The Ashes 241

Chapter 241	Harvey	sneered.
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I know youre angry and confused right now, but dont you think youve deserved this for a long time? Youve been sitting on the throne of the Weller family for years, refusing to pass it down to me

Kanes heart burned with fury as he roared, You ungrateful bastard! Just because you want the title of family head, you think you can do this? Betray your own blood? Harveys face twisted into a snarl, his teeth clenched

Why cant I? Dont you get it, Dad? Ive been waiting for this for years.

Ive had enough of waiting.

He added, If you were healthy and strong, I wouldnt even think about it.

But youre not.

Youre barely hanging on, yet you refuse to pass the title to me.

Dont you know how torturous

thats been for me? Kane could not believe his own son wanted him dead.

The ridiculousness of it all stung, especially after all the work he had put in.

Despite struggling with his illness, he was still trying to pave the path for Harvey for his future.

A wave of sadness and rage overwhelmed Kanes heart.

He growled, Y You heartless monster.

How could you do this? Youre a monster! As long as Im alive, you will never take this position from me! Grabbing his chest, Kane gasped for air, letting out another roar of anger. Harvey laughed, unbothered by his fathers outburst You dont get it, do you, Dad? Youve got no time left. Whether you want to pass the title to me or not, its not up to you anymore. He added, In fact, we dont need to make this any uglier than it has to be. Just hand over the title and let me control the familys power, and you can live out your last few days in peace with Serena You two can enjoy the rest of your time reminiscing and enjoying life together. Doesnt that sound nice? Kane could not hold back anymore. The constant emotional and physical pressure was too much. He coughed up a large amount of black, tainted blood. I will never ... pass the title to you... he gasped, barely keeping himself conscious. Nonetheless, Harvey was not discouraged. Instead, a look of triumph spread across his face, as if he could already taste victory. He saw the end for his father was near, and he could not wait to put the final nail in the coffin.

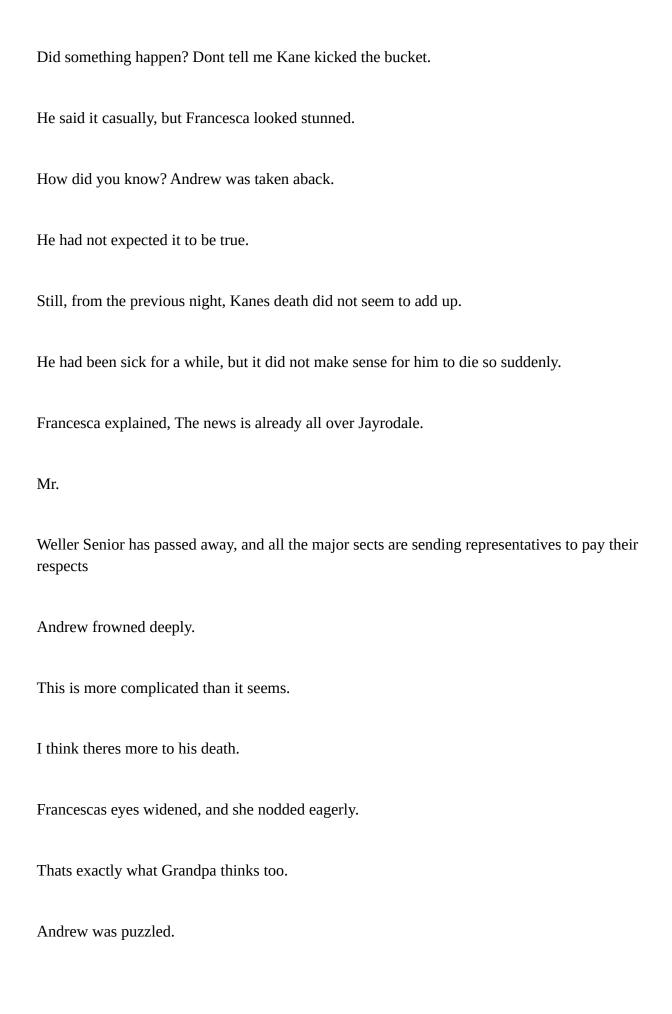
With a wicked smile, Harvey grabbed Serena and pulled her close.

In front of Kane, he embraced her, laughing with an evil glint in his eyes. By the way, Dad, I forgot to tell you something, Harvey said, grinning. Serena and I... Weve been sleeping together for a long time now He continued, With you being so weak lately, shes been left alone. I just couldnt stand seeing her lonely anymore, so Ive been taking care of her for you. Dont you think Ive been a good son? He burst into a mocking, cruel laugh, his tone dripping with sarcasm. Kane turned red with anger as he stared at the disgusting scene before him. His hatred for the two of them burned like fire. He raised his hand, trying to summon the familys enforcers to end this, but all he could manage was a weak, wheezing sound... With one final, blood curdling scream, Kanes eyes rolled back, his body went limp, and he collapsed to the floor. He died with a heart full of regret and fury, unable to take his last breath in peace. is he dead? Serena asked, trembling as she pushed away from Harvey. Harveys face showed a mix of doubt and hesitation as he cautiously approached. It was not until he placed his hand near Kanes nose and confirmed there was no breath that relief washed over his face.

Hes dead.

