

The Ace at the Apex

Chapter 230 Such Unruliness

The president had originally thought he could get away with offending neither Roy nor Javier and put an end to that entire situation. After all, if both parties could remain peaceful, he would reap the greatest benefits, which would be splendid.

The worst-case scenario for him would be having to remove Javier from the equation rather than offend Millenia Supermarket.

However, the president had never expected that Javier would suddenly say that he was going to put 300 million dollars in the bank as a fixed-term fund.

Although it was not a fixed deposit, the president would still be able to enjoy a large increase in his sales target if he received these funds.

At that moment, Roy said, "Do you think I'm incapable of bluffing? I'll put 1.5 billion dollars in your bank then! After all, neither of us will be able to fork out the money!"

The vice president took Roy's side. "Exactly! I have the guts to declare such a thing as well in that case! I'll put in 12 billion dollars!"

Javier chuckled as he took out his cell phone. Then, he transferred 150 million dollars into his bank account.

After doing that, he threw his bank card to the president. "Have someone check it yourself." Of course, the president had a high position that would not allow him to say anything rash. Instead, he had to look at the facts. Thus, no matter how rude Javier was to him, he still very politely asked one of his staff members to check his account.

Within seconds, the staff member returned. "S-Sir...we just received 150 million dollars in his account, and his current balance has risen to 300 million dollars."

The president almost fainted on the spot! He could not believe that Javier had actually transferred the money! 'What kind of bank did he use that allowed him to transfer 150 million dollars into our bank instantly through a cell phone?! I've been in this industry my entire life, but I've never heard of such a bank!

"Then again, there's no reason for my staff to lie to me, as this is no joking matter. In fact, there's no chance of him mistaking the amount!"

At that moment, Javier leisurely flicked the ash of his cigarette on the floor despite the fact that there was an ashtray right in front of him.

After doing that, he looked at Roy. "Now, since I did what I said, it's time for you to fulfill your promise!"

Roy's face had already turned pale, as he had begun to feel afraid.

“That’s 300 million dollars of cash flow that he just forked out like it was nothing to him! How much more money does his company have in fixed assets?!’ At that moment, Roy did a rough calculation and thought that Javier’s company was definitely big enough to crush his supermarket into nothingness.

On top of that, what was even more embarrassing was that he had just been bluffing about the 1.5 billion dollars just now. He would never be able to do such a thing!

Roy now seemed like he had just eaten a pile of sh*t that he himself had pushed out, and his feet were pointed to the door.

Sally could not help but feel overjoyed when she saw Roy’s reaction. In fact, she even laughed out loud, which was a pleasant sound that resembled chimes ringing.

However, no matter how pleasant she sounded, her laughter sounded extremely painful to Roy’s ears, causing his face to turn even paler. Then, Javier flicked his cigarette butt at the vice president’s large belly, and the latter hurriedly patted himself down.

“Sigh...That’s enough, fatso. I gave you a chance to jump just now, but you wouldn’t take it, yet you’re now jumping around in front of me like a jester. Right then, when are you going to fulfill your end of the promise and transfer those 12 billion dollars?”

The vice president was extremely embarrassed, but he had an awkward smile on his chubby face. “Err... Umm...”

He kept on muttering for such a long time that Javier could not even be bothered to pay him any more attention.

“Admit it, you’re just an ugly toad. If you’re going to jump, now’s your final chance to do so. If you still refuse to do it, I’ll make sure you end up in a grave, where you won’t be able to jump even if you want to!”

The vice president was extremely embarrassed. He was a highly-ranking person in the bank, yet he was now being asked to jump around like a bunny in front of Sally. On top of that, he even had to sing that song, so there was no way he could do it.

Thus, after pondering it for a moment, he turned to his president for help.

