickly?"

"Shane, is it your place as a younger member of the family to speak here?" At that moment, Troy spoke up, his voice laced with mockery as he rebuked Shane. "Moreover, we should all accept it just because you say she is? Even if Chad has announced it,

what does it matter? He didn't make the announcement in front of the entire Gordon family. He didn't even show his face when returning to Phison, let alone personally bring her back for everyone to meet. Who knows if it was just a joke, or perhaps this girl is just pretending in order to get her hands on the Gordon family's power and wealth?"

Ollie sneered disdainfully. "Indeed. Has it come to this? Can any Tom, Dick, or Harry become the head of our family now?"

As soon as those words were spoken, several people nearby started to chuckle. The mockery in their laughter was clear.

Neera glanced around, guessing that those who were laughing at her were probably Baxter's followers.

As for those who remained silent, they were all part of Robin's faction.

Although the people of this faction did not kick her while she was down at that moment, Neera knew they were all scrutinizing her.

Everything was just as she had anticipated. If she continued to hide behind Shane that day without showing any initiative to prove her worth, she feared she wouldn't be able to secure her position. I shall cut to the chase in this case

Under everyone's watchful gazes, she reached into her bag and pulled out the token Chad gave her. Then, she tossed it directly onto the coffee table with a thud. "Before I came here, Uncle Chad gave me this token. He said that seeing this token is just like seeing him in person. Surely, you all wouldn't fail to recognize this token, would you?"

As soon as those words were spoken, everyone fell silent, each person staring at the token with different expressions.

The face of Baxter, which was just sneering a moment ago, now looked unpleasant.

"Hmph! He sure is thoughtful. But you, a young girl not even of our Gordon family, do you even have the audacity to sit at the head of our family meeting?" [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera straightened her back, a slight smile playing at the corners of her lips.

"I know I wasn't supposed to be in this position originally, but since Uncle Chad entrusted me with the role of successor, I cannot let him down. I understand that many of you are unhappy and feel unjust, but the fact is the fact. Even if you refuse to accept it, you have no choice but to do so. Since I dare to come here today, I'm already mentally prepared. Why not voice out your thoughts? Let's be straightforward. Whether you want to fight or discuss, I'm ready for anything..."

Her tone wasn't particularly solemn when she uttered those words, and her expression didn't change much either.

Yet, her aura was completely different. She exuded the pride of someone who had long held a superior position, leaving everyone present taken aback.

Upon hearing her words, Robin, who had been sitting silently in his chair, raised his eyebrows slightly and looked at her. This little lass may look small and frail, but unexpectedly, she's quite courageous. As expected... After all, she is the one chosen by Chad. At the very least, she possesses this bit of formidable aura.

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## Chapter 1135

Upon hearing those words, Troy and his brother instantly became displeased. They slammed the table and stood up, their faces full of anger.

"Nonsense! You're not even officially recognized in your position yet, and here you are, just returned and already putting on airs in front of us!"

"Exactly! I suggest you go back to wherever you came from! You're not worthy to even enter the gates of our Gordon residence! It's not impossible if Chad wants to choose a new head of the family, but at least he has to get the approval of everyone in the family. Who do you think you are, daring to show off in front of us? You really have some nerve!"

They spoke bluntly, falling out with Neera entirely.

Neera narrowed her eyes, but she wasn't livid.

Charles forestalled her, sternly reprimanding the duo with harsh words, "Since when did you lot have a say in the decisions made by the head of the house? The token is right in front of you. What's the matter? Are you all pretending to be blind, refusing to obey? Who gave you such audacity?"

The moment the token was mentioned, Troy's expression faltered, and he gritted his teeth in frustration.

"Charles, are you also acting recklessly just because your master is? He's behaving irresponsibly, not taking the Gordon family seriously. Choosing a new head of the family is an extremely important matter! Are we really supposed to serve a little girl as our leader? Our Gordon family is not a place for her to play house! What abilities could she



possibly have to manage the entire household?" Search the FindNovel.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Charles chuckled coldly. "The decisions made by the head of the family are based on his own considerations and reasons. Over the years, has there been a single mistake under his leadership of the Gordon family? You people, who have been living lavishly under his care, have you become so spoiled that you've lost your manners? Have you grown so audacious as to question and refute the head's decisions? As an outsider, I always keep the rules of the Gordon family in mind, unconditionally obeying the head of the household. Yet you, the Gordon family's own, disregard the rules of your ancestors? Don't you find that laughable? Whoever the head of the household orders me to serve, I will obey, no matter who that person is! Right now, Ms. Garcia is my master!"

"You! This is absurd! Truly absurd!" Seeing that he couldn't persuade him, Troy was quite upset. He could only shift his focus to Avery. "Mr. Cox, don't you have anything to say? As the one who is to be wedded into the Gordon family this generation, do you really approve of a girl with a different family name inheriting this position and becoming your future wife, the mistress of the Cox family? Aren't you afraid of becoming a laughingstock?"

Avery gave a faint smile, displaying an air of nonchalance. "That won't be the case. However, this is just a minor issue. Whether she's an outsider or not isn't important. What's important is that she is the successor of the Gordon family, the new head of the family, isn't she? The other Cox family members won't care if she holds this position. My presence with her here today has already made my stance clear. I am willing to marry her, bring her into my Cox family, and support her as the head of this household."

Baxter couldn't keep his cool anymore. Angrily, he stood up and forcefully clapped his hands twice. "The Cox family may not be picky, but we, the Gordon family, certainly are!"

Given Avery's status, he couldn't say anything too radical. Instead, he turned his head and dragged Robin into the conversation as well. "Robin, are you really just going to stand by and watch this girl marry into our Gordon family and become the mistress of our house? I know you don't approve of this outsider girl, either. Why is it that only we have to play the villains now, while you remain silent? This is a big deal. You have to say something, don't you?"

The atmosphere was growing increasingly tense, yet Robin seemed like an unconcerned bystander. He casually sipped his tea, his expression unreadable and inscrutable, making it impossible for anyone to gauge his emotions. "I must admit that I'm not too keen on the idea of an outsider taking over the Gordon family. However, since it's the head of the family's decision, and this young lady has presented the family head's token, I can't exactly oppose it, can I?"

Seeing Robin's demeanor, Baxter couldn't help but feel a surge of anger.



"What do you mean by that? This is something that should never have been carried out in the first place. Because you've been noncommittal and indulging him, you've given Chad the audacity to act recklessly! If you had also clearly refused, could he have stubbornly stuck to his own way?"

Robin fell silent, continuing to sip his tea nonchalantly, his thoughts inscrutable.

However, Neera seemed to understand a bit more. It appeared that Robin was also dissatisfied with her.

At that moment, she squinted slightly, sensing that things were becoming increasingly difficult to handle.

However, since she was there that day, she absolutely couldn't return in failure!

After making a swift decision, she spoke in a voice that was not loud but full of conviction. "In that case, anyone who disobeys the head of the family should be dealt with according to our family rules."

Suddenly, she called out to Charles, her tone abruptly turning sharp.

"What are the family rules applicable to those who defy the head of the household?"

Charles replied with the utmost respect, "For minor offenses, one should reflect on their actions in the Repentance Room for three days. For serious offenses, they will naturally be dealt with according to our family rules."

"Very well." Neera raised an eyebrow. "Let's get started then. Today, whoever refuses to submit, we'll keep suppressing them until they yield!"

As Neera gave the order, Zephyr, who had been waiting outside, immediately led a team of people to rush in. They moved swiftly and orderly, surrounding the Gordon family members.

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## Chapter 1136

The members of the Gordon family were taken aback by this unexpected turn of events. They stood up one by one, their expressions filled with disbelief as they looked around at the people surrounding them. Clearly, they hadn't anticipated Neera's audacity in organizing such a bold move against them.

Baxter quickly grasped the situation and erupted into laughter. "Well, well, quite audacious, aren't you? So, this is the girl Chad chose, huh? Do you really think you can rule the roost just because you've been given a little power? You truly have no idea of your limits! Since you're ready to fight, then I won't hold back either!"

With those words hanging in the air, he bellowed, "Men!" In an instant, another wave of individuals flooded into the room.

He was clearly prepared, for his men even outnumbered the ones led by Zephyr.

Suddenly, the vast main hall was completely surrounded, packed tightly both inside and out.

The faces of everyone present were grim, the atmosphere tense and charged with animosity, creating a palpable sense of impending conflict.

The tension in the air was so thick that it seemed a mere spark could set off an explosion, engulfing the entire room.

This was the first time Neera had witnessed such an intimidating show of force. To say she wasn't the least bit scared would be an overstatement of her courage.

However, she managed to maintain her composure. Despite the myriad emotions rushing through her, her demeanor remained remarkably composed.

With a subtle raise of her eyebrow and a nonchalant chuckle, she remarked, "It appears you've made up your mind to defy Mr. Gordon's orders."

With arms folded across his chest, Baxter sneered. "Mr. Gordon's orders? If Chad truly cared for the Gordon family, he wouldn't have made such a reckless decision! As an elder of the family, it's my duty to assist the family head. If he's made a decision that puts our family at risk, it's my duty to guide him away from this disastrous path and eradicate any potential threats."

Eradicate?

Neera's gaze turned cold.

Just then, Avery stepped forward, positioning himself in front of her.

He said, "Mr. Baxter, do you really want things to escalate this far? If so, I'll have to involve our people from the Cox family as well."

Having reached this point of open hostility, Baxter had no reason to fear or hold back anymore.

He no longer treated Avery with courtesy as he growled, "Bring it on, I'm not afraid of you! Avery, just because the Cox family has a standing in the Bartitsu Guild, it doesn't mean you can dictate terms in the Gordon family. You keep referring to her as your fiancée, but isn't that just wishful thinking on your part? Remember, your marriage alliance with the Gordon family isn't set in stone yet! The Cox family has absolutely no ties with the Gordon family! Even though you're the esteemed head of the Cox family, the matters of the Gordon family are none of your concern. There's no need for you to act like you're in charge here!"

