### A Man Like None Other Chapter 213 Read

Chapter 213 What A Piece Of Trash

"Renee!"

Upon seeing that his daughter had regained consciousness, Erasmus instantly rushed over with all the excitement in the world.

"Dad

\_

<u>Renee glanced around the room with a lost look in her eyes. At the</u> <u>sight of the crowd milling around, apprehension promptly</u> <u>swamped her.</u>

"You scared me to death, Renee! Do you know you had been unconscious for several days?"

Tears streamed down Erasmus' face.

Although it was said that cultivators needed to sever all emotional attachments when they embarked on the path to immortality, few could actually do it.

"Do you believe me now, Master Erasmus?" With a sneer on his face, Falcon drawled, "But let me tell you something—this is just a temporary fix. If I don't do anything to treat Renee, she'll still revert to her initial state. Also, I'll be so kind to tell you that I'm the only person who can cure her of her frosty constituent in this whole world! All others are charlatans! If you've made up your mind, kick all these charlatans out!"

*"Who are you calling a charlatan? You look more like one yourself! Stop blowing your own trumpet with that worthless thing that's no more than a bronze mirror! If you're so great, throw it away, and we shall see who's better!" Josephine stepped forward and snapped viciously, long since sick of the man's arrogance.* 

As Falcon stared at Josephine, who stood out, a flash of something glinted in his eyes. He didn't fly into a rage but leered at her with a salacious look in his eyes. "Others may all scram, but this lady can stay. I love such a feral temperament!" "What a piece of trash!"

Josephine spat at him hard as she said that.

At that, Falcon was momentarily stunned before he wiped the spit off his face. His temper spiked at once. "Do you believe that I'll finish you off right this instance, you b\*tch?"

Seeing that he had gone off the deep end, Josephine instinctively backed up a step. Meanwhile, Jared took a step forward and shielded her behind him.

Eyeing the man disdainfully, he scoffed, "You're acting all high and mighty because of the Starry Compass, no? How are you different from a good-for-nothing without it? This Starry Compass is a magical item, but it's an utter waste in your possession! If one cultivates with it, only half the effort is required to achieve double the results! Alas, a useless piece of trash like you have no idea how to use it!" Falcon was startled, and red-hot fury swiftly blazed through him because Jared was right—it was all thanks to the Starry Compass that he managed to defeat Leonidas and heal Renee. Without it, he was nothing at all!

"This is pure envy, kid! You're simply jealous that I've got a magical item such as the Starry Compass! If you're so great, take a magical item out as well! What are you going to use to absorb the frosty energy from Renee?" Falcon demanded provocatively.

*"I'm the greatest magical item myself, so why do I need to use anything else? Only ineffectual people use so-called magical items!" Jared derided with a snort.* 

Following that, Falcon's expression darkened even further. Leonidas likewise wore a grim look since the man's scornful remark struck a raw nerve in him. After all, he had also used the jade scepter to treat Renee earlier. *"Are you saying that you want to absorb the frosty energy in Renee directly into your body?" Falcon questioned.* 

"Exactly!" Jared nodded placidly.

*"Haha... What a joke! Renee has a frosty constituent, and that's the only reason she managed to withstand the frosty energy within her for so many years. If it were the average person, he wouldn't be able to survive for even a day! Yet, you dare say that you'll use your body to absorb the frosty energy? If you really have that capability, you can ask anything of me! However, if you fail to do so, don't blame me for not showing you any mercy. You'll have to get on your knees before me and apologize. Also, the girl behind you has to warm my bed!"* 

Falcon's eyes brimmed with malice, making goosebumps rise all over Josephine.

*"Are you sick of living?" Jared's eyes narrowed, and a murderous aura radiated off him in a flash.* 

While he and Josephine hadn't yet confirmed their relationship, they were both aware of the other's feelings.

Therefore, he had already regarded her as his girlfriend and would never stand idly by while she was harassed.

Chapter 214 Frozen

"What's wrong? Are you scared?"

Falcon snickered even as he eyed Jared contemptuously.

*"Why would I be? Today, I'll show you a true immortal technique!"* 

As Jared spoke, his hand abruptly shot out toward Renee on the bed.

Stricken with fright, Renee hastily scooted backward and hid behind Erasmus in terror.

*"Mr. Chance, there are many people here, so I'm afraid that it's a tad inappropriate for you to be removing my daughter's clothes in front of everyone."* 

<u>Reluctance deluged Erasmus, for his daughter's reputation would</u> <u>be tarnished once her body was bared in public.</u>

*"You misunderstand, Abbot Erasmus. I'm only going to absorb the frosty energy in your daughter's body, so no removal of clothes is necessary."* 

Earlier, Jared had to remove Renee's clothes for treatment because he wanted to transform her frosty constituent. Then, she wouldn't have to suffer from the icy cold anymore. *However, if it were merely absorbing the frosty energy, there was no need to remove any clothes.* 

Hearing that, Erasmus breathed a sigh of relief. Supporting his daughter, he explained, "Renee, you don't have to be afraid, for Mr. Chance is here to treat you!"

After much persuasion from Erasmus, Renee finally calmed down and sat on the bed quietly.

Subsequently, Jared lightly placed his palm on her forehead. In the blink of an eye, wave after wave of frosty energy was absorbed directly into his body.

Although Falcon had already absorbed most of the frosty energy from Renee with the Starry Compass just now, he didn't remove it all. There was still a portion left in her body. Worse still, frosty energy was everywhere in Lagrange Monastery, and her body would automatically absorb it all. Slowly, Jared's palm turned white. On the heels of that, a thick layer of frost seemingly formed over his entire arm.

With his eyes closed, he culminated the Focus Technique to its maximum potential. He cultivated the frosty energy unceasingly, but there was too just much. He was only at Level Five Energy Cultivation, so he still couldn't cultivate it all despite his best efforts.

Soon, a thick layer of ice covered his entire arm, and it was even spreading rapidly to other parts of his body.

Seeing that, Falcon let out a cold chuckle.

*"Mr. Chance!" Erasmus cried out in alarm when he saw Jared's current condition.* 

Nonetheless, it was as though Jared didn't hear him at all, for the man continued absorbing the frosty energy from Renee.

Eventually, his hair turned white, and a layer of frost blanketed his face. In the very end, his entire person was seemingly encased in ice, rendering him just like a snowman.

<u>"Haha... I've said that the average person can't withstand this</u> frosty energy! Now, he has become a block of ice!"

At the sight of Jared all frozen, Falcon laughed uproariously.

"Mr. Chance!"

"Jared!"

Walter, Josephine, and the others all exclaimed in horror.

Josephine, especially, was so distressed that she threw herself at Jared, intending to use her body heat to melt the ice off the man.

"No, Josephine!"

<u>Reacting swiftly, William grabbed her and stopped her from doing</u> <u>so.</u>

Even Jared is unable to withstand such frosty energy, so isn't she just consigning herself to death if she were to go over?

*"Jared!" Josephine wailed, tears welling in her eyes.* 

Despite the short time they had been acquainted and the indistinct relationship between them, they could sense each other's presence within their hearts. Verily, such a feeling was beyond words.

She was most at ease when she was with Jared though she couldn't quite explain her feelings either.

Therefore, she instinctively wanted to save him when she saw him frozen right then, so much so that her own safety never once crossed her mind.

"Haha... Don't be sad, pretty! There are plenty of men in this world, so why must you fixate on one man? Look at me! I'm a hundred times better than this Jared guy! As long as you make me happy, I guarantee you a lifetime of wealth and glory!"

Falcon swept his gaze up and down Josephine's body unabashedly.

Chapter 215 None Are Escaping

"How dare you?"

Tommy likewise saw red at the sight of Jared's present condition, and he punched Falcon without hesitation.

At that moment, he no longer cared whether he was the man's match.

Pfft!

Snorting, Falcon shot his leg out, sending Tommy flying out of the room.

Walter, William, and the others shot daggers at him, but none of them dared to make a move.

<u>"Haha..."</u>

-

<u>Clocking their fear, Falcon cackled maniacally. No one here is my</u> <u>match! I'm supreme and invincible!</u>

*"Master Erasmus, the frosty energy within Renee has been absorbed by that brat, but her constituent remains the same. Before long, frosty energy will once again accumulate in her body. I'm the only person who can cure her completely! My constituent* 

is the polar opposite of hers, so as long as she marries me, we'll complement each other, and she'll be fine!" he declared, looking right at Erasmus.