Hes finally dead! Harvey chuckled, bis voice manic with joy.
This is it! The Weller family is mine now! Laughing wildly, he became almost unhinged, waving his arms
in celebration in front of Kanes lifeless body.
Serena was trembling with fear.
Harvey, his death will fall on us.
If anyone finds out it was us, we wont escape punishment.
Harvey sneered
What are you worried about? Ive already taken the risk with poison, so why should I be afraid of what comes after? He reminded her, You just need to keep quiet, especially when the elders ask.
Well both deny.
it, understand? Serenas face turned pale with fear.
But if they really investigate, wont they find out? Harvey cut her off with a harsh grunt.
Just do as I say.
If we stick to the story, no one will ever know.
Well just say that Dad worked himself to death.
He was too tired and didnt rest enough, thats all

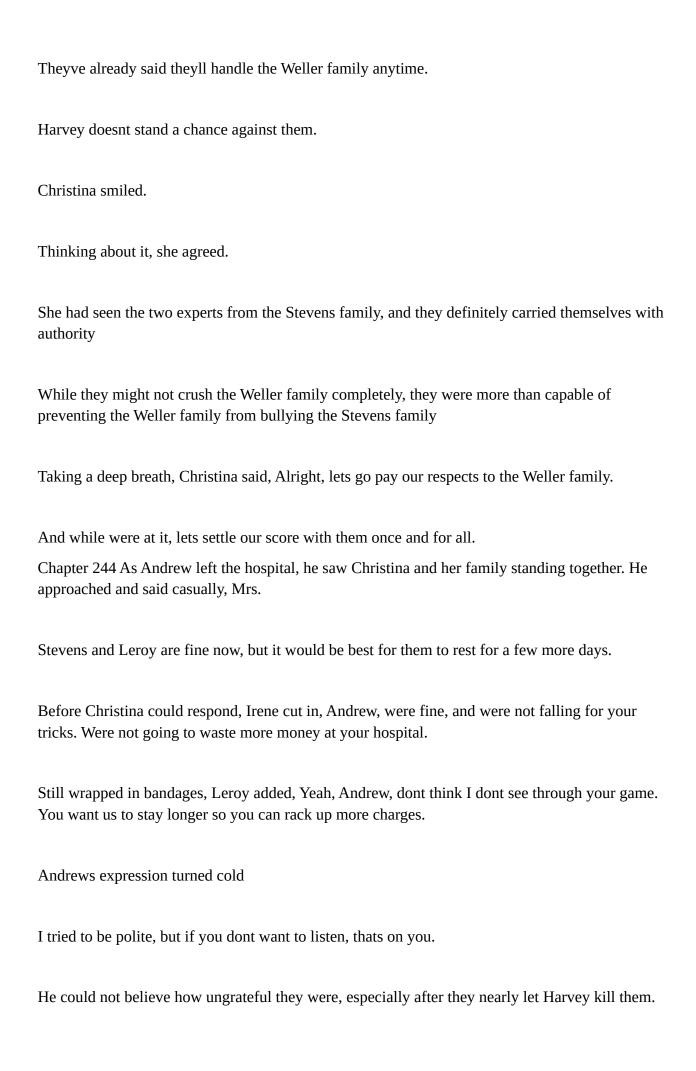
He continued, Anyway, theres no one else here but us. No one will ever know he was driven to death by us Serena finally seemed to relax, her face lighting up with a pleased smile. Harvey, with your dad gone, the Weller familys power is yours now. Dont forget your promise to me, she purred, her voice dripping with temptation. Harveys eyes were ablaze with lust as he looked at her, her aging body still giving off a seductive aura. Without a second thought, he tore off her silk nightgown with a lecherous grin. Dont worry, Serena With Dad gone, the Weller family is ours. As long as you obey me, Ill make you a true lady of the house, he said with a lewd smile Serena flirted back, Youre such a bad boy. Soon, the sounds of heavy grunts filled the room coming from the tangled couple right in front of Kanes dead body The next morning, at the Jayrodale General Hospital, Andrew found Francesca waiting for him. Chapter 242 Dr. Lloyd, something happened at Weller residence! she said, her face full of concern. Andrew raised an eyebrow