Ever since Avery became the head of the family, no one had ever dared to confront him like this. His expression quickly turned grim, freezing over with an icy, intimidating demeanor.

"Is that so?" he responded, his tone chilling, seemingly solidifying into icy resolve. "Regardless, I'm adamant about intervening today! I'm curious to know if it's your mouth that's resilient or my men's fists that are unyielding! Irwin, bring them in!"

At his command, Irwin swiftly led his men in.

Both sides immediately engaged in a fight, their fists colliding in a flurry of action.

The vast hall grew stiflingly narrow as pandemonium broke loose, transforming the once orderly scene into sheer mayhem.

Neera hadn't expected the situation would spiral out of control like this.

However, the current situation was akin to a loosed arrow, and there was no way to reverse it. She had no choice but to allow events to progress.

With a swift move, Charles skillfully subdued the approaching assailants, knocking them down effortlessly. His eyes darted in all directions, ears keenly tuned to the surroundings, channeling his complete focus on protecting Neera. He guided her carefully to the side, maintaining a vigilant guard.

All the while, Avery and Shane stood on either side, guarding her protectively.

"What's the plan for wrapping this up?" Neera asked Charles in a hushed tone, her uncertainty evident.

Charles replied, "We have no choice but to fight."

A slight frown creased Neera's forehead. "If news of this gets out, the Gordon family will become a laughingstock," she murmured.

After all, family issues should not be aired in public.

"Don't worry, Ms. Garcia. This won't become public. Mr. Robin will take care of it."

Neera nodded, relief flooding her heart.

Meanwhile, the chaos in front of them continued, with both sides trading blows, making it hard to discern which party held the upper hand at the moment.

It didn't help that these individuals were seasoned Bartitsu experts. Every move they made was precise and deadly, each punch or palm strike capable of severely injuring and incapacitating their opponents, causing them to collapse and lose consciousness.

As Neera took in the heart-stopping scene before her, she felt her perspective on things was once again being profoundly reshaped.

As time passed, she grew increasingly uneasy as she noticed that their side was beginning to lose ground.

It wasn't that her team lacked skills; rather, facing four opponents with only two fighters proved challenging. Even when combining her forces with Avery's, they couldn't match half the strength of their adversaries.

It was evident that Baxter had planned to resolve the conflict through force. He had mobilized a vast number of men and resources, far beyond what anyone could have anticipated.

Moreover, it was indeed inappropriate for Avery to involve himself in the Gordon family's affairs, hence he refrained from bringing too many people.

In the end, Charles was left with no choice but to charge in as well when he realized the dire situation.

Believing it was strategic to capture the ringleader first, he paid no attention to the minor threats and focused his assault on Troy and Ollie, who were shielding Baxter. [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

These two brothers are both highly skilled Bartitsu experts. They won't be easy to deal with.

While the three of them were entangled in the skirmish, Baxter didn't waste any time and issued a commanding order, "Seize Neera! She's the one disturbing the peace of the Gordon family, conspiring with outsiders, and causing turmoil. We must catch her and hold her accountable!"

Upon receiving his orders, his men immediately turned and charged toward Neera.

Avery's gaze grew icy. He kicked aside the oncoming assailants and positioned himself protectively in front of Neera.

However, his body hadn't fully recovered and couldn't withstand such exertion.

The attackers fought ferociously, causing his brows to furrow tightly. He tried to hold his ground, but his already weakened body started to give way under the relentless assault.

Seeing that both his sons were locked in battle with Charles, and realizing that Avery was held back by the others, Baxter decided to take matters into his own hands.

Having trained in martial arts since childhood, he had developed remarkable physical prowess. Despite his advancing age, he retained remarkable agility.

Before Neera could even register what was happening, he was right upon her, his hand akin to a hawk's claw, bearing down on her throat.

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## Chapter 1137

Amidst the chaos, one person was sitting calmly as if all the commotion had nothing to do with him.

Sipping his tea, he remained composed amid the turmoil as if perched on a distant mountain peak, observing the ebb and flow of clouds, undisturbed by the surging waves below.

The attendant by his side hesitated for a moment, then couldn't help but ask, "Mr. Robin, are you really not going to intervene?"

Robin toyed with the teacup and was on the verge of saying "No" when he looked up and met Baxter's malevolent gaze.

Seeing that the latter was about to strike Neera, he sighed in resignation. Casually setting down his teacup, he was ready to step in and intervene.

Yet, at that moment, a figure appeared in the chaotic crowd, as silent and sudden as a ghost.

In a swift, almost ethereal move, the figure darted toward Baxter and seized his wrist with an effortless flick.

Caught off guard by the sudden intervention, Baxter hesitated for a moment. Before he could discern the identity of the mysterious figure, a sharp pain seared through his chest.

It turned out that the person had sent him flying with a casual flick of their palm.

In the blink of an eye, a shocking sight unfolded before everyone's eyes. As if struck by a bolt of lightning, Baxter spat out a mouthful of blood and was propelled through the air. He collided with the tables and chairs behind him, the impact resonating through the room before he crashed heavily onto the ground.

As everyone stood there in stunned silence, a gentle voice, filled with grace, delicately pierced the air. "What a lively scene indeed..."

With those words, everyone's gaze shifted from the crumpled form of Baxter to the unexpected visitor.

Upon seeing the person's face, the crowd collectively gasped. Their eyes widened in disbelief, their pupils contracting as if confronted by a ghost, and they froze in place.

Having just escaped a perilous situation, Neera's heart was still pounding with fear. As she gradually regained her senses, she realized that the person who had saved her was a remarkably young man.

The man had long, cascading hair that gave him an air of gentleness, yet his eyes held a mischievous glint. If he were to smile, it would surely be captivating and soul-stirring.

Neera, however, was unswayed by his charm. Her only concern was who this person was, where he had come from, and why he had chosen to save her.

On the other side, clutching his chest, Baxter felt as if his organs had been crushed, and he coughed up blood in agony. After struggling to catch his breath, he finally recognized his assailant.

The next moment, he was filled with shock and disbelief.

"Y-You're the deputy lord of Lordsworth Estate, Tiago!" he stammered.

His words struck like a bolt from the blue. Everyone was shocked to the core, and their movements ceased abruptly, their faces etched with vigilance and caution. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Even Avery hurried over, grabbing Neera's wrist and pulling her behind him protectively. Nonetheless, his demeanor remained composed.

Charles and Shane, too, made their way over with a solemn look on their faces.

Seeing them acting so nervous, Neera couldn't help but ask, "What kind of place is Lordsworth Estate? And who is he?"

Shane pursed his lips slightly, explaining to her in a low voice, "Lordsworth Estate is the residence of Phison's highest authority, a symbol of immense power. This man holds the position of deputy lord and is considered the most formidable Bartitsu expert in the region. His skills are truly terrifying..."

At this point, he paused, his expression darkening further. "No, it's more than just terrifying; he's almost otherworldly. Even with so many experts here, I doubt any of them would stand a chance against him."

Understanding dawned on Neera as she finally grasped the situation. "So, what's his connection with the Gordon family? Why did he come here all of a sudden? Judging by your reactions, could he be here for revenge?" she asked.

Shane shook his head, not entirely sure either. "The Gordon family has never had any conflicts with him, so there's no grudge between us. As for why he's here... it can't possibly be related to the district president elections, can it?"

Standing nearby, Avery listened intently, his brows knitted in concern.

While others might be apprehensive of Tiago, he wasn't intimidated in the slightest.

At that moment, he spoke up, taking the lead. "As the deputy lord of Lordsworth Estate, why would you suddenly venture into Bartitsu Guild's territory instead of staying within the area under your jurisdiction? What's the reason behind your unexpected presence here?"

Upon hearing that, Tiago slowly turned his gaze toward Avery, his eyes filled with intrigue. It was clear he was contemplating something, though the nature of his thoughts remained a mystery.

He began, "Well, well, if it isn't the head of the Cox family, one of the Eight Elders. It's been a while, hasn't it?"

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## Chapter 1138

Avery looked at Tiago coldly, not bothering to hide the hostility in his eyes.

"It's been quite a while, hasn't it? What brings you to District Fourteen today? Don't tell me you've come to enjoy the spectacle of the Gordon family's mess?"

Tiago found his caution amusing, chuckled, and said nonchalantly, "What's so interesting about the Gordon family's mess? It's just a bunch of fools causing internal strife."

A bunch of fools...

Baxter gritted his teeth, while the expressions of the brothers, Troy and Ollie, turned increasingly gloomy one after the other.

"Oh? So... could it be that you're here for the district president's election? Ha, does such a trivial matter require someone of your stature to personally deal with the Gordon family?"

The only reason Avery could think of was this.

After hearing the comment, Baxter shuddered all over, staring at Tiago with an anxious look in his eyes.

Even the eyes of usually haughty Robin darkened accordingly.

"The election assembly hasn't begun yet. Although the Gordon family has a candidate, nothing is set in stone. Mr. McClure, have you come today to make a move against the Gordon family?"

Tiago chuckled lightly. "Indeed, I'm here because of the election."

As soon as these words were spoken, everyone in the Gordon family became tense. As if they were facing a formidable enemy, they no longer harbored the desire for internal strife. All of them focused on Tiago's every move, afraid that he would suddenly cause trouble.

"Why are you all so nervous? I haven't finished speaking yet."

Tiago raised an eyebrow, his captivating eyes fully reflecting an air of casual nonchalance.

Suddenly, he turned to look at Neera and began to scrutinize her.

So, this is the person whom my lord holds dear in his heart. She has a beauty that could launch a thousand ships. Coupled with her abilities, she is truly a match for him.

In just a few short seconds, he had already considered Neera as one of his own.



As for Neera, she looked puzzled and felt uneasy under his gaze.

Avery's face remained calm. He stepped forward, positioning himself between her and Tiago, effectively blocking Tiago's gaze.

Seeing this, Tiago's laughter became even more enigmatic.