"In your dreams!"

In response, Erasmus glared at him hotly. How shameless! He had just flirted with Josephine a while ago, yet he's demanding that Renee marry him now! He sure has no shame! I'd rather Renee die than be ruined at the hands of someone like him!

*"Since you refuse to give your agreement, don't blame me for my discourtesy!"* 

Right after saying that, Falcon reached out to seize Renee.

"Ahh!" Renee shrieked in terror.

Outrage showed on Erasmus' face, and he moved to intercept Falcon.

Bang!

He wasn't the man's match, so he suffered a grievous injury at that blow, blood trickling out the corner of his mouth.

*"Erasmus!" Leonidas cried out, swinging the cane in his hand at Falcon.* 

Upon seeing that, Erasmus teamed up with him and attacked Falcon in concert despite the agony racking him.

It was two against one, but Falcon wasn't at all afraid. Instead, he even wore a sneer on his face.

"Quick, run, Renee!" Erasmus shouted at Renee, planning to sacrifice his life to delay the man so that his daughter could flee.

#### <u>"Dad!"</u>

-

As Renee looked at the severely-injured man, tears poured down her face like a faucet.

"Quick, let's go, Renee!"

Darting forward, Walter grabbed her hand and took off. It wasn't because he was afraid of death, but an ordinary person with no knowledge of martial arts like him would only die in vain if he were to stay at such a time.

William tugged at Josephine as well. "Let's leave quickly, Josephine!"

"No! I want to bring Jared along!" Josephine howled.

## I don't want to escape by myself and abandon him!

Bang! Bang!

Two resounding thuds split the air as Falcon sent Leonidas and Erasmus flying. In a trice, the man blocked the door and regarded the few of them scornfully. "None of you are escaping today! If you want to live, you'd better come up with a plan to please me!"

Glimpsing the smug smile on his face, Walter, William, and the others backed away.

<u>Right then, no one noticed that minute cracks had begun</u> <u>manifesting on the thick layer of ice on Jared, who had frozen into</u> <u>a block of ice. Subsequently, the cracks increased in size.</u>

Crack! Crack!

As the cracking sounds grew progressively louder, everyone swung their gazes over.

"Look, Dad! It's cracking! The ice is splintering!" Josephine crowed in exhilaration upon seeing the thick layer of ice on Jared cracking.

On the contrary, Falcon's brows knitted together even as his expression started turning grave.

Clink! Clang! Clatter!

In no time, the layer of ice on Jared shattered completely, scattering all over the ground and baring his body in its entirety.

Phew!

Without warning, Jared opened his eyes and exhaled a cloud of white mist.

<u>Cultivating the frosty energy had his capabilities improving by</u> <u>leaps and bounds. Initially, he had only started Level Five Energy</u> <u>Cultivation, but he actually went up a level and had attained Level</u> <u>Six Energy Cultivation then.</u>

If he wanted to attain Level Six Energy Cultivation at Dragon Summit at Dragon Bay with the paltry spiritual energy available, that would have taken eons.

Chapter 216 I Am Your Master

"You're fine, Jared? You're alive!"

Josephine sprinted over emotionally and hugged Jared tightly.

By then, she no longer bothered about other people's presence. She clasped the man tightly to her, her grip unrelenting.

*His body was still chilly to the touch, but even so, she clutched him tightly.* 

*"Let go! If you don't loosen your grip, I'm really going to suffocate!" Jared urged, coughing.* 

Hearing that, Josephine was so stricken that she hurriedly dropped her hands from around him. However, Jared was just fine. In fact, he was even looking at her with a smirk on his face. At that, Josephine threw him a glare and kicked him hard.

Meanwhile, everyone was thrilled that Jared was alive since it meant that Falcon couldn't have his way anymore.

"Kid, who exactly are you that you're still alive even after absorbing frosty energy?" Falcon asked with mystification etched on his face.

*"I'm your master!" Jared's face contorted into a mask of fury. When I was cultivating the frosty energy earlier, he seized the*  opportunity to injure Tommy and even insult Josephine! In truth, he heard all that, but he couldn't move.

*"You must have a death wish!" Falcon's expression instantly darkened at that jibe.* 

*"If you give me the Starry Compass now, I might grant you a less painful death!"* 

Jared beckoned at the man, not in the mood to bandy words with <u>him.</u>

"Ah, so you want my Starry Compass?"

-

Falcon's expression changed, darkening frightfully. He clutched the Starry Compass tightly, seemingly disinclined to give it to the man. "I gave you an opportunity, but you didn't appreciate it!"

Jared stared at the man indifferently, his eyes teeming with murder.

"Even if you didn't die from absorbing the frosty energy, kid, you're no match for this Starry Compass of mine! Hence, stop bragging here! Let's have it!"

A searing murderous intent radiated off Falcon.

He didn't dare underestimate the man, for someone who could remain alive after absorbing frosty energy was definitely no ordinary person.

*"Thank you for saving my daughter's life, Mr. Chance! I have no way of repaying you, so I can only do so with my life today. I'll hold him off. In the meantime, you all make a run for it!"* 

Erasmus was already heavily injured, yet he struggled to his feet once more, planning to hold Falcon back at the price of his life for Jared and the others to make good their escape.

Unexpectedly, Jared stretched out a hand and stopped Erasmus. His lips curving into a faint smile, he remarked, "There's no need to forfeit your life to deal with a useless piece of trash that only depends on a magical item!"

After saying that, he disdainfully flashed Falcon a thumbs-down.

"I'm going to kill you, kid!"

Falcon went into a towering rage, upon which the murderous intent emanating from him intensified. At the same time, the Starry Compass in his hand also emitted a faint light.

Noticing the perpetual glow of the Starry Compass in his hand, Erasmus, Walter, and the others were all shaken.

## <u>Conversely, Jared merely gave a bark of contemptuous laughter</u> <u>and snagged a chair before plopping right down.</u>

"Do you have any other skills besides using your magical item?" Jared inquired impassively.

*"There's no use provoking me, kid! I'm not going to fall for it! You didn't perish even after absorbing frosty energy into your body, yes? In that case, I'll let you absorb more frosty energy. We'll see how much longer your body can withstand it!"* 

When Falcon finished saying that, he held the Starry Compass out. At once, a burst of frosty energy blasted out from its center.

The temperature in the room promptly plummeted to freezing point, and everyone hugged themselves, so cold that they shivered violently. <u>Contrarily, Jared remained sitting on the chair without twitching a</u> <u>single muscle. He did not feel the slightest bit cold.</u>

Frosty energy enveloped him and seeped into his body through his orifices. Slowly, frost again started forming on his hair.

*"Haha... This time, I'll freeze you and smash you into pieces. We'll see how you're going to remain alive!"* 

At the sight of the frost manifesting on his hair once again, Falcon guffawed triumphantly.

Alas, the frost on Jared's head disappeared quickly at a rate visible to the naked eye. No matter how much frosty energy penetrated his body, it couldn't cause any more change in him.

"How is this possible?"

<u>Utterly shocked, Falcon immediately released all the frosty energy</u> <u>in the Starry Compass.</u>

Chapter 217 How Delusional

All the frosty energy from the Starry Compass was absorbed from Renee's body. At that moment, it was all released and engulfed Jared.

With an imperceptible smile on his face, Jared culminated Focus Technique to its maximum potential, cultivating the frosty energy entering his body.

<u>As he had attained Level Six Energy Cultivation, his speed had evidently skyrocketed.</u>

Even until all the frosty energy from the Starry Compass vanished, he was never once frozen again. Instead, his capabilities further improved significantly.

# *"This Starry Compass is indeed a great item! I must get my hands on it today!"*

-

----

-

Undisguised greed gleamed in Jared's eyes as he stared at the Starry Compass in Falcon's hand.

*If I have the Starry Compass, my cultivation will double with half the effort!* 

Meanwhile, a glimmer of panic flittered across Falcon's eyes.

That was a ton of frosty energy, yet he's unscathed? Could it be that he also has some magical item on him?

He suspected that Jared had a magical item in his possession since no one would dare absorb so much frosty energy with one's own capabilities, not even his grandmaster, Dorieus.

*"Kid, don't you rely on a magical item as well? Otherwise, how* <u>could you possibly withstand such copious amounts of frosty</u> <u>energy?" he asserted while scrutinizing Jared intently, his eyes</u> <u>narrowed into slits.</u>

He wanted to locate the magical item on the man's body, but he couldn't figure out where it was hidden even after studying the man for a long while.