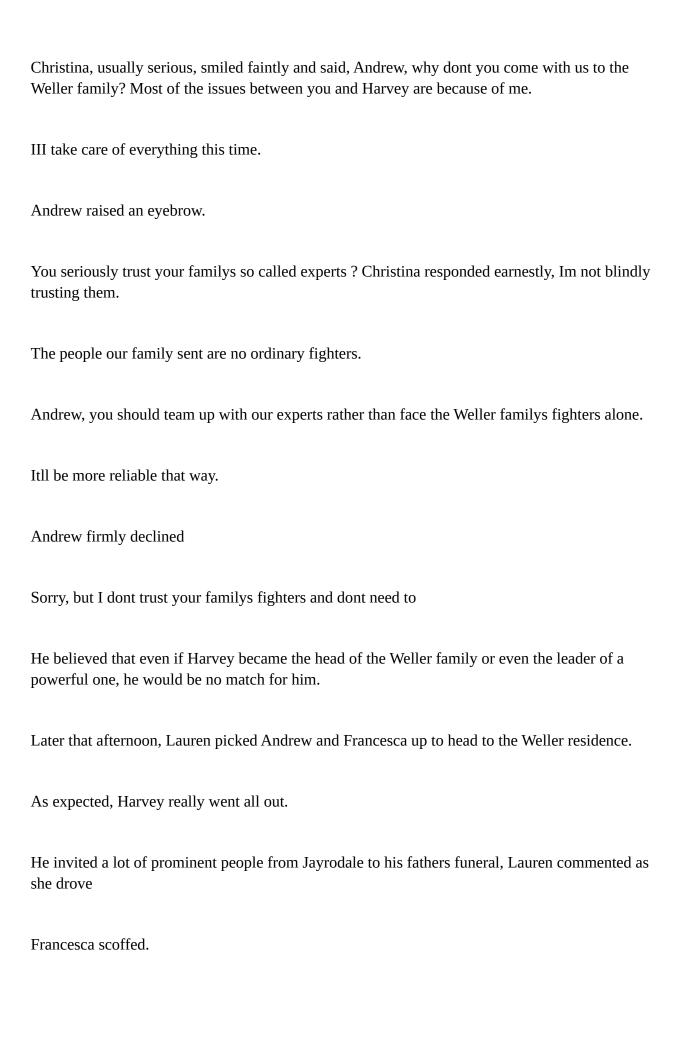
Your Your grandpa ? Francesca went on, You didnt know ? Last night, before Kane died, Grandpa visited the Weller residence to check on him
She explained, But this morning, they announced Kanes death, and Grandpa found it strange.
From what he saw, although Kane was poisoned, it didnt add up that he died so quickly.
Before leaving, Grandpa even gave Kane a life saving pill.
If Kane had taken it, shouldnt have died this quickly.
Chapter 243 Andrew asked, Did the Weller family give any explanation for Kanes death? Francesca smiled awkwardly and said, Harvey told the media himself that his father died from overwork. Andrew snorted
Overwork, huh? What a convenient excuse.
I bet the real cause of Kanes death has something to do with him.
Francesca stared at him, shocked.
No way.
You dont actually think Harvey had anything to do with his fathers death, do you? Andrew raised an eyebrow
Why is that so hard to believe? Francesca shook her head.
It just doesnt seem likely.
Harveys still the son of the Weller family head.
If his fathers death were his doing, Harvey would be a monster. Andrew scoffed

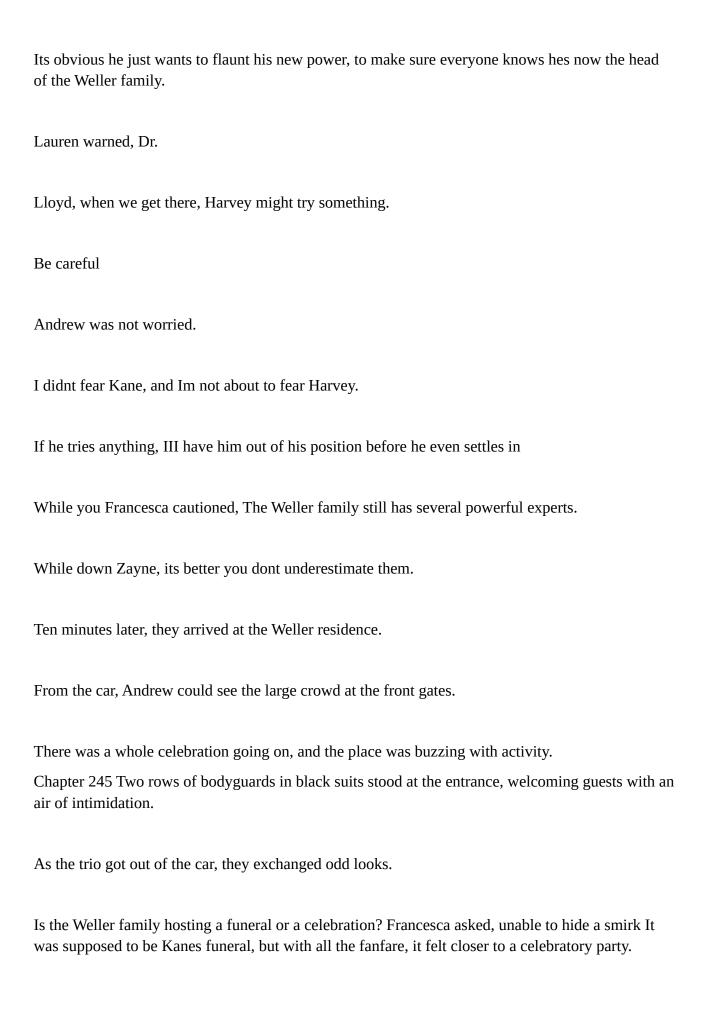
Its easy enough to figure out how Kane died.
But since its not my business, Im not interested in looking into it.
However, one thing is clear once Kane is gone, the Weller family will fall into Harveys hands.
He continued, So, Harveys the biggest beneficiary of Kanes death.
Some people will do anything for power, even if it means sacrificing family.
Francesca shuddered, then said, Besides the funeral, the Weller family has another big event coming up.
Theyve sent invitations to all the major figures in Jayrodale.
Andrew sneered.
Dont tell me Harvey plans to take over as head of the Weller family right after his fathers death. Francescas face twitched
Thats exactly it.
In the hospitals intensive care unit, the Stevens family also received the news.
Irene clapped her hands, pleased.
Good riddance! He died fast, and thats just what he deserved! Leroy laughed coldly.
I always knew Kane wouldnt last
It looks like Harveys just an orphan now.