"Mr. Cox, there's no need for you to be so guarded against me. What could I possibly do in front of so many people? Besides..."

He paused for a moment, suddenly tilting his head. His gaze passed over Avery's shoulder as he gave Neera a playful wink.

"I came this time specifically to see you, Ms. Garcia."

After hearing that, Neera was taken aback. She pointed to herself and asked, "Me?"

Everyone also turned to look at her, their faces filled with confusion.

Tiago nodded. "Yes, many of you may not know this, but Ms. Garcia and the Lord of Phison share a deep bond. I heard that she is visiting the Gordon family today to acknowledge her ancestors and return to her roots, so my lord has specifically sent me to extend his congratulations."

As soon as those words were spoken, everyone couldn't help but gasp in surprise. Even Neera was utterly astounded.

Shane was somewhat puzzled and asked Neera, "When did you get to know the Lord of Phison? How come you never mentioned it before?"

Neera was equally clueless, muttering under her breath, "How would I know? I don't even know any Lord of Phison at all. Maybe this person has mistaken me for someone else..."

Tiago's hearing was excellent. He chuckled and said, "Rest assured that I haven't mistaken you for someone else. my lord said that you once saved his life, and he will never forget that you're his savior for the rest of his life."

When the words were spoken, the entire Gordon family was taken aback.

Our little Neera is actually the savior of the Lord of Phison? Are you kidding me?

Neera suddenly understood what was going on, but she had saved so many people that she really couldn't remember when she had saved this so-called Lord of Phison.

At that moment, she nodded. "So that's how it is. I would like to thank you and Your Lord for today."

Tiago smiled faintly. "Ms. Garcia, it's too early to express your gratitude. I came today with another purpose, to convey the intentions of my lord. He hopes that you can become the head of the Gordon family."

Having said that, he redirected his gaze toward the crowd, focusing particularly on Robin and Baxter.

"If anyone disagrees, feel free to step forward and spar with me. Let's have a fair contest. If you can defeat me, I promise to leave immediately and never interfere in this matter again!"

Upon hearing those words, Baxter's face turned red with rage burning within him.

He knew how powerful Tiago was and that no one was capable of defeating him. [Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

"Hmph, Mr. McClure, given how skilled you are, isn't it clear that you're intentionally making things difficult for the Gordon family? Despite your authority, this is still an internal family affair. Broadly speaking, it's also a matter of District Fourteen and a matter of the Bartitsu families. It has nothing to do with Lordsworth Estate. You are an outsider and truly have no right to interfere!"

At that moment, all he could do was use that line of reasoning, hoping that Tiago would understand the situation and leave immediately.

Instead of leaving, Tiago leisurely strolled over to the couch and sat down leisurely. His long legs were crossed, exuding an aura of absolute authority.

"Apologies, but my lord has issued a strict order. Anyone who dares to bully Ms. Garcia today will be considered an enemy of Lordsworth Estate!"

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## Chapter 1139

The weight of those words, if spoken by someone else, might not be as heavy.

However, the person before them was second only to the Lord of Phison and the second-in-command of Lordsworth Estate.

Not to mention that he was the most powerful warrior in Phison, capable of defeating a hundred enemies single-handedly without even breaking a sweat.

Even if the president of Bartitsu Guild were to come, he would have to be wary of Tiago.

Baxter's face couldn't be any gloomier. He was so angry that he felt like he was choking on his own rage. He was so upset that even breathing seemed to be a struggle.

Even then, he was still reeling from shock, his mind filled with disbelief.

How on earth does this d\*mn girl have such a powerful patron?

Even if Baxter didn't want to believe it, Tiago was right in front of him. Given that it was Tiago who said all those words, he knew there was no reason to doubt their authenticity.

At that moment, the entire Gordon family fell silent. One by one, they closed their mouths with varied expressions.

A pin-drop silence subsequently descended upon the vast hall.

While they remained silent, Tiago was in no hurry either. He sat there leisurely, looking utterly at ease.

He didn't look like he was there to cause trouble but rather to have coffee and a chat.

After a long silence, Robin finally spoke. "Baxter, isn't it embarrassing enough that things have escalated to this point? If word of this gets out, the Gordon family will become a laughing stock. So, let's not fight over the position of the head of the family anymore and listen to Chad instead."

"Robin!" Baxter roared at him.

"That's enough!" Robin interrupted him with a threatening look in his eyes.

"Can't you see it yet? The fact that Neera is on good terms with Lordsworth Estate means that she is someone capable. Chad must have chosen her after considering the matter thoroughly. Our squabbling here will only cause trouble for the Gordon family."

After speaking, he turned his gaze toward Neera and smiled.

"We are willing to abide by Chad's decision, acknowledging you as his successor and honoring you as the new head of the family."

With him saying that, the matter was pretty much settled.

Baxter was so angry that he was almost grinding his teeth to pieces. He was seething with hatred inside, yet he dared not voice any objections.

For one, the current situation had put him at a disadvantage.

Secondly, Tiago's presence was so domineering that he simply didn't dare to act rashly.

His silence made it harder for Troy and Ollie to protest any further. Everyone from their faction could only keep their mouths shut.

When Neera saw how the tide had turned abruptly, she was truly surprised. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

She hadn't expected the issue to be resolved in such a smooth yet dramatic fashion.

What an unexpected path this truly is...

Tiago was quite satisfied with the outcome. "Both of you elders are very wise indeed."

He even made a point to ask Baxter. "Mr. Baxter, I've heard that you're a man of great wisdom and foresight, always considering the bigger picture. You don't have any objections to this, do you?"

Upon receiving such a big compliment, Baxter had no choice but to graciously accept it.

With a reluctant huff, he responded only with his silence.

Tiago broke into a grin. "I'm glad to see that there are no objections. In that case, I'll take my leave first."

As he spoke, he stood up and straightened his jacket, exuding an aura that was haughty yet cool.

"However, let me make one thing clear. I hope that the Gordon family is genuinely committed to serving Ms. Garcia and not just paying lip service. If anyone harbors ulterior motives and does something behind the scenes to undermine Ms. Garcia, rest assured that Lordsworth Estate will not let it slide. I will personally step in to handle the matter. So, anyone with such crooked intentions should first weigh their own capabilities and consider whether they can afford to offend Lordsworth Estate! Even if you have the backing of Bartitsu Guild, it won't make any difference. After all... even if everyone in this district band together, you still pose no threat to Lordsworth Estate!"

These final words were a blatant warning to everyone.

The Gordon family members present were all so intimidated that they couldn't help but shudder uncontrollably.

Tiago swept his gaze around the room, taking in everyone's expressions. Only then was he satisfied.

He strolled up to Neera and handed over his name card.

"Ms. Garcia, the position of the Gordon family's head is rightfully yours. You can take over without any worries, as Lordsworth Estate will be your strongest and most reliable backer. No matter what happens, you can always reach out to me directly."

After he finished speaking, he bowed slightly to excuse himself, then turned and walked away with an air of casual elegance.

Neera took a glance at the name card in her hand, still somewhat dazed. Her feet, however, had already started moving as she chased after Tiago.

"Mr. McClure, please wait a moment."

Tiago paused, turning back to look at her. "Ms. Garcia, is there something else?"

Neera hesitated for a moment before asking him, "May I know the name of your lord? I owe him and you a great deal for today's help. I should at least know who to thank."

Tiago chuckled, his hands tucked into his trouser pockets. The domineering air he exuded just a moment ago faded, replaced by a somewhat nonchalant demeanor.

"Ms. Garcia, don't worry. You'll find out eventually. And when that time comes... I'm sure you'll be quite surprised."

Leaving behind these cryptic words, he stepped into his Lotus sports car and was gone in the blink of an eye.

Bewildered, Neera took the name card and returned to the main hall.

This time, the way everyone looked at her was quite peculiar, even somewhat apprehensive.

At that moment, Shane seized the opportunity to speak up. "Since none of you have any objections, Neera will officially become the new head of the Gordon family from today onwards. Considering that Uncle Chad is still with us you can all address her as Ms. Garcia."

Naturally, Baxter and the others felt extremely indignant, but the words of Tiago, still echoing in their ears, left them no choice but to reluctantly address her as "Ms. Garcia."

The faction led by Robin, quite willingly, bowed respectfully toward Neera in unison. They cried out in a strong and resolute voice. "Congratulations, Ms. Garcia!"

Neera was still somewhat unaccustomed to this change in status, but she accepted it with a calm and composed nod.

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## Chapter 1140

After greeting Neera, Robin gave a subtle look to a subordinate behind him.

The latter understood immediately, and together with the person next to him, they brought over a large and heavy mahogany chair. At a glance, one could see the prestige and status it represented.

"Ms. Garcia, please have a seat."

Neera nodded and strolled over, sitting down with a composed demeanor.

Robin smiled warmly and said, "Ms. Garcia, I'm impressed by how accomplished you are at this young age. To be acquainted with such a prominent figure as the Lord of Phison and even becoming his savior is a great honor. With the debt he owes you, you will be able to solidify your position in Phison. Even under normal circumstances, this isn't an easy task at all."

The mere thought of not only having to serve her but also to show her respect made Baxter's blood boil.

He couldn't openly make things difficult, so he could only resort to sarcasm.

"Hasn't he been missing for many years? In recent years, no one has seen him or heard any news about him. How could he suddenly appear at this critical moment? It's too much of a coincidence. Who knows if it's true or false!"

Shane calmly retorted, "You're mistaken, Granduncle Baxter. Even without that person, Tiago's status alone carries enough weight. Have you forgotten? He is the second-in-command at Lordsworth Estate. His position is on par with the vice president of the Bartitsu Guild. In fact, he even has the upper hand. He has never interfered in the affairs of the Bartitsu Guild before. The fact that he personally came today to support Neera should put all doubts to rest. Besides, Neera is the Gordon family's head now. Her grand ascension to power is also a good thing for the Gordon family."