As soon as Jared heard that, he sneered, "As I said, I'm a magical item myself. Well, continue unleashing whatever capabilities you've got!"

<u>"Kid, don't think that you're invincible just because you're</u> <u>impervious to frosty energy. I'll have you know how powerful I am</u> <u>today!"</u> While saying that, Falcon moved the seven stars on the Starry Compass and shifted their positions a fraction.

That simple movement had sweat dotting his forehead, and he seemed to be on the verge of collapse.

Sharp whistling sounds pierced the air, and clouds of black mist soon drifted out of the Starry Compass before hurtling toward Jared like rolling thunderclouds.

At that sight, both William and Josephine almost had a heart attack. Walter and Tommy reacted much better since they had seen the vengeful dragons on the Dragon Throne in the former's courtyard. It was a similar scene, but their expressions still turned dreadfully grim despite having seen it before.

*"Sinister spirits! They're sinister spirits! Watch out, Mr. Chance!" Erasmus bellowed.* 

\_

He swiftly gestured with his hands while muttering something.

Leonidas, on the other hand, instantly placed a hand on Erasmus' shoulder. After all, the latter was currently injured heavily and hadn't sufficient energy to banish those spirits, so he wanted to give him a boost.

However, no matter how much Erasmus recited the exorcism spell, those sinister spirits didn't seem the least bit afraid.

Soon, clouds of black mist filled the entire room. Wails, screams, and shrieks echoed from every nook and cranny. On the whole, it was very much petrifying.

At that precise moment, the black mist rapidly condensed and became monsters with fangs and claws. They charged toward Jared.

"Such measly sinister spirits can't possibly hurt me!"

The corners of Jared's mouth lifted slightly, curving into a contemptuous smile.

Now that I've attained Level Six Energy Cultivation, I'm a veritable energy cultivator! As such, I would never be afraid of such paltry sinister spirits!

He flicked his finger, upon which several beams of golden light materialized and hit the black mist. In a heartbeat, the black mist dissipated.

Seeing that, Falcon suddenly bit his middle finger and dripped a drop of his blood onto the Starry Compass. The Starry Compass promptly started whirring and kept churning out a black mist that was shockingly tinged with a faint trace of blood red.

*"It looks like the lot of you aren't going to understand how delusional you are to go up against me if I don't show you my capabilities!"* 

In the face of the black mist tinged with a faint shade of red, Jared abruptly shot his palms out.

A beam of golden light gradually appeared in his palms.

The light started glowing all the brighter until it was so dazzling in the end that it resembled the blinding sun during midday.

Chapter 218 Thinking Of Taking To His Heels

"In the name of all that's holy, the light shall banish all evil!"

Following that incantation by Jared, the ball of light gave out infinite pressure at once. In the same manner as the radiant sun, beams of golden light shot right at that cloud of black mist.

Like a rat at the sight of a cat and snow in the presence of the sun, the black mist was quickly devoured at the illumination of the light. Then, Jared absorbed everything since it was all beneficial to his cultivation. The Focus Technique could devour and cultivate everything; that was its uniqueness.

Subsequently, the light faded, and everything was peaceful once more.

The entire room went as silent as the grave, and everyone gaped at Jared.

-

Leonidas, in particular, flushed bright red. Recalling his scorn toward the man back then, he felt his face flaming hotly, and mortification flooded him.

With the Starry Compass in hand, Falcon gawped at Jared, his eyes as wide as saucers. "W-What kind of technique was that? Don't tell me it was an immortal technique?"

In a flash, a bone-deep chill permeated him, upon which he started trembling involuntarily.

By then, the initial imperiousness on his face was nowhere to be found. All that remained was terror.

Even my grandmaster might not be able to wield such an immortal technique!

*His hairs stood on end, and there was only one thought in his mind—flee!* 

Crap! I've got to flee as far as possible!

Unfortunately, no sooner had that thought occurred to him than Jared drawled coldly, "Are you thinking of taking to your heels? Alas, you don't have that opportunity anymore. If you give me the Starry Compass, I don't mind granting you a less painful death!"

Falcon's eyes kept darting around as though he was trying to come up with a countermeasure while also glancing at the Starry

<u>Compass in his hand every so often. An internal struggle raged</u> within him as he tried to come to a decision.

"You only have ten seconds to consider it. Ten. Nine. Eight..."

And so, the countdown continued.

While Falcon stared at Jared, who was counting indifferently, cold sweat beaded on his forehead.

<u>Should I fight or not? But then, I can't just hand my Starry</u> <u>Compass over. Besides, even if I do so, he's not going to spare me</u> <u>but merely grant me a less painful death. I don't want to die! I've</u> <u>finally come to where I am today after much effort, and I haven't</u> <u>had my fill of lording it over others!</u>

"One," Jared stated placidly.

"Here, the Starry Compass!"

Falcon didn't dare hesitate anymore and tossed the Starry Compass to the man.

Leaping up, Jared caught it easily.

Falcon seized the opportunity while the man did so to spin on his heels and sprint out the door at lightning speed.

*"Falcon has escaped, Mr. Chance!" Erasmus shouted frantically upon seeing that.* 

"Escape?"

-

-

The corners of Jared's mouth lifted, and he streaked out like a loaded cannonball.

In mere seconds, he strolled back in with Falcon, who made a break for it, in his grasp.

At that very moment, the high and mighty Falcon was no more than a dead dog, caught by the neck and brought back.

Shock inundated everyone when they saw how easily Jared captured him.

Crash!

Jared flung Falcon onto the ground and regarded him emotionlessly. The aura emanating from him had everyone in the entire room seized by the urge to fall to their knees and worship him.

Gasping for breath, Falcon looked at the man pleadingly. "P-Please spare me! I've already given you the Starry Compass. Won't you please have mercy on me?" "Spare you?" Scoffing, Jared pulled Josephine, who was still in shock, over. "Did you ever think that such would be the consequence when you harassed my wife earlier? Everyone has a limit, and all who push it will die. My limit is my wife, so you must die today!"

Hearing that, Josephine gaped at him. One of her hands was in his, and the other flew up to her mouth. Her chest heaved as her emotions roiled.

Chapter 219 Lest Things Change

Although Josephine had never agreed to marry Jared and was naturally not his wife, her emotions went all over the place after he uttered those words earlier. That very moment, he was Prince Charming in her eyes, tall and handsome.

If he were to propose to her then, she would say yes without the slightest hesitation.

"No! I can't die! You can't kill me! Dorieus is my grandmaster, and he'll avenge me if you kill me!"

Abject panic was written all over Falcon's face, and there was a puddle on the floor beneath him. It turned out that he had peed <u>his pants.</u>

"I'll be waiting!"

With a detached smile on his face, Jared brought his leg down right away.

Pop!

-

-

\_

Like a ripe watermelon, Falcon's head exploded.

### <u>"Ahh!"</u>

Horrified, Josephine jumped into Jared's arms.

As William watched the scene unfolding before him, a riot of feelings brewed within him. At the side, Walter and Tommy cast him envious glances.

According to status and position, William was still some distance away from Walter and Tommy. While he was the wealthiest man in Horington, the standing of a family that only did business wasn't all that high in this age of martial arts.

Only when the family had a martial artist or an ancient martial artist among its ranks would its status be elevated.

Since William suddenly had a son-in-law like Jared, the standing of the Sullivan family was indisputable. Even Walter and Tommy would have to be courteous to him when they met him in the future.

"Congratulations, Mr. Sullivan!" Walter whispered to William.

In response, William flashed him a modest smile. "It's still too early, Mr. Grange. It's uncertain yet with young people nowadays."

*"Since you know that, Mr. Sullivan, you should pair them up as soon as possible, lest things change!"* 

Walter grinned at him, and William immediately understood the man's meaning.

Subsequently, Erasmus had someone clean the room. Only when that was done did Josephine move away from Jared's embrace. *"W-Was that deliberate? Did you do that intentionally to take advantage of me?" she questioned Jared.* 

*"Who took advantage of you? You were the one who threw yourself into my arms," Jared countered with bewilderment written all over his face.* 

<u>"That's not what I'm referring to! I mean, why did you say that I</u> was your wife earlier? Wasn't that taking advantage of me?" Josephine huffed in feigned anger.

"Oh, I thought you were willing to be my wife, but it turned out to be wishful thinking on my part! In that case, I won't say that anymore!" Jared replied calmly.