Christina frowned
You guys shouldnt talk like that.
Leroy replied, Christie, this is a cause for celebration! Why are you so upset? Christina sighed.
Even though Kanes dead, Harveys about to take over as the head of the Weller family.
Irene snorted.
So what? Stevens familys skilled martial artists have already arrived in Jayrödale.
If that bastard Harvey dares even lay a hand on the Stevens family, hell be digging his own grave! Christina shook her head.
Its not that simple.
Stevens familys skilled martial artists may have arrived, but Harvey can now command the Weller familys top fighters.
Im worried our people might not be enough to stop them.
Leroy dismissed her concern.
Christie, youre overthinking this and being pessimistic.
Our fighters have guaranteed our safety
We have nothing to fear from the Weller family.
Irene added excitedly, Thats right, Christie! Youve seen those two experts.

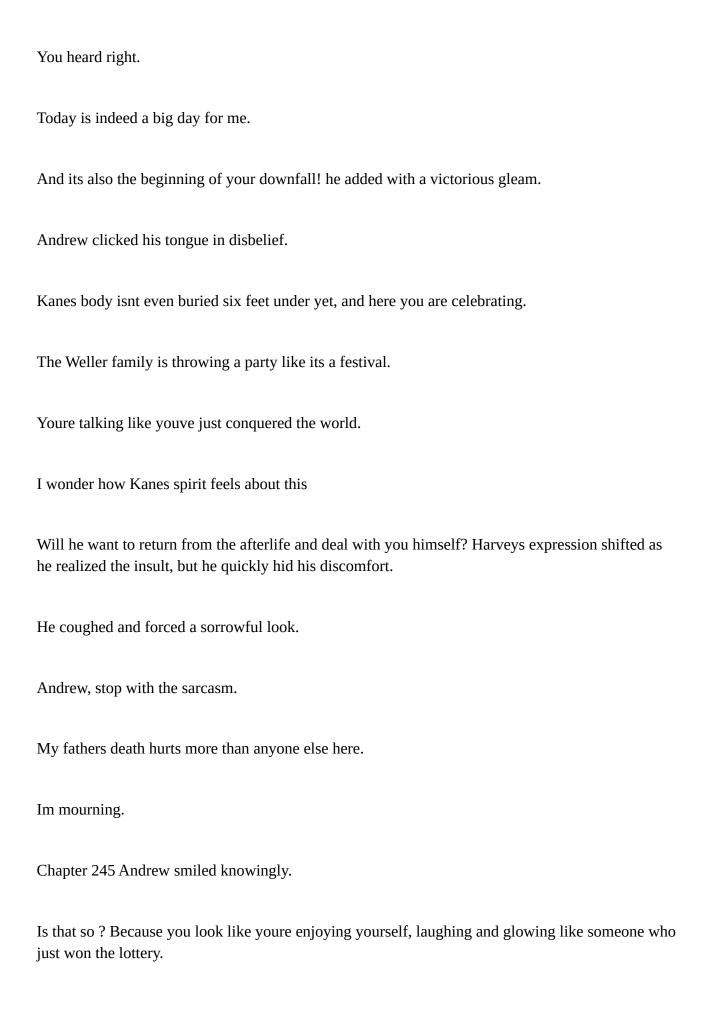


His offer to help them heal had been turned into a money grab accusation.
Irene smirked, Go ahead and leave.
By the way, our familys experts from the main branch of Stevens Corporation are already in Jayrodale. Pretty soon, the Stevens family will rise up and put Harvey in his place.
Leroy grinned smugly
Andrew, even if Harvey takes over as head of the Weller famil he wont stand a chance against us.
But you had better watch out.
Harveys the kind of guy wholl come after you first once hes in power.
Andrew just shrugged.
Ive told you already the Stevens family isnt a match for the Weller family.
Youre all celebrating too soon.
Irene and Leroy both scoffed.
Youre just jealous because you cant handle the competition.
Dont think youre the only one whos tough.
Youll soon see how unstoppable our familys experts are.
Theyll crush anyone who stands in their way.