Baxter was not convinced, his cold laughter echoing around. Not a single pleasant word came out of his mouth.

"Everyone knows that there's always been friction between Lordsworth Estate and the Bartitsu Guild. The Gordon family should have been a faction aligned with the guild. However, we not only allowed the selection of our family head to be dictated by Lordsworth Estate but also let them enter District Fourteen unobstructed and effortlessly walk through the Gordon family's door. What would the guild think when they find out? Ha, in my opinion, the Gordon family might just fail to win the election for district president this time!"

Neera, who remained silent throughout, suddenly began to speak.

"Uncle Chad has never had any intention of becoming the district president, and as for me, I don't have that ambition either. This visit was merely a formality. Surely, you're not actually planning on getting elected?"

Baxter glanced at her, his eyes filled with disdain and dissatisfaction.

"Your thinking is too naive. Clearly, you don't understand anything! The election for district president is essentially a proxy struggle between Lordsworth Estate and the Bartitsu Guild. But now, with the emergence of Tiago, the nature of this matter has changed! Just wait and see. There's no way the Gordon family can extricate itself from this now!"

Once he finished, he rose in anger and stormed off.

Upon hearing this, Robin and Avery, along with a few others, all fell silent.

When Neera realized that things might indeed be as complicated as Baxter had described, she couldn't help but feel concerned.

Soon, Robin sent those of the younger generation away.

Once everyone had left, Neera couldn't help but give the few people remaining in the room a puzzled look.

"What on earth is going on? Is there really no way out?"

Avery hesitated for a moment, then nodded, "What he said is indeed true. This matter is quite sensitive... Lordsworth Estate and the Bartitsu Guild have always been at odds. If we have to take sides, we can only choose one."

As he spoke, his expression turned serious.

"Neera, given that Lordsworth Estate is going to such great lengths to support you, do you really not know who the Lord of Phison is?"

Neera shook her head. "I really don't."

Then, she asked again, "What about you? Don't you know either?"

Everyone shook their heads too, completely clueless.

"That man has always been mysterious and usually delegates all matters, big or small, to Tiago. He has never shown himself. There were rumors before that he had actually been missing for five or six years, and his whereabouts were unknown. Some even speculated that he might no longer be alive, but these are all just hearsay, none of which has ever been confirmed."

Neera, somewhat worried, was momentarily at a loss for what to do. "So, what would be the best way for me to handle this situation?"

Avery pondered for a moment, then said, "In reality, ever since the beginning, there's only one outcome to this matter. It's to bind the Gordon family and the Cox family together to become the chosen district presidents. From District Twenty-One to District Twenty-Five, the Bartitsu Guild has always harbored an agenda toward them. If the Gordon family and the Cox family have a close relationship, the Bartitsu Guild won't give them up easily. Now that you're also involved with Lordsworth Estate, it will only intensify their desperation. Going forward, there might be some trouble..."

Neera frowned. "What kind of trouble?" [SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

Avery looked at her, his gaze slightly deepened. "Based on my understanding of the Bartitsu Guild, I'm afraid they might send someone to see the Gordon family..."

Upon hearing that, Neera grew wary. "Why would they do that?"

"Of course it's about affirming the Gordon family's position," Avery said seriously. "Neera, for the sake of the Gordon family, you must acknowledge our marriage and firmly stand with the guild. Otherwise, the Bartitsu Guild might take action against the Gordon family. Eradicating a family like us would be as easy as snapping their fingers..."

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## Chapter 1141

Upon hearing those words, Neera felt an immense resistance in her heart.

She never expected things to become so complicated that just she couldn't accept them.



Acknowledging my marriage with Avery... How can I possibly do such a thing against my own will? If I were to do this, wouldn't I be unable to disentangle herself from him in the future?

Shane glanced at Avery, seeing through his ulterior motives. However, he chose not to expose him but advised instead, "Neera, perhaps you should take Mr. Cox's advice."

Robin, who also felt that the idea was feasible, agreed, "This is indeed a good solution, Ms. Garcia. This way, we can ensure the safety of the Gordon family. It's foolproof."

However, Neera pursed her lips in silence.

Later on, Robin arranged for a room to be prepared for Neera to stay in and even assigned a housekeeper to take care of her.

Neera went to the courtyard and took the opportunity to call Chad, updating him on the situation there.

Chad didn't expect this turn of events.

However, he didn't want to put Neera in a difficult position, so he said, "If you're not willing, just let this matter go. I'll handle it when I get back."

After a moment of hesitation, Neera refused.

"Forget it, Uncle Chad, you don't need to make the trip back. Since the situation has come to this point, I'll just have to deal with it. After all, I've assumed this position, and it wouldn't be right to back down now. If I did, wouldn't that just embarrass you?"

Moreover, Adriana and Chad were currently busy planning their wedding. She didn't want to bother them with the matter and disrupt the wedding plans they'd finally settled on.

Even if she had bitten off more than she could chew, she had no choice but to steel herself and deal with it.

As for the alliance through marriage with Avery, she could only go along with it to stabilize the situation temporarily. I'll explain everything to him afterward.

Meanwhile, Chad let out a sigh. "Neera, sorry for putting you through all this."

Neera broke into a helpless smile. "Please don't say that. It's not that bad."

She just felt nonplussed about it.

Even then, she couldn't figure out how she had managed to get involved with those from Lordsworth Estate.

Although they had her back, they also brought her a lot of trouble.

After Tiago left, he immediately reported the situation to Jean.

"Everything has been arranged according to your instructions. Now, the Gordon family has acknowledged her position as the head of the household, and no one dares to oppose it anymore."

On the other end of the line, Jean listened and was very satisfied, responding with an affirmative grunt. [Search the Findnovel.net website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"However, the situation is still one of concern."

Ahead was a red light, Tiago stopped the car. His hand casually rested on the rolled-down window while his eyes slightly narrowed.

"I have my doubts about Mr. Robin from the Gordon family. He's not one to take things lying down, and who knows what schemes he might be cooking up behind the scenes. I fear your sweetheart might face quite a bit of trouble ahead. Moreover, my appearance has linked her with Lordsworth Estate. How the Bartitsu Guild will view this, one can only guess. They might just storm over to demand an explanation from her."

Jean, who had clearly taken into account these concerns, immediately issued orders.

"So, don't rush back here. Stay there a few more days. If anyone from the Gordon family or the Bartitsu Guild dares to lay a finger on her, make sure you cripple them!"

"Are you sure you want to do this? You don't care if everything falls apart?"

"Your question is redundant."

"Alright then. Since you, the Lord of Phison, will shoulder the responsibility for anything that goes wrong, I naturally have no objections."

Tiago continued driving as he let out a deep sigh.

"Tell me, what are you really planning? Aren't you just benefiting the Bartitsu Guild for no reason? You know full well what they're plotting, yet you're deliberately delivering them what they want."

A scoffing laugh echoed through, but Jean remained utterly unfazed.

"Of course, I understand perfectly what's going on. She is my wife. If she becomes the district president, whose hands do you think the district she governs will fall into?"

Upon hearing those words, Tiago suddenly burst into laughter.

"So, this is your grand scheme, huh? Tsk-tsk. I'm impressed with how cunning your plan is. It's truly worthy of the Lord of Phison."

Jean wasn't taken in by the flattery. He said indifferently, "Cut the brown-nosing. Keep an eye on her. If anything goes wrong, don't bother coming back."

Beep, beep, beep...

Tiago lightly pressed the tip of his tongue against his upper palate, speechless. Indeed, once a man gets a wife, he forgets his friends...

Before long, rumors about the Gordon family spread rapidly throughout Phison.

The Gordon family's acknowledgment of the new head of the household had become a topic of great interest to the outside world.

However, the intriguing part was that no one seemed to be aware of the visit by a representative from Lordsworth Estate.

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## Chapter 1142

Just as Avery had anticipated, representatives from the Bartitsu Association indeed came knocking on their door that very night.

This time, it wasn't a large crowd that appeared but a single old man.

At first glance, there didn't seem to be anything particularly remarkable about the old man, as he appeared quite ordinary.

However, his eyes were like those of a hawk, with a gaze so sharp it was startling.

A single glance from him was enough to instill fear in anyone.

Upon seeing him, Avery, showing a rare level of respect, greeted him warmly, "Mr. Pierce."

The old man nodded, his voice raspy and deep. "Mr. Cox, it's been a while since we last met."

Avery chuckled. "Indeed, despite not seeing you for a while, you look as energetic as ever."

After exchanging pleasantries, he turned to Neera and introduced, "Neera, this is someone close to the president."

Close to the president? He must be some sort of assistant.

Neera formed a rough idea in her mind and greeted politely, "Hello, Mr. Pierce, it's a pleasure to meet you. My name is Neera."

Naturally, Herbert knew who she was. He scrutinized her from head to toe, his expression inscrutable.

"Well, you're quite a pretty little girl."

Neera responded modestly yet confidently. "You flatter me."

However, Herbert's attitude soon took a drastic turn. His tone suddenly became serious, and he began to interrogate her.

"I heard that there was a bit of a hiccup during the inauguration of the new family head today. Mr. McClure personally intervened, openly supporting your ascension. May I ask, what is your relationship with Lordsworth Estate?"

Here it comes!

Neera felt alarm bells ringing in her head. The unprecedented sense of pressure triggered a chill down her spine.

The old man gave off an extremely threatening aura, like a venomous snake ready to strike at any moment. It felt as if one could lose their life in an instant, a clear indication that he was not someone to be trifled with. Search the FindNovel.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Nevertheless, Neera steeled herself, maintaining a strong front and keeping her composure.

She had prepared an explanation ahead of time, and now, she explained it with an apparent calmness.

"The truth is, there's no real connection. It's only today that I've fully understood the situation. I'm a doctor, and I once inadvertently saved the Lord of Phison. However, he didn't reveal his identity at the time."

To lighten the tense atmosphere, she let out a soft laugh, her tone easing slightly.