After saying that, he whirled around and walked out of the room. As he turned around, the corners of his mouth lifted, and he furtively snickered. Meanwhile, Josephine was stunned as bafflement swamped her. I was merely joking with him. Why couldn't he tell?

William was likewise stumped then. He hastened forward and pinched Josephine. "Why did you make such a remark? If it weren't for him, we would've all perished. Look, he's crestfallen now. Go and mollify him, quick!"

Verily, Josephine was a touch embarrassed to do so. But still, she gritted her teeth and rushed out in the end.

*"Mr. Grange, I'll go get the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary Mr. Chance wants right away!"* 

As soon as Erasmus had said that, he pivoted and headed toward a room at the side. Shortly after, he returned with the items and handed them to Walter.

*"Mr. Grange, I'd also like to ask you to convey a query on my behalf. Although the frosty energy in my daughter has all been* 

absorbed, Mr. Chance said that a frosty constituent would automatically absorb frosty energy. Then, will she not suffer from the cold again in no time?" he proceeded to say to the man with a beseeching expression.

"Okay, I'll go and put this question to Mr. Chance at once," Walter promised with a nod as he took the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary from the man.

Just as he was about to go out and ask Jared that, Josephine's bellow abruptly rang out from outside. "How dare you dupe me, Jared? I'm going to kill you!"

In the next moment, Jared darted into the room while grinning from ear to ear. Josephine chased after him from behind, but William stopped her.

Chapter 220 I Will Support You

"This is a sacred place! Stop messing around!"

After chiding Josephine, William turned to Walter and Erasmus, flashing them a sheepish smile.

The few others smiled as well, envy shining brightly in their eyes.

<u>"Mr. Chance, while all the frosty energy in Abbot Erasmus"</u> <u>daughter has been absorbed, you said that she has a frosty</u> <u>constituent and will still absorb frosty energy perpetually. As such,</u> <u>frosty energy will likely infiltrate her body again before long.</u> <u>Therefore-"</u>

Before Walter could finish speaking, Jared waved a hand and cut him off.

*"Abbot Erasmus, your daughter will be fine for the time being. Her frosty constituent is exceedingly rare. Considering my current capabilities, I can free her wholly from the frosty energy. However, I rather hope that she can embark on the path of cultivation. To* 

<u>that end, I'll naturally transform her constituent when my</u> <u>capabilities go up a notch. Let's just leave it as such for now. She'll</u> <u>be fine, and I'll come over regularly to absorb the frosty energy</u> <u>within her," he said to Erasmus.</u>

With his capabilities at present, he had no problem helping to free Erasmus' daughter from the frosty energy completely and even keep her young forever. But then, she wouldn't be able to cultivate anymore, and that would be a total waste of her frosty constituent.

For that reason, he planned to wait until he had improved further before helping her to embark on the path to cultivation. Nevertheless, he actually had his own interests in doing so. The frosty energy was very much beneficial to his cultivation, so he could use the frosty energy he absorbed from her in his cultivation to boost his capabilities.

"Thank you, Mr. Chance! I owe you much!"

## While saying that, Erasmus even wanted to fall to his knees before Jared.

-

Seeing that, Jared hastily held him up with both hands. "You don't need to stand on courtesy, Abbot Erasmus. I'm here for the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary, so this is just considered an exchange."

"The fact that you saved my daughter can never compare to the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary! Just say the word if you need my help in anything in the future, Mr. Chance!" Erasmus gushed with gratefulness etched on his face.

*"Mr. Chance, I'm really sorry about offending you earlier with my ignorance. Please don't take offense at me!"* 

*Right then, Leonidas came over and apologized to Jared in mortification.* 

# After all, the capabilities exhibited by the man had long since impressed him greatly.

-

"Don't worry about it. Since the matter has been resolved, I'll be taking my leave."

Jared was eager to return home and restore his mother's sight as he had the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary in his possession then.

When they came down from Lagrange Mountain, the sky had already gone dark. Yet, Luca was still waiting at the foot of the mountain.

Josephine volunteered to drive Jared back to Dragon Bay, so Walter and the others could only cram into a single car. *"Why did you insist on driving me back at this hour instead of going home yourself when you're a girl?" Jared inquired, sitting in the passenger seat.* 

"I'm your wife, so who's going to drive you home if not me?"

Without anyone else there, Josephine no longer filtered her words.

*"Huh?" Jared was rendered speechless for a while, only retorting after a brief pause, "We're neither engaged nor married, so how did you become my wife? Besides, I don't have the money to marry you right now!"* 

*"You might not have money, but I do. I'll support you in the future. Anyway, I've decided on you!" Josephine proclaimed challengingly, staring straight at the man and quirking a brow.* 

At the sight of that, Jared chuckled. In truth, he had long since taken a fancy to her.

#### <u>Regardless of whether it was her countenance, figure, family</u> <u>background, or personality, she was his cup of tea.</u>

However, he had yet made up his mind to get together with her then. Ever since he embarked on the path to immortality, his mentality had changed. With the elevation of his capabilities, his lifespan could possibly be extended indefinitely. Conversely, Josephine was merely an ordinary girl.

Chapter 221 Have You Forgotten

Jared planned to wait and see whether there were any opportunities after making the trip to Nameless Island on the 15th of July. Perhaps he could also bring Josephine onto the path to immortality.

*"Why, do you have any objections when I'm offering to marry you despite being the heiress of the Sullivan family?" Josephine groused in chagrin when the man said nothing.* 

At once, Jared shook his head. "Of course not! It'll be the greatest blessing if a pauper like me gets to marry someone like you! However, I'm a man. How could I have you support me? I want to strive by myself so that you'll be revered by all in the future!" Following his words, a wealth of warmth suffused Josephine, and she giggled happily. "I didn't expect you to be such a sweet talker! But then, you don't need to strive anymore. I'll have my father transfer all the assets of the Sullivan family to your name directly. I've already handed my company to you and appointed you as the Chairman anyway, so other companies don't matter much. Besides, I'm his only daughter!"

*"Uh..." Words eluded Jared. How is this different from supporting me?* 

Thus, he changed the subject. "Okay, let's talk business. What's the progress with the medicinal herbs I asked you to prepare? It's been several days now."

He knew that he couldn't continue arguing with her on the issue of marriage, or she might even drag him to the civil affairs office tomorrow itself. "It should be about done. I'll rush things tomorrow and hand them over to you."

Because some of the medicinal herbs Jared needed were rare, it took some time, and that was why Josephine hadn't been to seek him out recently—she went everywhere in search of the medicinal herbs.

*Right after she had finished speaking, a gust of wind swept past. On the heels of that, black clouds shrouded the moon.* 

It appeared as though a downpour was imminent.

<u>Crack!</u>

-

-

#### <u>Boom!</u>

\_

\_

-

-

----

A bolt of lightning struck before a clap of thunder split the sky.

"Ahh!" Josephine shrieked.

Her hands slipped, and the car barreled toward the drain at the side.

<u>Reacting swiftly, Jared grabbed the steering wheel. Josephine, on</u> <u>the other hand, threw herself at him.</u>

"I'm scared. I'm terrified of the thunder..."

Surprisingly, she was trembling slightly.

Never having expected her to be afraid of the thunder at her age, Jared teased with a chortle, "You can tell me outright if you want to hug me. There's no need to use such a lousy excuse."

"Pfft! Who wants to hug you?"

Josephine straightened and shot him a glare. Then, she unfastened her seatbelt and demanded, "You can drive! I don't want to drive anymore!"

Exasperated, Jared had no choice but to drive. By then, it was already raining cats and dogs.

When Jared arrived back at Dragon Bay and was a stone's throw away from the top of the mountain, he caught sight of a woman with an umbrella by the road, seemingly waiting for someone.

He drove closer to her and wound the car window down, only to realize that it was Sandy.

#### Despite holding an umbrella, Sandy was already drenched from head to toe. The instant she saw that he was back, she promptly hurtled over.

Clutching at the car window, she rambled, "You're finally back, Jared! I've waited an eternity for you! I'm sorry! I know I was wrong, but Leyton blackmailed me! If I didn't agree to marry him, he would hire someone to kill Mr. and Mrs. Chance! I really had no choice! Besides, it was also him who instigated me to treat you such! I truly regret it! I'm sorry. You've always been in my heart, and my feelings for you haven't changed. Have you forgotten the time when we gazed at the lotus and stars together? At that time, you held my hand and promised to take good care of me forever. You said we'll always be together. Have you forgotten?"