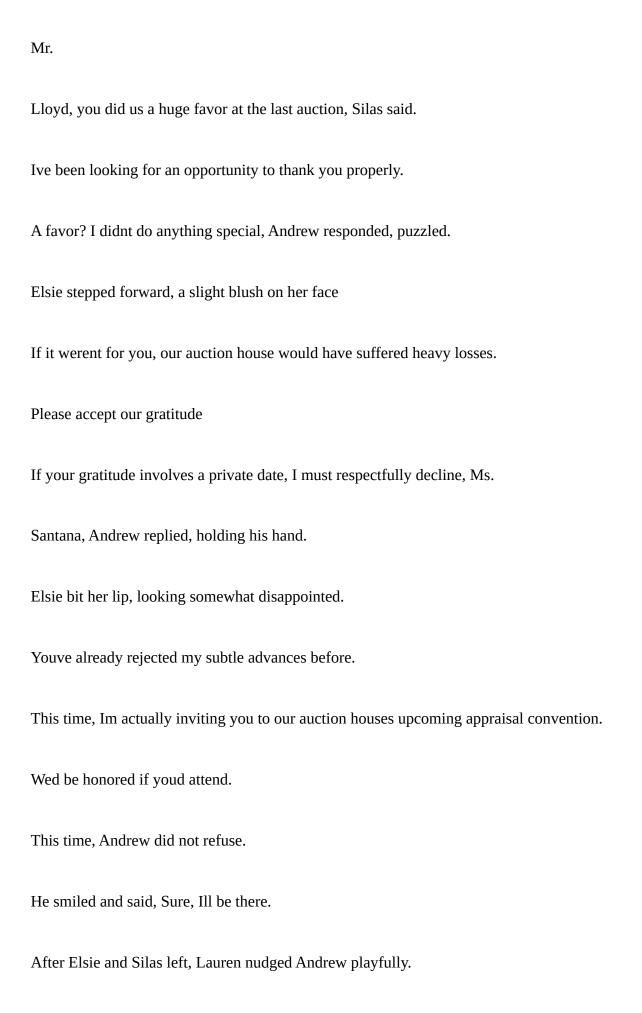


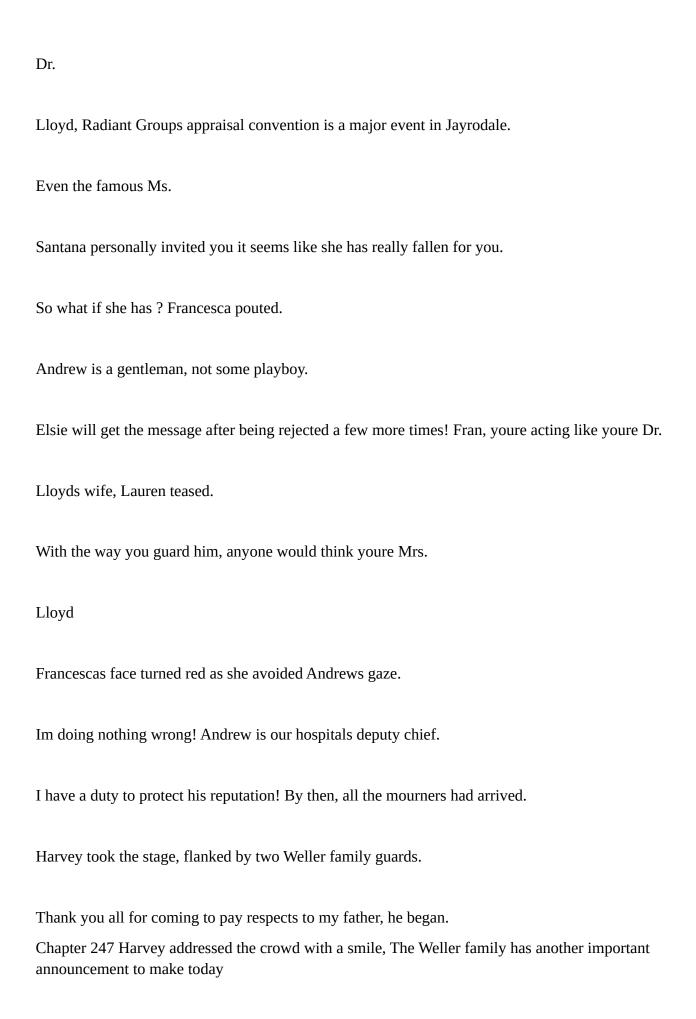
Just then, Harvey appeared at the front gates, flanked by two older men who exuded a heavy, intimidating aura
Lauren stepped forward, offering her condolences.
Harvey, my deepest sympathies
Harvey, dressed in mourning attire, did not seem the least bit sad
In fact, he looked vibrant and full of life, almost as if he were attending a celebration instead
Lauren, Fran, you made it! He greeted them with a smile, but his grin instantly froze Ten his eyes landed on Andrew Andrew, I cant believe you actually showed up today, of all days.
Youve got guts! Harvey sneered, his eyes flashing with cold fury.
Andrew smiled back.
Whats there to be afraid of? Is the Weller family some kind of dangerous den? Harvey could not help but smirk.
Exactly.
From now on, the Weller family will be a den of danger.
Your time has come, Andrew.
Andrew raised an eyebrow, unimpressed
Now that youre the head of the family, I can hear the difference in your tone
But you just said today is your big day? Did I hear that right? Harveys smile grew even wider, full of pride