After all, he was the president’s subordinate, so the latter would naturally protect him. Thus, the president said, “Excuse me, sir...He’s already learned from his mistake, so...” Javier raised his finger at that point. “I’ll add another 150 million dollars and make it 450 million dollars for a two-year fixed-term fund, but I want you to cut off all your capital ties with that sh*tty supermarket. Will you do it or not? Give me a straight answer!”

The president was now shocked, especially after his staff member said with a dumbfounded expression that Javier had actually transferred another 150 million dollars!

Even Roy was shocked senseless. ‘How f*cking rich is this guy?! How could he possibly be able to throw out 150 million dollars after 150 million dollars with such ease?! He doesn’t even seem to be fazed!’

On the other hand, the vice president was now ready to switch sides. 450 million dollars! That's literally the same amount as Millenia Supermarket's total net worth at its original price! I don't have to be afraid of offending Roy at this point!

Thus, he immediately lowered his head in Sally's direction. "I'm sorry for my prior attitude toward you, Sally, but I was only doing it for the sake of our bank. Although I had my reasons and I meant well, a mistake is still a mistake at the end of the day, so I'm willing to accept my punishment and apologize to you."

As he spoke, he squatted on the floor and placed both hands beside his head, pretending to be a rabbit as he sang and jumped... He was jumping so much that he seemed to be tired. What a tiring day that was for the vice president.

However, Javier sneered mockingly and said, "Who are you jumping for? I told you just now that that was your last chance, but you didn't seem to appreciate it at the time. You're now boldly jumping around, but for whom to see? It's too late for you now!" The vice president was very furious and thought that Javier was going overboard. 'I'm the vice president of this bank and I'm already jumping around like a rabbit in front of my staff. What else do you want me to do?!'

The more he thought about it, the angrier he became, so he stood up, huffed, and puffed as he said, "This is the bank, not your house! Don't you go around thinking you can do whatever you want just because you have money!" Javier was overjoyed. "Is that so? I'm actually curious to see if I can do whatever I want if I put in more money!" After saying that, Javier transferred another 150 million dollars. Immediately, the staff member sounded like she was about to cry as she said, "S-Sir! We received another 150 million dollars! It's now 600 million dollars!"

Javier extended six fingers. "There's 600 million dollars for a one-year fixed-term fund. I want you to cut off all capital ties with Millenia Supermarket. Do we have a deal or not?"

The president subconsciously extended his tongue and licked his dry lips the moment he heard this.

'This is insane! I've actually stumbled across a multi-millionaire!'

"Sir, I respect your attitude very much and will take your suggestion into serious consideration. However, we do have rules here at the end of the day, so I hope you understand our situation. We cannot cut off our capital ties with our customers so casually, as it might affect the loans we give out in the future and our bank's reputation."

The president sounded like he was in a very tough spot, but he was actually jumping in joy. 'Sh*t! We're rich! I found a multi-millionaire client! I can jump all the way into the district branch at this rate!

'I didn't realize this before, but being able to jump three ranks is so much fun!'

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If it was not for the fact that the president wanted to carry on this act and trick Javier into paying him more money, he would have gotten down on his knees and licked his shoes! Sure enough, after the president spoke, Javier took out his cell phone once more. The president was filled with anticipation and thought that he would receive 900 million dollars in total if Javier transferred another 300 million

dollars. Then, it would be about time for him to pull in his net. 'Although we've got policies and rules here in the bank, there is no such thing as a company without financial issues!

So long as I grab on at this point, I can ask for a bigger investment whenever I want to or sue them in court if they refuse and freeze all their assets immediately. 'Which is why it would be absolutely easy for me to cut off all capital ties with Millenia Supermarket if I wanted to!'

However, while the president was fantasizing about his future prospects, he suddenly realized that Javier was placing his cell phone by his ear. Then, Javier said on the phone, "Aunt Marjorie, I need you to help me contact XX Bank's head president and send him a message from me. I'm at his branch right now and I intend to deposit 600 million dollars as one-year fixed-term funds, yet both the president and the vice president refuse to let me do so. This is absolute bullsh*t, and I'm formally lodging a complaint!"