She looked at Jared pitifully, the moisture on her face indistinguishable from rain or tears.

Wave after wave of repulsion washed over Jared at her piteous expression. He had long since felt nary a shred of feeling for her, not even hatred, for she wasn't worthy of it. To him, she was merely an ant, and no one would harbor deepseated animosity toward an ant.

*"Are you done? If so, I'm going home!" he enunciated, regarding her coldly.* 

Chapter 222 No Turning Back In Life

At Jared's question, Sandy shook her head vigorously. "No! I'm not done! Please forgive me, Jared! I was really coerced into it all! I had no choice either!"

"That has nothing to do with me anymore!"

Then, Jared started wounding up the car window.

However, Sandy clung to the car window and refused to let go.

In the passenger seat, Josephine's blood boiled. Despite the torrential rain, she swung open the car door and stalked out.

"How shameless are you? Hurry up and let go! If you dare pester my husband anymore, I'll get someone to break your leg! Mark my words!" Josephine roared at Sandy. Eyeing the latter disdainfully, she continued, "Who do you think you are? Compared to me, how are you better in any way? Are you more loaded than me? Are you more powerful than me? Or are you more beautiful than me? You're inferior to me in all aspects! Why should Jared forgive you and choose you? There's no turning back in life! Since you didn't know how to appreciate him, it's now too late to come and beg him! Buzz off!"

Subsequently, Josephine kicked her hard, sending her to the ground.

Sandy glowered at Josephine, but she hadn't the guts or temerity to utter a single word. After all, Josephine was right in that Sandy couldn't hold a candle to her. As such, there was no reason for Jared to choose her.

When she had ceased at long last, Josephine made her way back to the passenger seat and slammed the door shut. "Drive!"

Jared glanced at her, a smile tugging at his lips. He floored the gas pedal and sped off.

"Jared!" Sandy yelled.

Alas, Jared paid her no mind.

Sandy had always thought that it was Josephine backing Jared up. Hence, there was nothing to fear about him after Josephine dumped him. Never had she expected herself to be a clown in the end. In truth, the Sullivan family could neither influence Walter nor Tommy. Instead, everything was because of Jared.

## That said, she just couldn't fathom what exactly had changed about him that all those big shots treated him deferentially.

*"Why are you smiling? Don't you think that I'm particularly fierce?" Josephine questioned, throwing Jared a glare.* 

The latter hastily shook his head. "Nope! I like such a temperament!"

Hearing that, Josephine tittered. "Really? She's lucky I didn't get someone to break her leg when she dared seduce my husband right in front of me!"

Soon, the car came to a stop in front of the mansion. Alighting from the car, Jared said to Josephine, "You can head home now."

*"Where am I supposed to go when I'm all soaked? I'll catch a cold if I go home in this state!"* 

While saying that, Josephine got out of the car as well.

*"What do you mean? Don't tell me you want to stay here?" Jared queried in surprise.* 

*"Why? What's the problem with me staying here? Why can't I do so when they are plenty of rooms here? Don't tell me you want me to share a room with you? In your dreams!"* 

After saying that, Josephine strode right into the mansion.

Helpless was etched on Jared's face as he stared at her back, but utter exhilaration bubbled within him.

Although he had become an energy cultivator and experienced much change in his mentality, he was still a man.

He was a hot-blooded man, so he would also have all the thoughts innate to a man.

*"Jared, where did you go? It's very late now, and it's even pouring."* 

At the sound of the door clicking open, Hannah's anxious voice drifted over.

*"I'm sorry, Mrs. Chance. We went hiking and came back too late,"* Josephine hurriedly explained upon hearing the woman's voice.

"Oh, it's you, Josephine! It's okay, so don't worry about it. Come and have a seat! You must have gotten wet since it's raining heavily outside, huh?"

Hannah was instantly all smiles when she heard Josephine's voice.

She stepped forward to touch Josephine, only to find that the latter was indeed drenched. At once, she fretted, "Look, you're indeed soaked. I only have a few changes of clothes, and they don't fit you either. What should we do?"

"Don't worry, Mrs. Chance. There's a room upstairs with my clothes, so I'll go and change," Josephine replied with a smile.

Chapter 223 Regained Her Sight

"Oh, that's right! Look at my forgetfulness! I completely forgot that this is your house in the first place, so there'll naturally be your clothes here. In that case, hurry up and go change, lest you catch a cold!"

Having urged Josephine to get changed, Hannah called Jared over and asserted, "You've got to treat Josephine well, Jared. She's a wealthy heiress, but she didn't fly into a rage even after we misunderstood her. Besides, she didn't even disdain you for being poor or me for being blind. That proves that she really loves you. Therefore, you must cherish her!"

"Mom, let's not talk about that first. Let me heal your eyes. As you lost your sight from crying too much, it's a piece of cake to heal!" With the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary in hand, Jared could now restore his mother's sight with ease.

-

-

When Josephine had prepared all the medicinal herbs tomorrow, he would concoct some pills. Then, his mother's eyes would be completely healed.

However, Hannah didn't believe that he could heal her eyes. "Stop pulling my leg! My sight can't possibly be restored. It's been years anyway, and I've gotten used to it."

"Just sit tight, Mom. You'll be able to see in no time!"

Jared helped her to a chair, then took out the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary.

While Hannah's eyes were opened right then, her gaze was dull, and her pupils were practically indiscernible.

Holding the spiritual brush in hand, Jared inhaled before he brushed it lightly across the cinnabar rosary.

The second the tip of the brush came into contact with the cinnabar rosary, a faint fragrance wafted into the air. The cinnabar rosary vanished, melding into the spiritual brush.

"How fragrant! What do you have there, Jared?"

Due to Hannah's impaired vision, her sense of smell and listening was exceedingly sensitive.

*"Mom, this is the miracle cure I asked for you on the mountain. It can restore your sight. The person told me that it can definitely heal your eyes!"* 

Jared didn't tell her the truth, afraid that she couldn't accept the sudden fact that he had become an energy cultivator.

"Oh, no! You must have been duped! How could you believe it when such people are charlatans?"

Despite her chastisement, Hannah didn't twitch a single muscle. Deep within, she still harbored a ray of hope, fantasizing that the miracle cure he got could heal her eyes.

After all, anyone would yearn to see this colorful world with their own eyes. While Gary had brought her to the top of the mountain for a stroll in the past few days and described the scenery to her, it couldn't compare to beholding it with her own eyes. Most importantly, she wanted to lay eyes on Josephine right then. Verily, she wished to gaze upon her future daughter-in-law's countenance.

Lifting the spiritual brush, Jared lightly tapped it on Hannah's eye. "Mom, it'll hurt a bit at first, so just bear with it."

As soon as he had said that, he did the same to her other eye.

"Ahh!" Hannah yelped, screwing her eyes shut, her expression slightly contorted in pain.

At the sound of her cry, Gary, who was initially sleeping in the room, rushed out after dressing haphazardly.

*"What's wrong with your mother, Jared?" he asked urgently, his gaze pinned on Hannah's agonized expression.* 

"Don't worry, Dad. I applied some medication to her eyes. She'll be able to see in no time!" Jared explained.

In mere seconds, the scrunched expression on Hannah's face relaxed. The pain also vanished without a trace.

Slowly, Hannah opened her eyes.

When she did so, she was greeted by the sight of Jared and Gary's hopeful faces.

"Jared! I-I can really see!"

Such excitement imbued her that she trembled. Reaching out, she gently stroked Jared's face.

"Mom, I promised I'd definitely heal your eyes!"

Jared was likewise thrilled to see that his mother had regained her sight.

Chapter 224 A Veritable Goddess

"Darling, c-can you really see now?"

With shock etched on his face, Gary stretched out his hands and waved them in her face.

In response, Hannah nodded vigorously. "Yes, I can see! You don't need to wave your hands before me. Also, I told you to shave your beard daily! Look at how unkempt you are!"

Gary touched his beard, elation instantly showing on his face. He promptly hugged Hannah. "This is great, Darling! This is amazing! You can really see!"

Despite being an egotistical man, he was so emotional at that moment that his eyes turned red-rimmed.

A gratified smile bloomed on Jared's face at the sight of his parents' joy. Ever since he was young, he had never seen them quarreling. Indeed, his father was egoistic and a tad overbearing. However, he could see the man's feelings for Hannah though the latter wasn't prone to exhibiting them.

"What are you doing? Jared is still here!"