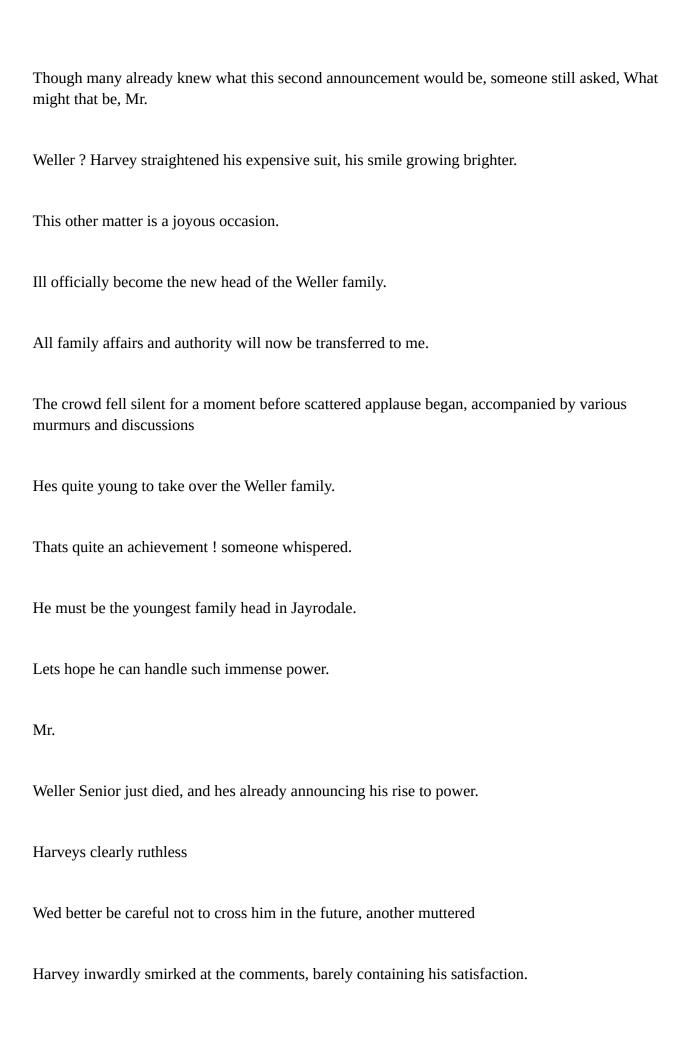


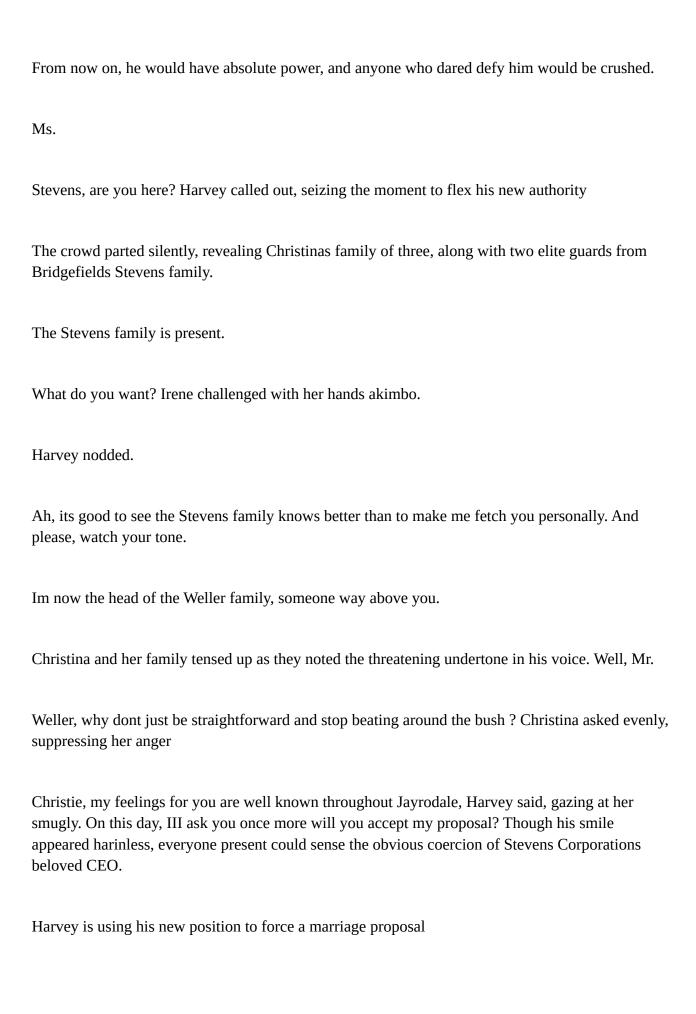
I cant help but wonder what Kane would think of his son, celebrating so soon after his death.
Harveys pride faltered, but he quickly masked it.
He could tell Andrew was mocking him, but he had no idea how to argue back.
After all, he did kill Kane.
Before Harvey could respond, one of the older men beside him stepped forward with a stern look. Young man, mind your words.
Mr.
Weller Senior just passed, and this is the Weller residence
If you continue to be disrespectful, Ill have to teach you a lesson.
Andrew shrugged nonchalantly.
The dead deserve respect, so today, III let the Weller family be
But if anyone here keeps pushing, I might just need to call on Kanes spirit for help.
The elder sneered.
Such arrogance
Fine, when this is all over, well see who the real troublemaker is
Andrew looked the elder dead in the eye, his expression calm and unshaken.