"To be honest, I was quite startled when Mr. McClure showed up today. I thought he was here to cause trouble. If he hadn't clarified, I'd probably still be in the dark."

Herbert seemed skeptical. "Is this really true? I find it quite puzzling. What are the odds that you would save the Lord of Phison out of so many people? Do you know the consequences of lying? If we find out that you're not telling the truth, the three hundred members of the Gordon family will pay the price for your mistake and be killed alongside with you."

As he spoke, he tightened his grip on the coffee cup he was holding, crushing it into pieces.

He then tossed the broken porcelain pieces onto the coffee table with a nonchalant air. Despite his unchanging expression, his gaze subsequently sharpened.

Startled by the turn of events, Neera's heart skipped a beat.

At that moment, Avery stepped forward to speak up for her.

"Mr. Pierce, there's something you're not aware of. Neera is actually my fiancée. As her fiancé, I can vouch for her. Apart from the incidental rescue of the Lord of Phison, she indeed has no connection with Lordsworth Estate. I can guarantee this on the Cox family's name."

As soon as those words were spoken, Neera couldn't help but give Avery a complex look.

Invoking the name of the entire Cox family as a guarantee was a heavy burden to bear.

However, at the moment, she couldn't say a thing.

If she refuted him, her credibility in front of Herbert would be completely lost.

When that happens, the Gordon family would be put in danger.

Nonetheless, Herbert wasn't easily fooled. Upon hearing that, he sniggered in response, still not entirely convinced.

"Is that so? As far as I know, although the Gordon and Cox families have a marriage alliance, it's merely a verbal agreement. It doesn't really count."

"You're overthinking it. I've already planned to propose to Neera. In fact, I left Phison with the intention of asking for her hand in marriage. Look, I even brought her back with me."

Avery spoke with conviction as if he was stating a fact. Then, he threw the question back at Herbert. "Mr. Pierce, you wouldn't doubt the Cox family's loyalty to the guild, would you?"

Herbert squinted his eyes, staring at Avery for a long while as if to confirm whether his words were true.

Finally, he said, "It had better be that way. The president has ordered that the Gordon family must be elected as the district president. No mishaps are allowed. You understand what I mean, right?"

Avery laughed and said, "Rest assured this is the truth. During the engagement banquet, I hope you can honor us with your presence and join Neera and me for the celebration."

Herbert seemed satisfied. "Of course. I will definitely attend your engagement ceremony."

After saying what needed to be said, he didn't wait long before getting up and leaving.

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## Chapter 1143

After escorting Herbert out, Neera found her back drenched in cold sweat. Her gown clung to her skin, causing some discomfort.

Avery showed his concern for her. "Are you alright? Were you frightened?"

Neera shook her head. "I was a little nervous, but it's no big deal."

What she cared about most now wasn't that. After hesitating for a moment, she still couldn't help but ask.

"Why did you say that just now? Our engagement was a sham to begin with. How could there possibly be an engagement ceremony..."

Avery's gaze faltered slightly, a moment passed before he regained his composure and said, "Don't worry, what I said earlier was just a proposal, no specific time was mentioned. It can be postponed indefinitely."

Postponed indefinitely... That's not the point. Shouldn't the point be that this engagement was never valid in the first place?

Neera was slightly troubled, for she was very bothered by his ambiguous response.

That said, he had just helped her out. If she were to argue with him now, it would seem as if she was being ungrateful.

With those thoughts in mind, she found herself at a loss for words, choosing instead to temporarily suppress her feelings.

Avery clearly didn't want to delve deeper into the matter with her. He glanced at his wristwatch and changed the topic.

"It's getting late. You've had a long day and should get some rest. I'll head home now."

After speaking, he smiled faintly with a warm look in his eyes.

"Now that I've safely brought you to the Gordon residence, I can rest easy. You should feel at ease living here. With Shane and Charles protecting you and the support of Mr. Robin, there's nothing to fear. If anything happens, no matter how late, you can always contact me. I'll rush to your side immediately."

Neera was preoccupied with her own thoughts, barely paying attention to what he was saying afterward. She gave him a cursory nod, bid him goodbye, and returned to her room.

That night, she was so worried that she couldn't sleep.

For one, she had moved to a new place. The unfamiliarity of everything, coupled with an indescribable eerie atmosphere, made her feel ill at ease.

Secondly, the impending unknowns she was about to face left her directionless and made her feel anxious.

Another issue was her engagement to Avery. She clearly wanted to refuse, but the situation was developing in a way that wasn't what she intended.

Even though this was only the beginning, she already felt overwhelmed. She was unsure if she could handle what was to come.

Unfortunately, by the next morning, her worries had escalated to a much more serious level.

News of her engagement to Avery spread like wildfire in the Bartitsu Guild.

Soon, it became the talk of the town, and the entire Phison knew about it.

People were buzzing with excitement, paying close attention, and acting as if they were getting engaged tomorrow.

In the distant District One, Jean, upon seeing the news, glowered so intensely that it felt like the calm before a storm.

Ian and Cloud, along with a few others, were so frightened that they didn't dare to breathe. They tried their best to stay out of his sight, to the extent of wishing they could become invisible.

In the afternoon, Tiago managed to find some time to come back. Seeing Jean's expression, he couldn't help but laugh.

"The Bartitsu Association has released this news. It's clear they did it for us to know. When it comes to the Gordon family and district president elections, they are determined to win."

Regardless of whether it was intentional or unintentional, Jean was extremely upset.

She is clearly my fiancée but has now ended up becoming Avery's fiancée! How can I not be upset about this change in status?

Tiago and he shared a deep bond. Despite him being Tiago's superior, they were closer than brothers.

So, in that situation, Tiago was the only one who dared to tease Jean. He pinched his nose and started to make fun of him.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk, is that jealousy I smell in the air? It's almost enough to fill the entire Lordsworth Estate!"

Jean gave him the side-eye, not denying anything. He said coldly, "I swear I'm going to make the Bartitsu Guild pay for this!"

After seeing the news, Neera was deeply troubled.

However, even if she wanted to clarify things, she couldn't. She was forced to let the news spread continuously.



She could only console herself in her heart. Just bear with it. After all, the engagement isn't real. Once the excitement dies down, I can clear things up.

At the same time, she felt a bit guilty, silently praying in her heart that Jean wouldn't find out about what was happening there.

Hmm, he probably has no involvement with Phison. He definitely won't know! Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After reassuring herself mentally for quite a while, she finally felt somewhat better.

Shane came over and asked her, "Have you taken your shower? Let's go downstairs for breakfast."

Neera nodded in agreement and went to the dining room with him.

At the dinner table, Shane gave her an overview of the Gordon family.

Since she had taken up the position as head of the family, she had to understand everything, no matter how important they were.

She ended up spending the entire day listening until her head was spinning and she felt overwhelmed. She wished she could just fall asleep.

In the evening, Avery came to see her. "Let's go out for dinner."

Having finally caught her breath, Neera leaned back on the couch, completely unwilling to move. In a spiritless voice, she asked him, "Where are we going?"

Avery laughed. "Now that news of our marriage has spread, we should keep up appearances, right? Come on, I've made reservations in a restaurant. The food there is delicious. I'll take you to try it."

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## Chapter 1144

For that reason, Neera really wanted to refuse. However, she could not do so. We still need his help to stabilize the situation, so it wouldn't be right to refuse such a small request. Besides, since he's in a good mood and wants to

treat me to a meal, I should just go. It's really not a big deal.

With that in mind, she nodded in agreement after a brief moment of hesitation. "All right. Just let me get changed."

Avery chuckled gently. "No rush."

Even after going upstairs, she could not shake off the feeling of uneasiness when recalling his expression earlier. In the end, she decided to bring Zephyr with her.

"What's the matter? Don't you trust me to protect you?" Avery asked as they got into the car, feigning nonchalance.

She hastily explained, "No, not at all. I'm used to having Zephyr with me whenever I go out. Besides, you haven't fully recovered and can't afford to overexert yourself. If something happens, it'll be better to let Zephyr handle it."

It was unclear whether he believed her, but seeing that he said nothing more, she finally breathed a quiet sigh of relief.

Soon, the car drove up to a restaurant, and the pair entered the private room that had been reserved in advance. [Search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Avery was very attentive during the meal, serving her food and behaving in a very affectionate manner.

She stared at the heaping plate of food, not feeling hungry at all. "Mr. Cox, you don't have to do this. We're in a private room now. No one can see us, so there's no need for this pretense."

Despite sensing her resistance and desire to keep her distance, he did not appear to mind or pressure her. Knowing better than to overdo it, he simply nodded and started chatting casually with her. "The Medical Practitioner Guild is having an auction tonight. They might be auctioning off some valuable medicinal materials. Would you like to go take a look?"

Her eyes lit up at the mention of the rare medicinal materials, and she asked in surprise, "What's this Medical Practitioner Guild?"

"It's an organization similar to the World Medical Alliance that brings together many medical practitioners from Phison. They come from families of ancient medical practitioners and are no less competent than those in the World Medical Alliance. The guild possesses hundreds, if not millions, of medical books. Every month, they hold an auction selling particularly precious medicinal materials. Such an opportunity is hard to come by. Under normal circumstances, one wouldn't be able to buy them even if one had all the money in the world," he replied.

Neera was pleasantly surprised to make such a wonderful discovery. It piqued her interest instantly, and her excitement was clearly visible. "Absolutely! Of course, I want to check it out!"

Laughing, he sliced a piece of steak and pushed it toward her. "In that case, hurry up and eat. I'll take you there once you're done. We should still be able to make it on time."

She nodded. Her spirits lifted, and her heart was filled with anticipation.

The two set off upon finishing dinner. After driving for over twenty minutes, they finally pulled up in front of a large, distinctive building.

It was her first time seeing a building like that, and she looked at it curiously. "The architecture is quite unique."

Avery walked around the front of the car, went over to her, and stood by her side. "It is. This entire building is an auction house. There are seven or eight floors and an auction hall on each floor. The more valuable the items, the higher the floor that they get auctioned on. The prices also tend to be relatively higher."