Hannah pushed at Gary shyly.

*"Haha... Come, I'll take you outside to enjoy the scenery, Darling! It's very much lovely!"* 

Laughing heartily, Gary started heading out while dragging her along for a gander at the scenery on the mountain.

"What is it that has you all in such high spirits?"

Josephine descended the stairs after changing into a white dress.

Hearing her voice, Hannah cast her gaze over. When she caught sight of Josephine, she was wholly stunned. She had envisaged Josephine's countenance countless times, sure that she had to be a knockout since she was an heiress and her voice was melodic.

Still, she was stupefied at that very moment as she looked at Josephine. Not only is she beautiful, but she's a veritable goddess!

*"Josephine, y-you're simply too beautiful!" she couldn't help lauding.* 

Josephine, who was going down the stairs, inexorably froze for a moment upon hearing her compliment. "Mrs. Chance, you... you can see now?"

*"Yup, I can see now! I once visualized how beautiful you are, but you're far more stunning than I could ever imagine! In fact, you're a goddess!" Hannah gushed, stepping forward and taking her hands.* 

At that, Josephine's face flushed bright red. "Don't flatter me such, Mrs. Chance! I might get big-headed!"

*"I'm not flattering you. You're really too beautiful! Let me have a good look at you!"* 

Hannah scrutinized her intently, making her all the more embarrassed.

*"Mom, Dad wants to bring you out to enjoy the night view, no? It has just stopped raining, so hurry up and go take a look. It's really exquisite!" Jared said to Hannah.* 

Josephine is probably going to be unnerved if she continues staring at her!

"Yes! I'll bring you out for a look! You can see the night view of the whole of Horington here. It's mesmerizing!" Gary enthused, walking forward and grabbing Hannah's hand.

The moment Hannah heard him, the urge to do so seized her. She turned to Josephine and murmured, "Josephine, it's late now, so just stay the night here. There's no need to leave. I'll cook you breakfast tomorrow!"

After she had been dragged away by Gary, Jared eyed Josephine and inquired, "Are you really planning to stay the night here?"

Josephine nodded in response. "Of course I am! I'm going up to sleep. Remember to wake me if I oversleep tomorrow."

Jared looked on as she ascended the stairs. The further she went, the more of her creamy thighs were bared. Reflectively swallowing, he spun around and hurried to his own room. He dared not feast on that vista any longer in fear that he couldn't control himself.

## When Josephine noticed that he had left, she snapped her head back and pouted angrily. "What a moron!"

*Early the following morning, Jared was still absorbed in his cultivation.* 

Having obtained the Starry Compass, his cultivation speed escalated significantly.

He was determined to catch up on the cultivation he had missed recently.

Alas, he needed all the more resources as his capabilities grew.

Throughout the entire night, he had consumed a large portion of the resentment and spiritual energy accumulated in the Starry Compass, yet his capabilities hadn't improved all that much. Worse still, it even paled in comparison to the meat reishi mushroom back then.

Chapter 225 Enhancement Pill

"Wake up! Stop lazing in bed! Rise and shine!"

Josephine pounded on Jared's door.

Only then did Jared exhale and open his eyes.

Eyeing the Starry Compass that had dimmed slightly, he heaved a sigh.

I initially thought that I'd be able to cultivate without any worries after gaining possession of the Starry Compass, but from the look of things now, I was still too naive! The resources accumulated in it likely aren't even sufficient to last me for a night's cultivation. Oh well, it seems that I'll have no choice but to rely on the meager amount of spiritual energy and cultivate little by little in the future. But then, if I want to level up my capabilities in such a manner, it'll take eons! "Are you still not up?"

-

----

\_

-

\_

Josephine hammered on door once more.

Thus, Jared got out of bed and opened the door, upon which she glared at him. "Why are you not out for breakfast when the food is ready?"

"Coming!"

After he had said that, he headed straight to the dining room, looking a tad gloomy.

"I might not be going to the office every day henceforth."

Jared wanted to speed up his cultivation, so he couldn't possibly go to the office to work daily. Furthermore, he didn't need to do so since he was the Chairman then.

Upon hearing that, Josephine was taken aback and wondered if she had offended him somehow.

<u>Clocking her expression, Jared hastily expounded, "I've got</u> <u>something exceedingly important to do, and it might take a long</u> <u>time."</u>

*"It's okay. The company is doing well anyway." Josephine flashed* <u>him a smile.</u>

After breakfast, she left. After all, she couldn't possibly stay there perpetually when they weren't married yet.

In fact, they hadn't even confirmed their relationship, much less gotten engaged. All there between them was only a tacit understanding.

Following her departure, someone promptly delivered two bags of medicinal herbs to Jared. They were all items he asked her to prepare back then, including reishi mushroom and ginseng. On the whole, the two bags of medicinal herbs were probably worth millions.

As soon as Jared opened the bags, he immediately sensed intense spiritual energy filling the entire room.

All those rare medicinal herbs contained copious amounts of spiritual energy. When he sensed the rich spiritual energy, the urge to use all the medicinal herbs to concoct an energy condensing pill inexorably gripped him.

Then, a single energy condensing pill would be even better than him cultivating for the whole night. Nonetheless, he stifled that impulse, for the medicinal herbs were meant to be concocted into pills to cure his mother and William. If he were to concoct an energy condensing pill for himself, there would be nothing left for them.

Nixing the idea of concocting an energy condensing pill for himself, he started gesturing as he recited a spell. A large amount of spiritual energy started circulating wildly in his abdomen. Soon, a faint blue light materialized at the tips of his fingers.

That was the technique of alchemy Draco taught him. Such a technique didn't require a pill furnace to concoct pills. However, it consumed substantial spiritual energy. The more valuable the pill one concocted, the more spiritual energy it would consume.

Since he had no pill furnace then, he was left with no other recourse but to utilize such a spiritual energy-intensive alchemy method to concoct pills.

About an hour later, three pills appeared in Jared's hand.

The tiniest pill was an enhancement pill he concocted with the remaining medicinal herbs. Such a pill had average value and was very common, but it would enhance one's capabilities and boost one's strength considerably upon consumption.

After deliberating for a while, he phoned Tommy, planning to give him the enhancement pill.

The man was his subordinate, so it would be embarrassing for him if Tommy were to be defeated by every Tom, Dick, and Harry.

When Tommy received the call, he swiftly offered to go and look for Jared at Dragon Bay.

*"You don't need to come over. I'll go and meet you. Where are you right now?"* 

In truth, Jared didn't want the man to visit his place because it wasn't quite convenient with his parents there.

*"I'm in Room 307 at Meadow Restaurant on Fortune Street,"* <u>Tommy promptly answered.</u>

"Okay. Wait for me there."

Jared then hung up the phone after saying that.

<u>He knew of Fortune Street. It was considered the most sizeable</u> food street in Horington, with plenty of restaurants and cafes.

He informed Hannah that he wouldn't be having lunch at home before leaving and taking a taxi to Meadow Restaurant.

Besides giving Tommy the pill, he also had some business to discuss with the man.

Chapter 226 Class Reunion

The taxi came to a stop in front of Meadow Restaurant. After Jared alighted and paid the fare, it then drove off.

There were quite a number of luxurious cars parked in front of the restaurant. Just then, a Mercedes-Benz C-Class screeched to a stop before Jared.

*"Hey, if it isn't Jared! I heard that you were in prison! When did you get out?"* 

The car window wound down, and a young man with ear studs stuck his head out.

That was Jared's classmate during university, Leroy Fletcher. Even during their university days, he had an above-average family background, with his family owning a small factory. It had just been a few years since they graduated, but he was already driving <u>a Mercedes-Benz.</u>

*"Jared, don't you think it's a little too shabby to dress in such a manner when you're attending our class reunion?" the girl sitting in the passenger seat questioned with a scornful expression, poking her head out as well.* 

That girl, Pamela Ingram, was also Jared's classmate during university. She had been dating Leroy since then, and they were likely still an item at present.

That day, Jared didn't wear the suit Josephine bought him. Although it was exorbitant, he found it constraining. Instead, his cheap casual clothes were far more comfortable. *"Cut that out! He has just gotten out of prison, so it's good enough that he has his current ensemble. This is likely the best he has at home!"* 

After saying that, Leroy parked the car before he climbed out and turned to Jared. "Who informed you about the class reunion this time? I don't remember anyone giving you a call."

"I'm not here for any class reunion!"

Having said that, Jared strode toward Meadow Restaurant.