The president was dumbfounded when he saw that everything was proceeding differently from what he had expected!

'What happened to the 900 million dollars?! Why is he now lodging a complaint at just 600 million dollars?!

Chapter 231 You've Run Out of Chances

The president was now panicking because he was going to be in huge trouble the moment that complaint reached the top of the chain

The connections he had built up all those years ago had only reached the district branch at most. Plus, they were not that strong yet. So, if a complaint was reported directly to headquarters...

Next to him, the vice president, who was his trusted right-hand man, was attempting to help the latter ease his worries.

"Don't listen to him, sir! He's just bluffing! The head president only deals with major clients with billions or trillions of dollars or more. There's no way he would possibly pay this little sh*t with those meager millions of dollars any mind! Don't you worry, everything will be alright!"

However, the president furiously scowled. "You know nothing."

'He can fork out 600 million dollars with such ease, so don't you think it would be extremely simple for him to have billions or even trillions of dollars to his name?!'

Without paying the fat vice president any more attention, the president approached Javier once more.

He smiled and said, "There's no need for you to do this, sir! This isn't that big of a deal anyway. Plus, I didn't say I was not going to help you! Rules are meant to be broken after all, so I could definitely try and think of something!"

Javier chuckled happily. "Did you just recall that rules are meant to be broken? You didn't think of that when you wanted me to fork out more money, did you? Tell me, how many more million dollars did you expect me to transfer before you gave in to my demands?"

Javier's question instantly caused the president to feel embarrassed, as the former had exposed his thoughts. The president was now feeling helpless and out of options.

Behind Javier, Sally was extremely gleeful as she watched both the president and vice president get into trouble.

However, she did not dare reveal this in her expression. After all, the two of them were her superiors, and she needed to ensure that she would not end up being their target again later on

While Sally was still deep in thought, the president, who was speechless, suddenly turned around and lectured Roy.

“Didn’t you say you were going to jump like a rabbit? Hurry up and get it done, or Millenia Supermarket really is going to cease to exist!”

Roy had grown used to his arrogant behavior a long time ago, but he had never thought he would end up meeting someone even stronger than he was.

Just listening to how much money Javier had transferred into the bank was enough to leave Roy feeling afraid, all his arrogance now gone from his body.

Thus, now that even the president was throwing in the towel, it was only natural that Roy would not even dare to try and show a single ounce of arrogance anymore.

Although it was extremely embarrassing to jump like a rabbit and sing a nursery rhyme while doing so, it was still much better than having Millenia Supermarket driven to the ground!

After he made this decision, Roy hurriedly squatted on the floor and held two fingers up as he jumped around like a rabbit.

Seeing that even Roy was doing it, there was no more hope left for the vice president, who had no choice but to do the same once more.

When the vice president jumped near Javier, the latter squinted his eyes into a smile and said, “Hey, stop jumping for a moment. I’ve got a question for you. Didn’t you say I couldn’t do whatever I wanted even if I was rich? Now then, tell me...Can I do whatever I want?”

The vice president was more than 50 years old at that moment, which was why he felt extremely unhappy now that he had to put on an embarrassed smile in front of Javier while listening to the latter’s tone as he spoke.

However, no matter how unhappy he felt, he had no choice but to keep on smiling. He was going to have to live through that torture no matter how much he wanted to cry or explode from anger.

Thus, he smiled flatteringly and said, “Yes, of course you can.”

Just the fact that he was using such a flattering tone while speaking to Javier was enough for him to know how embarrassed he looked at that moment without even having to look at himself in a mirror.

‘I’ve got to lower my head and admit my mistakes in front of so many staff members...Plus, I even have to jump around like a rabbit... This is so embarrassing!

‘But if I’m able to retain my job as vice president by doing something this embarrassing, it will all be worth it!