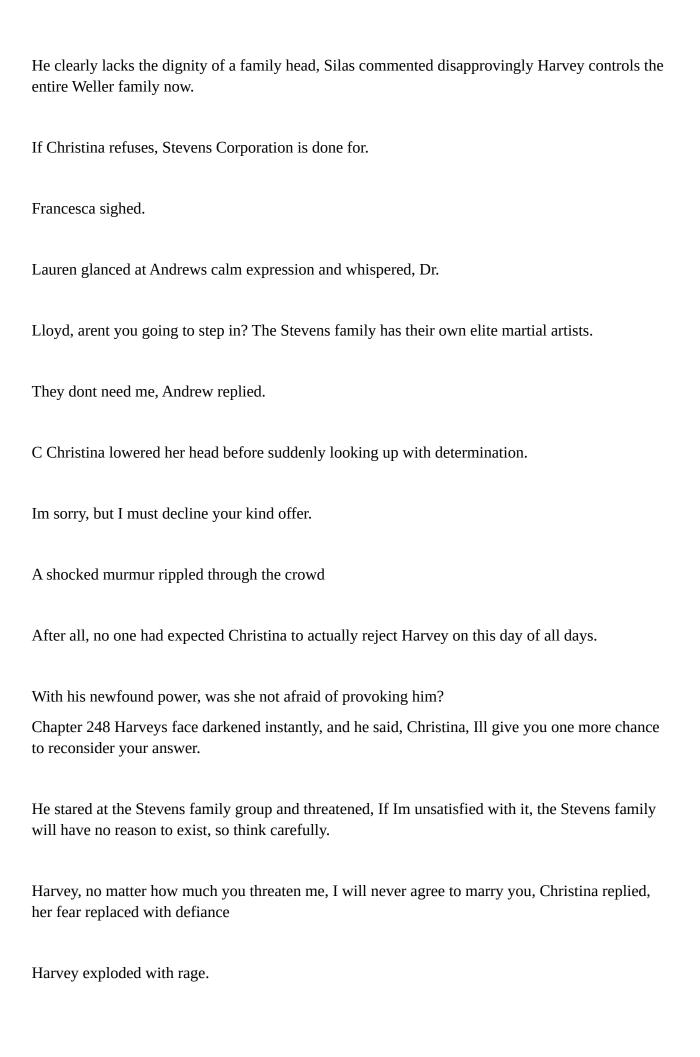
Sounds good Whenever youre ready, Im always here.
Chapter 246 Just then, more distinguished guests arrived at the Weller family estate.
Harvey walked with two of the familys elite guards.
away Andrew, Harvey may be a jerk, but the Weller family elders arent pushovers, Francesca warned. You dont need to be so confrontational with them! Cant you see what Harveys doing? Andrew scoffed. Hes just flexing his new authority by parading around with the familys guards.
If we back down now, hell think he can get away with anything! Dr.
Lloyd, Fran, lets go inside, Lauren suggested.
Whatever happens, Harvey wont cause trouble at his fathers funeral with so many people watching. The Weller residences main hall was packed with Jayrodales elite.
Andrew casually glanced around and spotted his old rivals: Atlas, Finley, and Michael, who had also noticed him.
While nobody started anything, the tension was evident in their pressions.
Mr.
Lloyd, hello! an enthusiastic voice called out.
Andrew turned to see Silas, the CEO of Radiant Group, approaching with a friendly smile, followed by Elsie in an elegant black dress that accentuated her figure.
Hello, Mr.
Vaughn, Ms.
Santana, Andrew replied politely.











Are you really not afraid to see the Stevens family destroyed by my hand? Christina shot back angrily, If youre using your position as the Weller family head to bully and destroy us, III fight you to my very last breath! Well said, Ms.

Stevens! Youve got spirit you have my support! Finley laugh Many others nodded in approval impressed by the Stevens Corporations Ice Queens courage in refusing to bow to Harveys intimidation. Bolstered by the support, the Stevens family members straightened their backs.

Leroy pointed at Harvey and declared, Harvey, I know exactly what kind of person you are

You may be the Weller family head now, but deep down, youre still just a pathetic, foolish little man.

Irene chimed in and mocked, Harvey, youre still the worthless little man as before.

You just got lucky to become the family head.

If you think you can use that to force Christies hand, think again! Harveys eyes flashed viciously.

The Stevens family was asking for death.

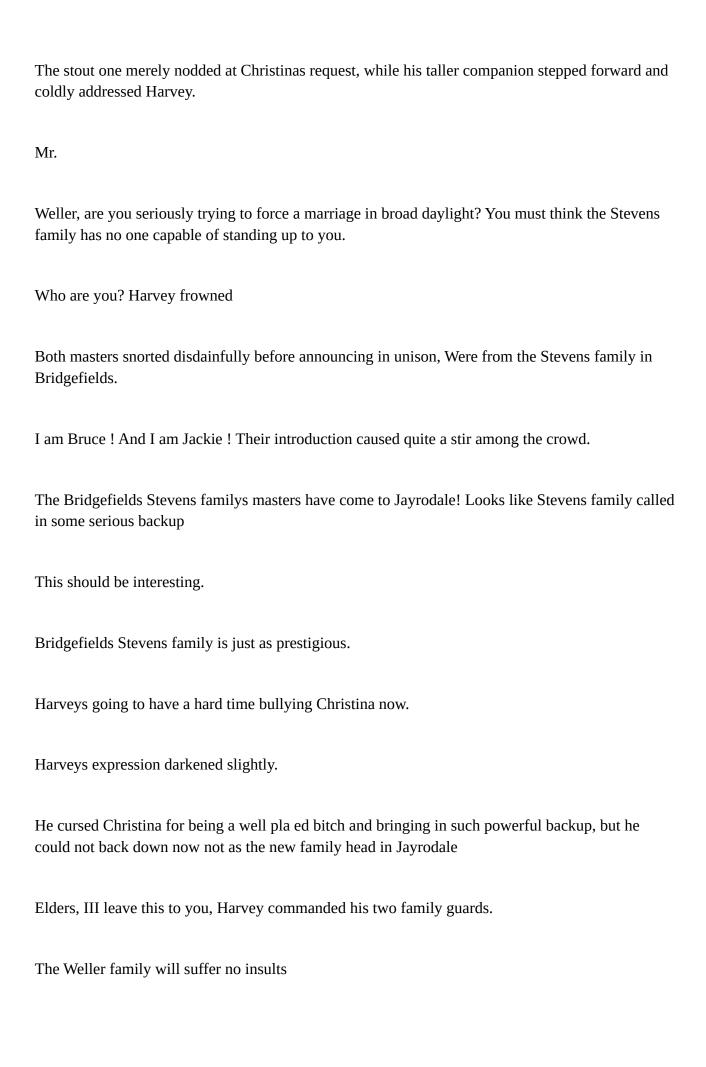
Christina, you clearly wont listen until its too late

Fine, III make an example of the Stevens family today and show everyone what happens when they dare to defy me

Christina stepped back and turned to the two masters from The Bridgefields Stevens family.