"Don't tell me you're here for lunch if not to attend the class reunion? But judging from your look, you don't seem like you can afford to eat here. Just admit it. Did you come for the free meal after learning about the class reunion? That's nothing embarrassing. We're all former classmates, so there's no shame. This meal is going to be Juliette's treat, and I heard that Sandy is coming as well. Sandy is now the daughter-in-law of the Scott family, so it's a rare opportunity to dine with her!" Pamela drawled with mockery written all over her face, blocking Jared's path.

*"Have you really forgotten that Sandy is his ex-girlfriend, Pamela? Now that she has married into the Scott family, he wouldn't have the nerve to see her," Leroy remarked derisively, arching an eyebrow.* 

"Oh, I remember now! It was Mr. Scott who put him in prison. It would be bad if Mr. Scott misunderstood and sent him back to prison if he were to attend the class reunion. No wonder he doesn't dare do so!"

Subsequently, Pamela moved aside for him to pass. "Go on in and find a place to hide. We'll allow you to have the leftovers when we've finished eating!"

As Pamela and Leroy kept deriding him, Jared abruptly gave a bitter chuckle. "Let's go! I'll attend the class reunion with you both!" He knew that they were provoking him, but since they were doing so, he decided to go and see how materialistic those former classmates of his were.

Upon seeing that he couldn't withstand the taunts and had fallen into their trap, Pamela and Leroy exchanged a look and smirked.

They were only expending so much effort in inviting him to trample all over him during the class reunion and leave a good impression on Sandy.

Sandy had married into the Scott family then. Coincidentally, Leroy's company had a collaboration with the Scott family. Therefore, he hoped to get some projects from the Scott family through Sandy.

The two of them brought Jared to the private room. Opening the door, they were greeted by the sight of seven or eight people there, including Juliette, who was the host that day.

"You're both late, Leroy! You'll have to down three glasses later!"

<u>"I heard that you bought a Mercedes-Benz? How incredible that</u> you're driving a Mercedes-Benz at such a young age!"

"Oh, you're really dating Pamela! I thought the two of you would break up after graduating!"

When they entered the room, many people greeted Leroy since he was considered a small-time big shot then.

Chapter 227 Virgil

"Why are you here, Jared?"

Juliette frowned upon spotting Jared. After Warrick and the others were beaten up by the man back then, she had been practicing much more restraint.

"Oh, we bumped into him outside, so we invited him to join us! We're all former classmates, and we know him anyway!" Leroy interjected with a smile. Only then did everyone notice Jared, who was standing behind Leroy. As they clocked his dressing, disdain showed in their eyes. Only one man shot to his feet and exclaimed excitedly, "When did you get out, Jared?"

It was clear as day that he also knew about Jared's incarceration.

"Virgil? You're here as well?"

\_

Jared was likewise a touch surprised at the sight of the man.

<u>That man was Virgil Hancock. He was also Jared's former</u> <u>classmate, and they were even from the same dorm. As such,</u> <u>their relationship was pretty close.</u> Back during university, Virgil often helped Jared out financially though he wasn't from an affluent family. Therefore, Jared didn't expect him to attend the class reunion this time. After all, the current class reunion had already changed in nature. They were hosted by those who were loaded and used to flaunt their wealth.

*"It's been several years since we've last seen each other! I missed you so much! Quick, come and have a seat!"* 

Dragging Jared over to the seat beside him, Virgil asked animatedly, "Why didn't you tell me that you've been released from prison, Jared? I could've thrown a celebration for you!"

*"I've only been out for a few days, and that'll be too troublesome, so I didn't bother you."* 

A faint smile bloomed on Jared's face, and his mood improved significantly. Initially, he only agreed to attend the class reunion

with Leroy to see how materialistic his former classmates were before proving their assumption of him wrong. But at the sight of Virgil, he felt that he had indeed made the right decision.

*"How inauspicious to dine with an ex-convict at the same table!"* someone grumbled in a whisper.

Yet, everyone could heard that.

Of course, Jared was no exception. He cast that former class of his a frosty look, but he didn't blow his gasket. The others all looked at him with contempt on their faces.

<u>Contrarily, Virgil wore an embarrassed expression. He quickly</u> <u>tugged at Jared and inquired, "Have you found a job since you've</u> <u>just been released, Jared?"</u>

"Nope!" Jared shook his head.

*"How about working with me? I've got a few construction teams under my command. I'm the captain. Although the work is rather grueling, you can still earn three to five hundred a day!"* 

Virgil only attended the reunion to obtain some construction projects through his connections with his former classmates.

*"Virgil, would the high and mighty president of the student council* do such laborious work with you? And you even dared term them as construction teams and yourself as the captain? You feel that you're something else just because you've got a few migrant workers under your command, huh?" Leroy questioned disdainfully with a cigarette in his mouth, placing the car key to his Mercedes-Benz in front of him.

A bitter smile tugged at Virgil's lips, and he hurriedly replied, "Compared to you, Leroy, I'm naturally nothing at all! I'm even hoping that you'll be so kind to help me out!"

All smiles, he fawningly lit the man's cigarette for him.

Relishing that obsequious attitude, Leroy nodded and drawled, "Sure! Any random construction project from me will be enough to support you for a year!"

"In that case, I thank you, Leroy! Here's my business card!"

Virgil handed his business card to Leroy, but the man tossed it onto the table after a cursory glance.

Taking a long pull from the cigarette, Leroy exhaled a cloud of smoke at Jared. "Jared, not only were you the president of the student council back then, but we're even former classmates, so I'll give you a job as a security guard in my company. It pays three thousand a month. How about that? Then, I don't need to use my Tibetan Mastiff to guard the door. It isn't cheap, so it's a waste to have it guard the door!"

As soon as his words rang out, everyone burst into raucous laughter.

Juliette cackled the loudest. In the beginning, she was still a smidge irate at Jared's presence, but judging from the look of things, it was great that he came. Otherwise, she wouldn't have been able to see him humiliated.

Chapter 228 A Call From Tommy

*"Jared is a lot stronger than your Tibetan Mastiff, Leroy. He learned martial arts in prison and he's awesome. He even broke Warrick's legs," Juliette said with a sarcastic smile.* 

When the others heard Jared breaking Warrick's leg, they turned to look at the former with shock.

*"If he can break Warrick's leg, then he may indeed be stronger than my Tibetan Mastiff. Seems like I'll have to add a bit more money!" Leroy sneered at Jared.* 

"Believe me, I will break your legs too," Jared said in a calm tone.

*"What did you just say to me? I dare you to say it again." Leroy grabbed a wine bottle and glared at Jared with fury.* 

"There's no need to be angry, Leroy. Jared is just joking with you." Seeing how Leroy was really angry, Virgil quickly stood up to try and resolve the situation peacefully.

"This is Fortune Street, Leroy. The entire street is under Mr. Lewis" control, including this restaurant. If you cause a mess here, you'll be incurring Mr. Lewis' wrath!" Someone else attempted to calm Leroy down.

*"There's nothing I need to be afraid of! My cousin is the manager of this place, so I can do whatever I want!" Leroy said proudly.* 

The others immediately looked at him with admiration when he said that.

-

"Leroy is so awesome! I can't believe he has a cousin like that!"

## *"This means that his cousin is one of Mr. Lewis' men! He must be pretty special!"*

"There's no need for us to worry here as long as Leroy is with us!"

Everyone was praising Leroy to the high heavens. As for Leroy himself, he looked pretty flattered. "If any of you encounter any sort of trouble in Fortune Street, just give me a call and I'll deal with it! I also plan to hold my wedding with Pamela here. You guys have better make sure to attend our wedding!"

"Of course! We'll definitely attend your wedding..."

All the others nodded. It was then that Juliette understood why Leroy recommended her to host the reunion there. She would've undoubtedly spent quite a lot of money on the meal, but after that revelation, it might be possible that she would be able to eat for free!

When she thought about that, it instantly made her much happier.

At that moment, Tommy called Jared. He had been waiting for Jared for quite some time yet to no avail, which was why he decided to call and ask, "Are you here yet, Mr. Chance?"

"Wait for me," Jared replied before ending the call abruptly.

*"Who called you, Jared? Do you have something you need to attend to? If you do, you can just leave first." Virgil was trying to save Jared from an awkward situation. After all, there was no point for him to stay after pissing Leroy off.* 

*"It's nothing. Tommy called me." Jared shoved his phone back into his pocket.* 

## <u>"Tommy?" Virgil was stunned as he found the name to be</u> familiar. It took a while before he realized who that person was. <u>"Do you mean the owner of Meadow Restaurant, Tommy Lewis?"</u>

"I guess so." Jared nodded.