Unfortunately, the vice president was taking everything for granted at that point.

The president smiled at Javier and said, "Sir, do you think you could call off that phone call to the head president now?"

Javier happily waved his hand. "That's enough. I can't stand the sight of you, the vice president, and most certainly not Roy. I've given you plenty of chances, haven't I? Yet none of you seem to have appreciated it. Two of you kept putting on an arrogant act in front of me, while the last one tried to cheat me out of my money.

"Fine, I'll have this entire ordeal brought to the higher-ups' attention. You three can decide what you're going to do about your situation, but it's too late to regret your actions now."

After Javier was done teasing the president, the latter's cell phone rang.

It was a phone call from the district branch director.

The president put on a serious expression while the person on the other end of the line said, "Well done! I've been in this industry for so long, but the head president has never remembered my name. As for you, you've only been in your position for three years, yet he already remembers your name. In fact, he even named you specifically. Wonderful!

"On account of how awesomely you've performed, you can stop being the president now! Also, have that vice president of yours fired straight away and see if he's able to find a better job somewhere else.

"If he can't...who in the world is he to push away such a huge client, hmm? The head president's secretary just personally gave me a phone call, saying that the head president was absolutely furious the moment he received that complaint. He even said that the reason our sales target hasn't been able to move upward is completely because of fools like you lot!

"Alright, I don't have time to waste on you anymore. The headquarters has received a fax, which I'm sure you have gotten as well. That will be all!"

Since the beginning, the president had not even uttered a single word. He had ended up being kicked out of his position.

At first, he had thought the headquarters would take into account his large amount of benefits and the sales targets he'd achieved. However, he had ended up even losing his throne!

Next to him, the vice president was so shocked that he fell limply on the floor. After all, if even the president had been completely ignored and removed from his position, he was in much deeper trouble.

"This is all fate's fault! It was fate that I had to make such a stupid decision that ended up killing me!

Then, one of the staff members brought the fax over, which had received a memo sent by the headquarters, ordering both of them to pause all the jobs they had on hand. On top of that, they were both removed from their original positions and were to wait for someone from the district branch to deal with them.

Thus, it had not been just a phone call in the end... The headquarters had even issued an official memo, cutting off all the safety nets the two of them might have had.

However, Roy thought he still had a chance. After all, he was not an employee of the bank, so the bank could do nothing to him.

'Although the bank could cut off capital ties with my family's supermarket, it hasn't been done yet! I've still got a chance!

Thus, Roy once again jumped on the floor and begged for Sally's forgiveness.

"I'm sorry, I really am sorry! I was wrong before! You can slap or kick me as much as you want. Just please forgive me!"

Roy thought he was rather smart for being able to tell that Javier was only punishing him because of Sally, so he thought Javier would definitely forgive him should Sally do so.

However, the fact of the matter was that he had been too arrogant before, so Sally did not even want to pay attention to him.

After begging for a while, Roy became more and more anxious. His feet were feeling really sore, yet he still carried on jumping.

"I'm serious. Please, please forgive me! I won't do it again, so please..."

At that moment, Roy was like a really pitiful man, unlike how arrogant and cool he had been just a moment ago.

Meanwhile, the vice president, who had regained his senses, began begging for forgiveness as well, hoping that Sally would forgive his mistakes. In fact, he even began to jump around like a bald old rabbit.

As the two of them did so, even the president began doing the same, begging for both Javier and Sally's forgiveness.

The major clients' lounge had completely transparent windows, so everyone could see the three of them jumping around as they begged for mercy.

Thus, the entire crowd applauded and cheered, overjoyed that these usually arrogant men were now in such a compromising position

However, no matter how much the trio jumped around, Javier still would not let up.

Indeed, men from the district branch arrived two hours later, stunning both the president and vice president.