Awed by the building's grandeur, she studied it in astonishment while swallowing hard.

Behind them, Irwin and Zephyr had also parked their cars. Irwin stepped forward first and identified himself to the security personnel at the entrance.

After verifying their identities, the security personnel bowed respectfully to Neera and Avery, then invited them in with utmost reverence.

Upon walking in, Neera found the interior to be grand and imposing. She could not help glancing around a few more times before asking, "Which floor are we heading to?"

Avery, who had stood patiently next to her all this while, smiled and said, "Naturally, the most precious medicinal materials are on the top floor. Come, I'll take you there."

As he spoke, the group entered the elevator and headed straight to the top floor.

Avery had already reserved their seats beforehand, choosing those in the VIP section. Only after walking to her seat did she realize that the auction's setup was quite different from the ones she had seen before.

The stage was in the center of the venue while the seats encircled it, making it look even grander.

"This building's unique design carries through from the exterior to the interior!" she exclaimed.

"That's correct. To be more precise, everything in Phison is different from other countries. That's also what makes Phison unique," he responded with a faint smile. After a brief pause, he added, "Ninety percent of those here tonight are skilled in medicine."

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## Chapter 1145

Neera understood clearly. "No matter how precious the medicinal material is, only someone knowledgeable will be able to appreciate its value. These rare and valuable medicinal materials will surely be in high demand today."

"Indeed. The daily auction sales at this place are astronomical, not much less than those of jewels and antiques," Avery replied with a chuckle.

The seats in the hall gradually filled up as the pair were talking. At eight o'clock, the auction officially commenced.

Everyone watched eagerly as the beautiful host gracefully made her way forward, dressed elegantly in a form-fitting gown. "A warm welcome to all our esteemed guests! Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend our auction. The items in today's auction are a feast for the eyes, each a gem among gems. We believe you won't be disappointed."

The auction began soon after the opening remarks. As usual, the auctioneer started by listing all the items up for auction that day.

Neera's excitement was palpable, and her eyes were wide. She did not shift her gaze as she listened closely to the names of the medicinal materials that were announced.

The longer she listened, the more excited she became. Her eyes shone as though there were stars in them.

Almost all those medicinal materials were ones she had come across in ancient medical books but had never seen with her own eyes. Their rarity surprised even her, someone who had encountered many rare medicinal materials. Who would've thought there'd be such a wonderful place in this world?

Meanwhile, Avery showed no interest in the auction at all. His attention was focused entirely on the woman next to him, and he could not help but chuckle at how excited she looked. "It appears there are medicinal materials here that you want. No need to hold back. Feel free to bid if you want them."

She swallowed hard, badly wanting to bid. However, the thought that the medicinal materials could cost millions, if not tens of millions, each left her at a loss, unsure whether she should bid. I didn't think much of it when he mentioned the astronomical amount of sales here in a night, but I get it now. The prices are sure to be sky-high! Only the crazy rich can possibly afford to spend like this.

Comprehension dawned on him when he noticed her hesitation. Having brought her there to cheer her up, naturally, he was determined to try his best and do that.

Hence, he promptly raised his bid paddle, competing with the other bidders without hesitation and continuously raising his bid. In the blink of an eye, he bought three items in succession.

"If you like, I can buy all the medicinal materials available tonight so you can use them in the future," he said.

She had not expected him to splurge on her and quickly tried to stop him. "Oh, no. You don't have to do that. I thought you were buying them for yourself. However, if they're for me, that won't be necessary."

He raised an eyebrow. "Why do you say so? These things are of no use to me. It's better to give them to you. Only then can these medicinal materials prove their worth and save people's lives."

Neera suddenly felt her head throb slightly. She insisted, "There's really no need for that."

Taking in the situation, Avery decided to settle for the next best alternative. "All right, then. You can choose whichever you want."

She was speechless. After a brief hesitation, she finally said, "You don't have to mind me. If I see something I want, I can pay for it myself. I appreciate your kindness, but there's no need for you to spend money on me."

The reason Neera had yet to place a bid was not because she was worried about the cost but because she was contemplating whether she would use a particular medicinal material. If I'm not going to use it, it'll be a waste if I buy it. It's better to leave it for those who need it.

Seeing that she was adamant, he did not press the matter further. Instead, he nodded and replied, "Okay. As you wish."

After that, she kept her attention on the auction stage. She had her eye on two medicinal materials and successfully bid for them. One was ember leaf while the other was ice vine, both of which were extremely beneficial for Jean's condition.

Due to how valuable they were, they were sold at hefty prices and cost her over sixty million.

Naturally, the large sum drew quite a few glances, and it was not long before someone recognized Avery. Upon noticing the woman by his side, they immediately thought she was his fiancée, the new heir of the Gordon family. [search the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"So, they're really a couple, huh? I guess this is confirmation, right?" someone remarked.

"Tsk, tsk. Mr. Cox is willing to spend such an extravagant sum on his fiancée. How generous of him," commented another.

"Who would've thought the new heir of the Gordon family would be so beautiful? She already holds a high position at a young age and is even going to marry into the Cox family. She's truly living the dream."

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## Chapter 1146

Neera was oblivious to the gossip. After the auction ended, she followed the staff to collect the medicinal materials.

Avery also gave her the ones he had purchased, but she did not want to accept them. "Please take them back, Mr. Cox. I appreciate your kindness, but I can't accept them."

He arched an eyebrow. Needless to say, he was unwilling to take it back. "Don't worry about it. It's nothing. I meant to give them to you from the start, and it'd be a waste if I kept them."

Her lips moved slightly as she still wanted to refuse.

However, he piped up before she could speak. "Just take them and stop refusing. Put these medicinal materials to good use. That way, it wouldn't be a waste of the money I've spent, right?"

After saying that, he glanced at Irwin. The latter understood immediately and handed the box full of medicinal materials directly to Zephyr.

Seeing that she could not refuse him, she reluctantly agreed and motioned for Zephyr to take it. "Thank you. I'll make sure these medicinal materials are used to the best of their potential."

"I believe in you," Avery replied with a slight smile. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Having had a rewarding evening, Neera was in quite a good mood.

Seeing her like that also made Avery happy, and he had a smile on his lips as he sent her home.

After taking a bath, Neera sat on the bed and video-called the triplets.

The little ones had not seen her for a long time and missed her terribly. Hence, they kept fighting to get in shot and talked over each other.

"Mommy, how are things over there? Is everything going smoothly?"

"Has anyone been bullying you?"

"Have you been eating and sleeping on time? Have you been taking good care of yourself?"

The sight of their faces made her heart melt. Resting her cheek against her knee, she patiently answered them, one by one. She also shared the wonderful evening she had had. "There's a grand and luxurious auction house over here, filled with countless precious medicines. I managed to get quite a few things at the auction tonight."

The trio giggled, genuinely happy for her. Then, one of them asked, "Who did you go with? Was it Uncle Shane?"

"No. It was Mr. Cox."

Alarm bells went off in the children's heads when they heard that. Feeling anxious and worried, they started cautioning her earnestly.

"Mommy, don't forget what you promised us. You must keep your distance from Mr. Cox!"

"You can't let yourself be won over just because of some small gestures!"

"Not even if it's something big!"

Tickled by how serious they sounded, Neera chuckled in amusement.

That made Penny a little anxious. "Why are you still laughing, Mommy? You're not being obedient at all. We're going to get angry!"

Neera could not help smiling and had no choice but to play along and nod. "All right, all right. I'll keep it in mind."

After the call ended, the three little ones still felt uneasy and promptly proceeded to complain to Jean.

"Daddy, what are you doing? Are you sleeping? Or are you busy? We heard that Mommy went to an auction with Mr. Cox tonight and that he spent a fortune on buying lots of precious medicinal materials for her. How are you not worried at all?"

"Yes, exactly! What he's doing is called pandering to someone's likes. Why do I feel like he's trying to sway her subtly?"

"That won't do. This is bad! Daddy, if this keeps up, don't tell me we'll end up with a stepfather?"

Jean did not want that to happen, and his eyes darkened slightly. Stepfather? Hah! Never in a million years!

"Don't worry. I'll be able to see your mommy very soon..."

He had no mood to do anything after speaking with the triplets. Their words kept replaying in his mind, leading him to make a phone call to Neera. After holding back for so many days, I don't want to restrain myself any longer.

Not expecting he would call, she lay in bed, momentarily stunned. Then, she sat up suddenly, her heart pounding rapidly.

On the other end of the line, he thought she would not answer because she still refused to talk to him and was prepared to try a few more times. Unexpectedly, she picked up the call.

"It's already so late. Why are you calling?" Her soft, gentle voice floated over the line. She spoke somewhat grudgingly, but she did not hang up.

The corners of his mouth lifted into a smile as he asked, "What are you doing?"

"I just finished taking a bath," she answered honestly after some hesitation.

"Mm," he murmured in a low voice. It was only a single syllable, yet it inexplicably seemed to carry a deeper meaning.



She had not spoken to him on the phone for a long time and could not help feeling somewhat uneasy. In a soft voice, she asked, "So, do you need something?"

"Can't I call you even if I don't need anything?" he responded, effortlessly sidestepping her question. Then, he added frankly, "I miss you."

Those three words instantly shattered the hint of aloofness that had hung between them.

Her eyelashes quivered slightly when she heard that familiar phrase again. A faint blush spread across her cheeks, and she could not stop a small smile from tugging at her lips. Even so, she remained silent.

That did not bother him in the least. Taking no notice, he continued, "To prevent you from forgetting me, I'll call you every day from now on. You have to answer my calls. Remember to reply to my messages, too."

His tone was domineering, as though he intended to monopolize all her time.

"Have you forgotten that I'm still mad at you? No one is as brazen as you!" she said in an amused tone.

"Yes, that's right. I'm so brazen because I know you like me, and that gives me the freedom to do as I please," he responded tenderly.

She bit her lower lip, then snorted softly. "I don't like you at all."