He wasn't sure because he genuinely didn't know the businesses that were under Tommy. The only thing he knew about Tommy was that the man took care of Templar Regiment.

Then again, a regiment as large as Tommy's wouldn't be able to expand if he didn't have a collection of properties. Therefore, it wasn't odd that he owned a restaurant.

*"Pfft..." Leroy spat out the water he was drinking and laughed. "I didn't expect you to be a joker, Jared! You said Mr. Lewis gave you a call and then you made him wait for you? If you want to lie, at least make it more convincing!"* 

The others laughed as well. Pamela narrowed her oval-shaped eyes and sneered, "I bet you never even met Mr. Lewis before. You have some nerve to lie about him calling you."

Among everyone there, Juliette was the only one who knew Jared met Tommy before on Sandy's wedding.

However, she didn't know a thing about their relationship.

Chapter 229 Do Not Mess Around

Virgil regretted what he said earlier as he looked at Jared with an apologetic expression. The latter, on the other hand, seemed <u>unperturbed.</u>

At that moment, the door to the private room opened. Sandy entered the room with a fancy dress, a pair of high heels, and an assortment of jewelry.

"Sandy's here! You're getting more beautiful by the day, huh?"

"That dress looks expensive, Sandy! The same goes for the necklace and earrings too!"

<u>"She's indeed the wife of a rich dude. Look at what she's wearing.</u> We can't even begin to compare to her!"

Upon Sandy's arrival, the others stood up and started to flatter her. It made her feel pretty good.

Actually, her dress was a cheap knockoff, and her pieces of jewelry were all fake. After Leyton kicked her out, he took everything back, including the property in Dragon Bay. If that didn't happen, she wouldn't have tried to get back with Jared on a rainy night.

She intentionally prepared a few fake jewelries for the class reunion because she knew some of her former classmates were still unaware that Leyton had abandoned her. Jared was the only one who still sat on his spot when everyone else stood up. He casually took a sip from his cup.

"Jared?" It was then that Sandy noticed Jared was there.

-

She was shocked because no one told her he was going to attend the reunion.

*"Leroy bumped into Jared and invited him to join. I hope you won't mind, Sandy." Seeing how she looked surprised, Juliette promptly approached her and whispered next to her ear, "It's a good thing that this guy's here. I'll make him embarrass himself in front of everyone and you'll—"* 

"Don't mess around, Juliette!" Sandy glared at Juliette and reminded her.

She wasn't sure what kind of person Jared had become, but she knew that he had connections with powerful people—those that even the Scott family couldn't afford to mess with.

Juliette was stunned as she stared at Sandy in disbelief. She wasn't sure what her friend meant.

Sandy walked past everyone and arrived in front of Jared. She pushed Virgil aside and said, "Shoo. I'll sit next to Jared."

*"All right, all right." Virgil didn't want to offend Sandy, so he quickly stood up.* 

The moment that he did, Jared pulled his hand back and stared at Sandy coldly. "I hate your smell. Get as far away from me as you <u>can."</u>

Everyone gasped in shock when they heard what he said. Even Virgil couldn't help but look at Jared in bewilderment. <u>To their knowledge, Sandy was currently part of the rich Scott</u> family. They couldn't believe he had the gall to speak to her like <u>that.</u>

"What the hell are you doing, Jared? How dare you speak to Sandy like that! Don't think I won't beat you to a pulp!" Seeing how it was the perfect opportunity to butter her up, Leroy roared at Jared.

However, Sandy's subsequent reaction surprised everyone.

She stared at Leroy coldly and barked, "Shut your mouth! You don't get to talk to Jared like that!"

Leroy was flabbergasted. He had no idea what was going on.

After she scolded him, a bitter smile formed on her face before she spoke to Jared softly. "Then I'll sit as far away as I can. I'm satisfied as long as I can see you."

She then happily sat on the opposite side of Jared and smiled at <u>him.</u>

"Are you all right, Sandy?" Juliette whispered next to her ear while being completely befuddled.

"Shut your mouth!" Sandy glared at her again as she didn't want things to become even worse than it already was.

<u>A few minutes later, the dishes arrived, and everyone began to</u> <u>eat. Everyone tried to please Sandy while they ignored Jared and</u> <u>Virgil.</u>

Sandy was the only one who treated Jared nicely as she tried to put food on his plate and even suggested that he drank less so he wouldn't hurt his body like a good wife. He ignored her because he knew what kind of person she was.

Chapter 230 A Quick Visit

Despite their confusion regarding Sandy's actions, they eventually chalked it up to her wish to humiliate Jared for giving up on a girlfriend as virtuous as her.

As the night went on, a few of their classmates had evidently drunk their weight in wine.

Leroy was one of them, and he approached Sandy tipsily. He raised his glass in a toast before drawling, "Sandy, you consider us old friends, don't you? Do you know I'm working with the Scott family now? Since you're the Scotts' future daughter-in-law, I'm sure you'd be kind enough to put in a good word or two for me so the Scotts will send more projects my way. Let me thank you in advance for your help!"

He then downed his glass in a gulp.

His brazenness encouraged their classmates to approach Sandy with requests of their own, ranging from job searches to housing woes. Most of her classmates had attended the reunion solely because they wanted to butter Sandy up for some perks.

Sandy found herself in an awkward situation. She could not tell them then and there that she was no longer in a relationship with Leyton. Her classmates would begin treating her scornfully instead of respectfully when they mistakenly believed her association with the Scott family.

In the end, she gave a non-committal reply. "I'll see what I can do."

\_

Her dilemma was about to worsen as Juliette piped up, "Sandy! Why don't you invite Mr. Scott to our reunion? Some of us have never seen him in the flesh!"

## Juliette's suggestion drew a chorus of agreement from their classmates.

\_

-

\_

\_

\_

*"Yeah! I've never seen Mr. Scott in person. He must be extremely handsome!"* 

*"Can you imagine the bragging rights I'd earn from dining with Mr. Scott?"* 

"Come on, Sandy. Ask Mr. Scott to join us. Dinner's on me! I'll order more food and a good bottle of wine," came Leroy's boisterous suggestion.

<u>"He's busy!" Sandy replied hastily, forcing a bitter smile on her</u> <u>face.</u> Juliette refused to let Sandy off the hook. She whined, "Sandy, Mr. Scott worships the ground you walk on. He can't refuse you if you ask him to come. Plus, I'm sure he'll rush over once he knows that Jared is here!"

Frankly, her primary motive for pressuring Sandy was to get out of paying for such an expensive dinner, which Leroy had so enthusiastically offered to cover if Leyton showed up.

Sandy had never hated Juliette more than at that very moment.

She gritted out, "He really is busy!"

I'm not going to call him over, so just drop it already!

Sandy's insistence agitated Juliette, whose words grew harsh. "Sandy, do you think so little of your classmates? I'm sure Mr. Scott can spare a few minutes of his precious time to greet us!" Sandy remained stubbornly silent. I'm not sure Leyton would even answer my call. If he actually answers the phone, he'll be scolding my ear off instead of listening to anything I have to say!

Just as Sandy found herself backed into a corner under her classmates' pressure, Jared said calmly, "Call Leyton and ask him to come."

He did not even gratify Sandy with a glance as he threw out his comment.

-

Everyone's heads swiveled around to stare at Jared in shock. A stinging reply was on the tip of Leroy's tongue when Sandy reluctantly took out her phone and called someone.

The call connected just as Sandy arrived at a secluded corner of the room.

"Didn't I tell you never to call me again? I will make good on my threat to break your legs!" Leyton bellowed as soon as the call connected.

He had been living in fear of Jared's future actions since his return. Yoel had not fared any better, spending his days brainstorming solutions to repair the Scott family's relationship with Jared. It could take years even to regain Jared's trust.

The Scott family was entirely at Jared's mercy, seeing as how bigwigs like Tommy Lewis and Walter Grange even paid their respects to Jared.

In other words, Jared could ruin the Scott family with a single word if he wished to.

Sandy stammered nervously, "Leyton, I-I'm at a student reunion now. I-I hope you can drop by for a quick visit."

"Student reunion? Please! I—"

Sandy hastily spoke over him. "Jared's here! He wanted me to invite you."

-

-