As for Roy, who had not been punished yet, Javier patted his head and said, "Carry on being so arrogant. I'll be waiting to see if you'll still put on such an act once Millenia Supermarket goes bankrupt." / After saying that, Javier turned around and instructed the people from the district branch, "Have all capital ties with Millenia Supermarket cut off. I will never allow a single one of their outlets within this district to remain in operation. Do you hear me? Never!"

Chapter 232 Cherish What You've Been Given

Javier was so domineering and powerful that he immediately gave the director of the district branch instructions.

As unhappy as the director felt inside, he knew that Javier was literally an omnipotent man, so he just smiled away and followed along

As for Roy and Millenia Supermarket...the director thought they were free to get buried wherever they wanted, as the supermarket was nothing but a speck of dust in front of that omnipotent man!

After putting on an act as he dealt with the entire situation, the director of the district branch made his final decision...

Both the president and the vice president were fired, while Millenia Supermarket would be investigated because of their capital loan, which had not been processed according to the rules.

Most importantly, and most unexpectedly, Sally was complimented for her professionalism, her passion for her job, and her good reputation by the director, who promoted her to acting president effective immediately.

Sally was shocked senseless, as she had never once thought she would be able to be president someday.

What had seemed like a distant and unreachable dream had ended up becoming a dream come true!

After all, there was a huge difference in rank between a manager and the president, which was comparable to the difference between a team leader and the head of all the teams.

Sally was so shocked that she did not know what she should do. "S-Sir, I'm not experienced enough and I don't have enough organizational skills. In fact, I don't even know what I should be doing as president and what I'm capable of doing! Are you sure you don't want to reconsider this?!"

After Sally said that, the district branch director merely waved his hand. "Don't worry, you're still young, so you should learn by training harder. Even the best tacticians in the past had no experience leading troops, yet this did not stop them from being superb leaders. I've got high expectations for you!"

The director had actually come up with a ridiculous excuse to deal with Sally, which left the latter speechless.

However, she very quickly understood that the director had not done that because of her capabilities, but because of Javier.

Previously, she had thought that Javier was just a financial officer, but he had suddenly shown great powers, so the former president was not the only one involved in the situation. Even the district branch director, who had hurried over to the bank just to solve the matter, had gotten involved...

In a certain book, it is stated that humans will come across three people who will be able to help them. So long as they're able to grab hold of even one of them, they will reach great heights,

Initially, Sally had not believed this statement and had thought that it did not matter whether she found such a person or not since her own efforts were the most important. 1

However, on that very day, she believed that Javier was obviously the so-called person who could help her reach new heights.

In comparison to Javier's influence, no amount of effort Sally had put in mattered in the slightest now that she had found him.

Thanks to Javier, she had been able to instantly soar to the skies and become the acting president, which was just awesome!

Shortly after the former president, vice president, and Roy were kicked out of the bank, people from other branches began pushing carts and carts of cash into the bank that came up to a total of 450,000 dollars. These carts then followed Javier back to Reivaj Group, leaving the bank's staff members dumbfounded.

They had never once thought that even the bank would end up becoming a delivery service.

After Javier and the district branch's director left, countless people rushed over to congratulate Sally.

"Congratulations on such a huge victory, Sally...Sorry, Miss Kearn!"

"Congratulations, Miss Keam! We are at your command from now on, so please do take care of us, haha!"

All sorts of flattery was being hurled at Sally. Both the people who had originally been on good terms with her and those who had been holding a grudge against her surrounded her at that moment.

Although Sally did not like that everyone's attitude had suddenly changed and they were saying all those flattering words to curry her favor, she still felt very happy.

After all, she was going to be the president in the future, which was a milestone in her life.

Her best friends then came over and wrapped their arms around Sally's shoulders. "Is that rich man pursuing you, Sally?"

Sally was slightly startled as another woman said, "Of course he is! He's really rich and handsome, so why would he help you if he wasn't trying to pursue you? Which is why I think he's definitely trying to woo you! You should make good use of this opportunity!"