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## Chapter 1147

As Jean listened to her mutterings, reminiscent of a little girl, the gloom in his heart was swept away.

His mood lightened, and he began to tease her, "If you don't like me, who do you like, then?"

Neera hummed in thought, then seriously replied, "Harvey, Sammy, Penny, Aunt Adriana, Uncle Chad, Granddad, Granny..."

She meticulously mentioned each family member but refused to utter his name.

Just by hearing her voice, Jean could imagine her coquettish demeanor at this moment. He couldn't help but chuckle lightly, his eyes and brows brimming with joy.

Neera grumbled, "What are you laughing at?"

Jean raised an eyebrow. "I'm happy."

"What are you so happy about? I wasn't even talking about you," Neera said, somewhat perplexed.

"I'm glad you're finally willing to talk to me, to act spoiled, to be a little temperamental. No matter what, it's much better than when you were giving me the cold shoulder."

His voice was deep and gentle, like the melodious sound of a cello, very pleasing to the ear.

Neera's face flushed red as she was caught off guard. For a moment, she didn't know what to say. Opting for silence, she simply pursed her lips and smiled.

After a while, Jean remembered something and said to her, "Asher has been arrested. I couldn't come to see you recently because I was dealing with his case."

Upon hearing that news, the enchanting atmosphere faded away, invigorating Neera.

"Ha! He's finally caught. It's about time the wicked got their comeuppance! Wasn't he hiding really well, avoiding the detection of the authorities? How did you manage to catch him? Where was he?" She paused for a moment, unable to suppress her concern for him. "Was the arrest process dangerous? Are you hurt?"

Jean relaxed his body, leaning comfortably against the chair back, patiently answering each question one by one. "Don't worry, I'm perfectly fine. There's not a scratch on me. On the contrary, it's Asher who had a rough time, being tormented by Cloud and his crew to the point of wishing he were dead."

With a casual remark, he cunningly shifted all the blame onto Cloud and his companions, not mentioning a word about the orders he gave to torment Asher.

Upon hearing that, Neera breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good to hear. We can't afford any more mishaps with your health."

The two of them chatted for a long while, and the little bit of resentment she had in her heart had long since disappeared. No longer feeling awkward, she started to show her concern for him openly and comfortably. "Have you been taking the medicine I gave you on time these past few days?"

"Yes. I've always followed your advice obediently."

"That's more like it." Neera hummed a bit, her gaze flicked to the antique box on the table, her eyes curving into a smile. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"I managed to get hold of some very precious medicinal material today. They will be greatly beneficial for your recovery. Once I find the time to prepare them, I'll change your medication."

Upon hearing those words, Jean felt an overwhelming warmth in his heart. Her thoughtfulness genuinely touched him. No matter when, where, or what happens, she is always thinking about me.

With that in mind, the thought of her attending the auction with Avery that night didn't seem so unbearable anymore.

After a while, noticing it was getting late, Jean coaxed her, "Go to sleep now. Rest early. Be good."

"Okay." Neera didn't really want to hang up but was too shy to say so, so she said goodnight instead.

Lying in bed, she pulled the quilt up to just below her eyes. Yet, her laughter still shone through. She simply couldn't stop smiling.

After a good while, her heart finally settled from its frantic pounding, allowing her to drift into a peaceful sleep.

When she woke up the next day, she discovered that the rumors about her and Avery had spread even further.

"Have you heard? Last night, the head of the Cox family and the head of the Gordon family attended the auction at the Medical Practitioner Guild together. The head of the Cox family spent hundreds of millions, bidding on a lot of medicinal material just to please his fiancée. It seems that the head of the Gordon family is a renowned doctor. Wow. He really does spoil her."

"Ah. A fiancé like Mr. Cox is simply the cream of the crop. His status is noble, his abilities are outstanding, his demeanor is dignified, and he's considerate and generous. Ah, the head of the Gordon family is truly fortunate."

"Isn't it just sheer luck? She was just an outsider, yet she suddenly appeared and took the reins of the Gordon family, even married into the Cox family. And to top it all off, he adored and protected her so well. It's enough to make me green with envy."

"You're right. Some people have everything at their fingertips, easily obtaining anything they desire, while we can't even catch a glimpse of Mr. Cox. Such a disparity..."

Neera felt her head ache as she read the comments.

At breakfast, Shane was still teasing her about that matter.

Neera was silent for a while. "Stop talking. I don't even know how to face Avery now. It's really bothersome."

Then, she muttered to herself, "I didn't expect Avery to be so popular in Phison. I see many emotional posts online. Those people behave as if they've just gone through a breakup."

Shane laughed. "He has always been. I suppose you've never seen Phison's Top Ten Elite Ranking?"

Neera wondered. Top Ten Elite Ranking? What is that?

Shane took out his phone, scrolled to the list, and handed it to her to see. "This introduces the young elites of Phison. Their backgrounds, abilities, and even their looks and aura are beyond the comparison of ordinary people."

Upon glancing, Neera discovered that Avery was surprisingly listed. Moreover, he was also ranked quite high, securing the fourth position.

Tiago surprisingly held the top position.

"This Tiago is really impressive, isn't he?"

Shane nodded. "Yes. He comes from an ancient martial arts family, a rare genius that only appears once in a hundred years. He once single-handedly annihilated a faction. As a result, his fierce reputation precedes him, making everyone wary of him."

Neera pondered. "If the Lord of Phison can recruit someone like Tiago, isn't the Lord of Phison more formidable?"

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## Chapter 1148

Shane put down his fork and shook his head.

"Perhaps, but I'm not entirely sure. The main issue is that the person from Phison is just too mysterious and low-key. Over the years, almost no one has seen him, nor has anyone heard even the slightest bit of news about him. Moreover, Lordsworth Estate is

in District One, which has little to no interaction with other districts, making the chances of seeing him even more minuscule. One thing is for sure. This person is no ordinary individual. Just as you said, even a formidable figure like Tiago willingly serves under him. This speaks volumes about his capabilities, which should not be underestimated."

"I see..." Neera wiped the milk from the corner of her mouth, deep in thought.

She was quite curious, wondering who exactly was the Lord of Phison. When was it that I saved him? How come I don't have any recollection of it at all?

There was one more thing that she had been wondering about. How did that person know to send someone to save the day just as I became the head of the Gordon family? It's such a coincidence.

After breakfast, Shane asked her, "Are you going out with Avery again today?"

Neera recalled those online scandals, so she dared not go out openly with Avery again.

"No, I want to go out on my own to see if I can gather some medicinal material to bring back."

After the events of last night's auction, she developed a great interest in the ancient medicine there.

Considering the abundance of rare medicinal material available for auction there, she reckoned there must be plenty of other good stuff.

"Shane, do you know if there's any sort of clinic or pharmacy around here?"

Shane raised an eyebrow. "You really are devoted to medicine. You don't forget to look for medicinal material even when you're here."

Neera smiled. "It's just a professional habit."

"Indeed. In terms of medicine, Phison is in no way inferior to the outside world. Perhaps our expertise isn't as advanced as the World Medical Alliance, but we have everything one could possibly need when it comes to medicinal material. After all, the wealth of Phison ranks first globally, making us extremely affluent in all aspects. The auction you attended yesterday with Avery was actually organized by the largest medicinal ingredient merchant in Phison the Medicina family."

"The Medicina family? There are people with the family name 'Medicina'?" Neera was quite surprised.

"Why not?" Shane laughed. "This family established themselves by being involved in the medicinal material business hundreds of years ago."

Clarity washed over Neera. "I see. That surname really fits well."

So, she left with Zephyr, following the route provided by Shane, and arrived at the medical clinic.

After getting out of the vehicle, she looked up to examine the entrance decor. She found it to be incredibly majestic and imposing. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

A single pharmacy was so grand and imposing. It was clear that Shane wasn't exaggerating. Every corner of Phison was indeed dissipative with luxury.

Upon entering, a dazzling array of medicinal materials was displayed in the glass cabinet, all of which were rare and precious. The entire place was filled with the pervasive aroma of those herbs.

However, they weren't as rare as what was at the auction yesterday.

Nevertheless, compared to regions outside Phison, it was already quite remarkable that so many rare medicinal materials could be gathered there.

Neera first took a look around, then identified her target and specifically went to find the medicinal material she wanted.

Once she chose the medicinal material she wanted, she asked Zephyr to help her carry it.

After selecting a few items, she turned to head toward the medicine cabinet nearby.

But at that moment, her gaze was drawn to the medicinal material in a carved ice emerald box located in the uppermost compartment of the counter at the far end. That is frost ganoderma!

That pure white ganoderma, as recorded in ancient medical texts, only grew in the extremely cold precipices of cliffs that were covered by ice and snow.

Due to the harsh conditions of survival, it was extremely rare and extraordinarily precious.

Moreover, the storage conditions for that type of ganoderma were very demanding. It must be stored in an ice emerald box. Otherwise, it would quickly decay and lose its medicinal properties.

Neera was overjoyed, her eyes sparkling brightly. She immediately called over a shop assistant.

"Hello, could you please help me get that frost ganoderma down? I'll take it."

The shop assistant nodded and was about to act when a woman interrupted him. "I want this ganoderma too!"

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## Chapter 1149

Neera knitted her brows as she traced the source of the sound, only to find that the person who had interrupted was a beautiful woman.

She seemed quite young, perhaps a year or two younger than herself, and her beauty held a touch of assertiveness.

From her demeanor, it was clear that she was somewhat rebellious in nature.

At the moment, under Neera's gaze, the girl raised her eyebrows, exuding a somewhat domineering aura and choosing to ignore Neera.

The atmosphere suddenly turned awkward.

The shop assistant inside the counter apologized, "I'm sorry, Miss. This is the only frost ganoderma we have in our pharmacy."

The girl tilted her chin, looking haughty. "How many plants you have here is none of my business. All I know is that I saw it first, so you should sell it to me."