Respected elders, well need your help now

The two masters, one stout and one lean, stood silently in their gray robes, having remained mysteriously quiet throughout the entire confrontation.



Anyone who dares to challenge us will bleed! The two Weller family fighters remained expressionless, their eyes scanning the Stevens family fighters as if they were already dead men.

Chapter 249 I wont need to step in because you can handle this alone, one of the Weller family elders said calmly.

Dont worry, the other elder replied dismissively.

I am enough to deal with these upstarts alone.

With swift movements, the two Bridgefields Stevens family masters leaped over the crowd and landed on the Weller familys stage

The Weller family, displaying their confidence, left only one elder to face them.

How arrogant of the Weller family to fight two masters alone.

Arent they afraid of losing? someone in the crowd muttered.

Those Bridgefields Stevens martial artists look pretty strong! another added.

Christinas palms were sweating with anxiety.

Her fate now rested on these t the main family.

masters from Dont worry, Christie

Our people will knock the Weller family down a peg, Irene said confidently.

Leroy added excitedly, Christie, with the main familys masters backing us, we can finally hold our heads high.

The Woller family is nothing now! Dr.

Lloyd, what do you think about the odds between these two Stevens family fighters and the Weller elder
? Lauren asked with interest.
The Weller family elders stance is solid and powerful
Hes clearly a tough opponent, Andrew replied casually
As for those two from the Bridgefields Stevens family Despite their imposing appearance, their energy is unstable
Theyll be severely injured once the fight begins.
Lauren and Francesca were stunned.
Could the situation really have been that bad for the Stevens family before the fight even started? After all
, the two masters looked so impressive.
On stage, the battle finally began
The two Stevens family masters attacked in coordination, one high and one low, but the Weller family elder retreated with casual contempt, maintaining a perfect balance against their assault.
Suddenly, the Weller elders face turned cold.
He swept one of the martial artists legs, forcing him back.
Then, he unleashed a devastating series of strikes

The stout master from Stevens family barely blocked the first strike before the second hit him square in the chest, sending him staggering backward

The Weller elder pressed his advantage with a barrage of quick attacks.

When the taller master from Stevens family tried to help and was immediately overwhelmed in terms of raw power, taking a brutal kick to the face that sent him flying off the stage

Chapter 249 Before the remaining stout master could defend himself, the Weller elder delivered a series of powerful kicks to his midsection.

After coughing up blood, the stout master stared in disbelief at his opponent before collapsing motionless on the stage.

Pathetic, the Weller family elder insulted as he straightened his clothes.

Chapter 250 A deathly silence fell over the crowd.

No one had expected the Weller familys power to be so overwhelming, nor for two masters from the Stevens family to fall so easily.

How is this possible? They were supposed to be unbeatable! Irene exclaimed in disbelief.

Leroy nearly, stumbled, his face pale with panic.

Our masters lost? This cant be happening! Christinas face turned ashen white.

With the main familys fighters defeated, Harvey truly had them cornered

In her daze, she spotted Andrew in the crowd, remembering his earlier warning about the masters of Bridgefields Stevens family being no match for the Weller family.

So much for the mighty Bridgefields Stevens family, Harvey gloated as he returned to the stage, contempt written across his face

Few in the crowd dared to meet his gaze, which only fueled his satisfaction. However, Harvey noticed one person still meeting his eyes with casual indifference, seemingly unimpressed by the Weller familys victory. Andrew, youre dissatisfied, arent you? Harvey sneered. Showing off at your fathers funeral, causing such a scene, and thinking youre so great, Andrew replied, looking at him like he was an idiot. Oh yes, Im very impressed Youre truly your fathers worthy son Save your sarcasm, Andrew, Harvey snapped. Dont worry, well settle our score soon enough. He then turned his attention to Christina and commanded, Christina, I order you to come here now and agree to be my wife. Christina remained frozen, biting her lip as her body trembled with humiliation and helplessness. Hurry up My patience is limited Harveys voice turned ice cold He added, Youve always been mine, and no matter how much you struggle, youll never escape me. His bullying tactics prompted protests from the crowd.

Marriage should be based on mutual love.
Isnt this beneath a family of your status? If you were a real man, youd court Ms.
Stevens properly instead of using your familys power to force her! Harvey scanned the crowd with a cold smile
It seems many of you disapprove of my methods.
Well then, anyone who has a problem with it, step forward.
Lets see how well you can handle my fighters fists.
Chapter 250 The righteous crowd fell silent immediately.
While some might have matched Harveys influence, none wanted to face the Weller familys martial might
or risk making an enemy of the vindictive new Weller family head over the Stevens familys troubles.
Is there no justice in this world? Irene laughed bitterly.
Wont anyone stand for us? up and speak