"What kind of nonsense are you all talking about?!"

After a coquettish reply, Sally remained silent

However, she was still thinking about it inside. 'Is he really trying to pursue me...'

At that moment, the rich man Sally was thinking of was driving back to his company with a truck behind him that contained his cash.

Those who did not know might even think that the G63 was opening the way for the truck to travel!

Both cars sped all the way until they finally reached Reivaj Group. Then, someone brought out the boxes containing the cash and took them upstairs.

Inside the office, everyone was gossiping, trying to find out how their year-end bonuses were going to be distributed

“Mr. Kersey has been spending a lot of money recently and going to war with all sorts of businesses... You don’t think he’s run out of money, do you?”

“Even if he has, he can’t stop giving us our year-end bonuses! We’d be working in his company without any benefits!”

While everyone was muttering away, Josh, who used to be Javier’s secretary and had now been promoted to a higher position, said, “Get back to work, all of you. Don’t you all know by now what Mr. Kersey and Miss Odell are like? Have they ever let us down before?”

“They will occasionally organize a reunion for staff members, which is paid for out of their own pockets entirely. You guys kept going on about them being such nice people and even hailed them. Just look at what you’re doing right now. They haven’t even announced that they won’t be giving us our bonuses, yet you’re all pale. The bonuses are just late at this point.”

Since Josh was now the director, nobody dared to talk back to him.

However, most importantly, they all agreed with what he had said. Neither Javier nor Jade had ever paid their salaries late before. In fact, they had even received all sorts of benefits from them so far.

Thus, after Josh made his statement, everyone else returned to their duties with their heads lowered.

After a very brief moment, someone suddenly shouted, “Holy sh*t! Mr. Kersey has brought armed men with him!!!”

Everyone was instantly shocked, and Josh hurriedly took a look at the company’s entrance.

After taking a glance, Josh felt both infuriated and excited at the same time. “You made it sound like he’s been captured! Those people are clearly from the bank!”

Although Josh could recognize the armored guards, he could not understand why they would be at the company.

It was not until Javier entered and called him in that Josh understood what Javier was about to do.

“We’ll distribute the year-end bonuses in cash. We’ll put them in four envelope tiers. Tier-4 will contain 950 dollars, Tier-3 will contain 9,500 dollars, Tier-2 will contain 95,000 dollars, and Tier-1 will contain 950,000 dollars...” 2

Javier was still going on, but Josh was completely dumbfounded

‘Is he seriously going to distribute bonuses like this? He’s literally hurling cash at our faces. Has he gone nuts?!

‘No wonder the armored guards followed him here. How many thousands of dollars have they brought?!’

After saying that, Javier drafted a list of the people who would receive the tiered bonuses and handed it to Josh. “Go on. Get organized and distribute the bonuses!”

Josh looked at the list, where his name was in the Tier-2 category. However, he did not seem happy about it.

'Of course I'm happy that I'm receiving 95,000 dollars, but I didn't do anything that great to deserve this...'

"How about you scrub my name off the Tier-2 list, Mr. Kersey?"

Javier waved his hand the moment Josh said this. "Everyone's made a lot of effort over the past year, including you. Everyone knows that you've been working overtime till extremely late. Plus, you had to take care of your kids after you got home and then return to work the next morning. You deserve it."

Josh, a man who was six feet tall, was so stunned that he began tearing up after hearing what Javier had said.

He recalled how tough he had been living over the past six months, not daring to delay work, yet still having to return home to help his wife and kids.

"Nobody has ever understood or forgave me for how much I've suffered, but Mr. Kersey... He noticed despite being my boss.'

Josh was especially touched at that very moment..

Chapter 233 She Thinks Too Much

"Mr. Kersey says that everyone's done a good job working the entire day in the office, so regardless of whether you've worked hard, done well, or closed sales, all of you will get annual bonuses. If you didn't work as hard and you receive a lesser year-end bonus, others can't be blamed."