With a frown, Neera said, "Miss, if I'm not mistaken, I was the one who said I wanted it first."

"So what?" the girl sneered with disdain. "Does that mean you're entitled to purchase it? You haven't even paid for it."

After she finished speaking, she pulled out a card and slapped it onto the counter. "See, I've already placed my card on the counter. It's on a first-come-first-served basis. So, this ganoderma is now mine."

Neera found such imposing behavior quite repulsive.

She realized that trying to reason with someone of that mindset would be pointless, so she shifted her focus to the shop assistant. "You saw that, right? You should sell this ganoderma to me first."

Yet, the shop assistant remained composed and replied, "I'm sorry, but neither of you has made a payment for the product. You both should come to an agreement about who will be purchasing it."

Neera could tell that the shop assistant did not want to get involved, and that left her somewhat speechless.

If it were ordinary medicinal material, she might not bother to haggle and would have walked away directly, but the frost ganoderma was hard to come by.

Now that she had finally stumbled upon it, she had no intention of giving up.

Furthermore, she was the first to express her interest in purchasing it.

Regardless of how the argument unfolded, she knew she was on the right side.

"I can pay more." Instead of wasting time negotiating with the girl at the moment, Neera also took out her card and made an offer.

Unexpectedly, the woman refused to back down.

She snorted and exclaimed, "Who do you think you are? Trying to steal my ganoderma? No one can take something I've already set my eyes on!"

She raised her head, wearing a condescending expression, and haughtily offered to pay double the price. "I'll pay twice as much for it. Pack it up for me immediately!"

"If it's a matter of who pays more gets to have it, I'm willing to triple the price." Neera glanced at her and responded, "You're welcome to outbid me, and I'll match your offer."

Seeing that she had no intention of backing down, the girl exploded in rage. "You're asking for trouble!"

A bodyguard behind her immediately stepped forward, ready to take action.

Observing the situation, Zephyr moved forward, setting the medicinal herbs he held to the side. With a serious expression, he positioned himself in front of Neera, acting as her protector. [search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

Without wasting a word, the two immediately sprang into action, quite unexpectedly.

After exchanging blows, to everyone's surprise, Zephyr found himself at a disadvantage, staggering back a couple of steps.

Startled, Neera quickly helped him up. "Are you all right?"



Zephyr shook his head, realizing that the other party was a Bartitsu expert, his eyes narrowing fiercely. "Miss, please step back."

After speaking, he flexed his wrist, fearlessly stepping forward once again. His eyes were filled with a bloodthirsty glint, clearly indicating his intention to fight to the end.

The shop assistant, upon witnessing the scene, remained remarkably composed as if such sights were commonplace. She had no intention of intervening.

Neera was somewhat worried.

Having Zephyr by her side for quite some time, she was well aware of his capabilities. She had never witnessed anyone putting him at a disadvantage.

It was apparent that the opponent was not someone easy to deal with. Maybe it's best for us to give in.

However, Zephyr was not prepared to back down.

The opponent was relentless, suddenly charging forward once more.

After a few moves, Zephyr remained at a disadvantage. Though he had not sustained any injuries, he found himself predominantly on the defensive, striving to repel the relentless assaults from his opponent.

Neera's heart could not stop pounding with fear when she saw him losing ground steadily.

"Watch out!" Seeing another punch coming his way, she could not help but shout a warning.

Zephyr attempted to dodge but found himself cornered by the bodyguard, leaving him with no escape route. Suddenly, he knocked over the glass cabinet behind him. Glass shards and medicinal materials scattered all over the ground in a deafening crash.

Neera was terrified, instinctively wanting to step forward. Suddenly, the bodyguard shifted his focus, swinging a fist toward her.

Zephyr sustained a cut on his brow, drawing blood that dripped into his eyes. He could barely keep one open, and upon seeing his situation, his gaze hardened intensely.

He forced himself to stand, intending to step forward and intervene, but the man was aggressive.

His powerful strike was quickly approaching Neera's face.

Neera hesitated for a brief moment, and then her pupils dilated as she acted swiftly. A silver needle concealed in her sleeve slid into her fingertips.

She was a doctor who possessed unparalleled skills in acupuncture and had saved countless lives, yet at the same time, she had the ability to harm someone with her needles without leaving a trace!

Ever since she decided to make a trip to Phison, she had been prepared to confront danger.

Even though there were people around to protect her, she still had to defend herself in times of emergency.

Of course, she would never resort to murder, but in times of danger, she had her own methods to survive any ordeal.

As she observed the opponent's fist getting closer and closer, a glint flashed in her eyes, her gaze firmly fixed on the pressure point on his wrist.

Yet, at the critical moment, before she had a chance to act, something suddenly flashed before her eyes.

In the next moment, the burly man before her suddenly stood still.

She noticed a few silver needles on his wrist, the tips of the needles deeply embedded in the muscle under the skin, with the ends still slightly trembling.

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## Chapter 1150

This sudden turn of events left everyone, especially Neera, stunned.

Even though she had anticipated the outcome, the process exceeded her expectations.

Just as everyone wore a look of confusion, a voice suddenly rang out. It was calm, yet carried a hint of authority. "Ms. Jennings, how could you and your companion stir trouble in my establishment? Do you have no respect for the Medicina family?"

As the sound faded, a man leisurely descended the stairs.

Neera looked toward the source of the sound, slightly taken aback.

Descending was a dignified young man, appearing refined and scholarly, yet his entire being exuded an aura of noble aloofness. Is he the man who immobilized that bodyguard with the silver needles? How did he manage to do it from such a distance, especially considering that the silver needles are so delicate?

Just when she was still puzzled by the turn of events, Neera caught a glimpse of "Ms. Jennings" and realized that her expression had subtly changed.

"That's hilarious, Mr. Medicina," she said. Now that a member of the Medicina family was present, she no longer dared to be as presumptuous as before. She put away her domineering attitude and could only explain awkwardly. just ran into someone who was being quite a nuisance, and in the heat of the moment, I gave them a little taste of their own medicine. I really didn't mean to make a big fuss here. If I've caused any trouble, I hope you can forgive me."

Caleb, however, was not buying it. He scoffed, "Really? From what I see, you were the one who started the trouble on purpose."

The girl's face stiffened, and her lips moved slightly, wanting to continue defending herself.

Caleb knew exactly what had happened. Instead of listening to her distort the facts, he cut her off directly. "Stella Jennings, I have no problem with you acting like a spoiled princess and throwing your weight around every day. That's none of my business. But if you've come here to cause a scene, you've chosen the wrong place. If you want to strut around on the Medicina family's turf, you better assess the Jennings' position first before doing anything outrageous."

Those words carried a hint of hostility, and Caleb spoke as if he was unapologetically asserting dominance over the Jennings family.

Stella had never heard such harsh words before. It felt as if she had been slapped in the face, a burning pain spreading across her cheeks.

Her face shifted from pale to flushed. Swallowing her humiliation, she hesitated to speak, offering only an awkward apology. "Yes, Mr. Medicina, you're right. I was indeed too impulsive today, and I know I overstepped my bounds. But, um, I really need this ganoderma, could I possibly—"

Before she could finish her sentence, Caleb coldly huffed, interrupting her. "Please leave right now. I won't be selling you any medicinal materials today. If you need them, you'll have to look elsewhere." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Stella did not think Caleb would humiliate her like that. Her expression grew increasingly displeased, but due to her wariness of him, she could not lash out as arrogantly as she had earlier.

Reluctantly, she bit her lip and turned to leave.

Before leaving the premises, Caleb suddenly stopped her. "Your bodyguard just damaged the items in my pharmacy. Before you go, please cover the cost of all the damages at the retail prices."

Stella's expression turned grim, and she was seething with anger.

Since she was not in a position to argue back, she rushed to the counter to make the payment before leaving in a huff, her face dark with frustration.

Neera, who silently observed the whole process, was secretly amazed by Caleb's domineering presence. Looks like this man is no ordinary individual.

Once Stella left the pharmacy, she took the initiative to apologize to Caleb. "We're truly sorry. We didn't mean to damage anything in your pharmacy. We'll certainly compensate for it."

Even though she was not at fault, she was somehow involved in the earlier brawl. Consequently, she spoke carefully to avoid any further trouble.

To her surprise, Caleb suddenly transitioned from his previously cold demeanor and began to smile with an air of refined courtesy. "Miss, don't worry about it. I know who was in the right and who was in the wrong. The one who should have compensated has already done so. You haven't done anything wrong, so there's no need for you to compensate. Moreover, considering that you were treated unfairly in my pharmacy, it's my fault for not providing good service. To express my apology, feel free to choose any medicinal material you want."

His gesture left Neera somewhat bewildered, and the sudden change in his attitude caught her by surprise.

Nonetheless, she was relieved that he did not hold her responsible for the incident that had just taken place a while ago. "That's very kind of you. Thank you very much."

Caleb waved his hand amiably, and every gesture he made exuded an air of nobility. "You're welcome. Feel free to tell me what you need."

Neera nodded, casting a glance at the shop assistant.

The latter was very cooperative and promptly brought over the frost ganoderma that had caught her eye.

Neera glanced at it and was pleased with what she saw. Just as she was about to inquire about the price, she heard Caleb instruct the shop assistant, "Isn't there another one that has aged better and is in a more pristine condition? Bring that one over."

The shop assistant paused for a moment before hurrying off to fetch it.

"I thought there's only one left in the pharmacy?" Neera was puzzled.

Caleb smiled faintly. "I only have one for sale. As for the other one, it's part of my personal collection. It's even better than this ganoderma. I believe it's rare to find one of similar quality in other parts of the world."

Upon hearing this, Neera was utterly astonished. Such a scarce top-grade medicinal material must be priceless!

She suddenly felt a bit embarrassed. "I don't think it's appropriate for me to own it since it's part of your collection, so you should keep it. I'll just buy this ganoderma."

"No worries, it's just a medicinal herb." Caleb did not seem to mind. "Don't feel embarrassed about it, Miss. Just take it."

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