Josh briefed everyone on the standards for the year-end bonus distribution as he stood in the center of the office work area.

"There are four levels of year-end bonuses. Those who don't work hard and dawdle will get 950 dollars.

"The average person who met the company's stated performance and followed our practices and policies will receive 9,500 dollars as a year-end bonus.

"Excellent workers who performed well and were complimented two or more times will receive 95,000 dollars!

"Those who contributed outstandingly and are irreplaceable in the company will receive 950,000 dollars!

"Also, the year-end bonuses will be given out in cash on the spot..."

When Josh announced all that, the whole office was stunned.

It was crazy. One could get 9,500 dollars as a year-end bonus as long as one followed the company's policies and regulations, as well as completed one's usual job scope. This was giving away free money. 9,500 dollars as a year-end bonus, in addition to their monthly salary, would mean that they'd make over tens of thousands of dollars!

It was a huge leap into making a decent wage that made everyone feel thrilled.

There were also people who looked regretful. They would have dawdled less if they had known. They had thought that they'd be paid the same no matter how much they worked, so they had dragged their butts and lazed around as much as they could.

Now that the year was coming to a close, the contrast was obvious. They were not wishing for 95,000 dollars. They would be fine taking the regular 9,500 dollars as well. Too bad they only got 950 dollars.

They felt especially envious and remorseful when they saw the ten wads of cash others were holding during the collection. The point was, those who received 950 dollars had to put up with the gloating gazes of those who got 9,500 dollars.

It seemed like they were saying, "Didn't you call us dumb in the past? Didn't you say that we don't know how to loaf on the job? We make money for being dumb now. You're so smart, but you only got 950 dollars. Are you happy? Does it feel good? Fools!"

Everyone received a year-end bonus, and the majority looked ecstatic and gleeful. There were also people who grumbled without spite. "Oh, no. I have so much cash. How should I bring it home? It's not safe."

While this went on, bank employees came with a currency detector and some portable devices.

"Don't worry about the security and safety of your cash. Mr. Kersey has appointed our bank to help everyone here. All of you can deposit your cash directly to our bank..."

After the bank employee said that, everyone was delighted, as it was very convenient. Many of them also got the point. Javier was amazing. He could get the bank to come to the doorstep for the deposits. A regular person could hardly achieve the same feat, right?

The happiest person right now had to be Josh, as he had received 95,000 dollars as a year-end bonus. He did not even know how he should tell his family when he went home later. He was just bouncing with so much excitement and the impulse to cheer for his boss. He thought that being able to work for Javier was the greatest stroke of luck in his life.

Javier had become something like a savior to Josh and so many others. They had managed to change their current or future living circumstances because of him.

Sitting in her work chair, Jade looked at the cheering employees through the single-way glass. She shook her head with a smile.

"You're to be blamed too. Why must you distribute the bonuses in cash? It'd be so much easier to deposit it in their bank accounts."

Javier chuckled. "That's totally different. The bank accounts show only a bunch of numbers. Nothing feels as assuring as wads of cash. As a boss, I need to make my employees feel the weight of the money in their hands based on how much effort they've put i

n."

"Sure, you always have a point. Maybe you should change your name to Point. You'll make even more sense then."

As soon as Jade joked, Javier pinned her against the chair and pressed their foreheads together, asking her, "If I'm Point, does that mean I keep pointing inside?" 1.

Jade was shy, but there was no way she did not know what Javier meant. Just as they began to get intimate, however, Javier's

phone rang

It was an anonymous number that he did not recognize, but it was a local number that was not labeled as spam or an advertisement.

Javier thought about it and answered the call. "Hello, who is it?"

"H-Hi, Mr. Kersey. I'm Sally Kearn. I'm sorry, I found your number on your client's profile. I don't want anything. I just want to buy you dinner to thank you for helping me this afternoon."

Sally was nervous and had considered it repeatedly before deciding to call Javier out of the blue to express her gratitude. She was still a little worried, though, that Javier had an ulterior motive when it came to her and would take this opportunity tonight to flirt with her again. That would make things awkward for her.

Hence, Sally was contemplating if she should add that she truly did not mean anything else by it lest Javier thought differently of her.

While Sally mulled over her options, Javier was not free either. He kissed Jade's cherry lips before replying, "I'll pass. I have a girlfriend. Thank you for the invitation."

Sally nearly choked upon hearing that. Here she was contemplating if she should agree to Javier's advances if he was interested in her because he was so handsome and rich. After all, he had helped her and had made it seem like he was interested in her.

She had unexpectedly thought too much about it. The man had told her that he had a girlfriend and was not even planning to make an advance.

This exasperated Sally, as while that had not been her intention either, it still felt like a heavy blow that hurt badly. Nevertheless, to prove that she was not calling with a motive either, she invited him warmly. "I just want to thank you. You can bring your girlfriend along. You wouldn't deprive me of the chance to thank you, right? I was thinking of retaining a VIP client like you!"

Given what Sally said, Javier no longer had any reason to reject her, so he agreed readily.

After ending the call, Javier asked with a smile when he met Jade's beaming gaze, "What? Curious to know who called?"

Jade turned away and whined. "I don't care who that was. You always have other women anyway. Doesn't hurt to add this one to the collection."

Javier let out an "oh" and asked, "Really?"

Jade nodded but ultimately punched Javier. "No."

The beautiful woman's shy reaction only made Javier like her more. He rubbed Jade's head fondly before speaking about what had happened at the bank earlier that day.

Jade said after hearing about it, "This doesn't seem like your style. You have various ways to be a hero who saves the damsel in distress and you never disclosed your wealth or showed off in the past. You've been acting exceptionally loud today. You...aren't planning something else, are you?"

Chapter 234 You Want to Be the Queen

Javier could not help giving a thumbs-up in answer to Jade's words.

"Our Jade is really smart, eh? Tell me how you do it. You're so beautiful and hot, and you're intelligent. You're really making me like you more."

Jade giggled "Stop it. You've been fooling me with the same thing for more than half a year. I'm silly, so I believe it each time you say it and feel pleased about it."

Javier asked, "Do you still believe it now?"

Jade answered shyly, "As long as it comes from my husband, I'll always believe it. Forever..."

Javier did have an ulterior motive for squashing Roy and helping Sally. Not only did he despise Roy, but he'd wanted to save Sally heroically so Clouston would know him.

When Javier had chatted with Chad previously, they had agreed that Reivaj Group was expanding and required a walking business card. This so-called walking business card was the personal charisma of the company's leader.

Take Apple and Steve Jobs or Alibaba and Jack Ma for example. Once the company was mentioned, one would remember the person in charge and vice versa. This was what a living business card was.

Reivaj Group needed a business card like this too, so Javier was creating one for himself starting now.

Numerous people had recorded videos in the bank today, and those would produce a certain effect and influence people when they were uploaded online, thus stirring curiosity about him in others and prompting them to check who he was and discover the company behind him.

Of course, what they would manage to investigate would be what Javier had intentionally put out there. What he did not want others finding out, they would never discover!

After work, Javier took Jade to the dinner venue he had agreed upon with Sally.

The latter had dressed up for the occasion, looking both youthful and formal. She thought that she ought to display adequate charm in front of an important client.

However, when Sally saw Jade, who was only wearing a business suit, she felt like she had lost. She was utterly defeated. In terms of beauty, figure, clothes, and aura, she had been totally defeated. Her only brownie point was that she had dressed more formally than Jade, but it was also because of this that she lost even harder.

Jade was only wearing a normal business suit she would wear to work and had already triumphed over Sally. If Jade were to put on a formal outfit, Sally would be shattered immediately...

Sally was smiling throughout dinner, but the food tasted like wax to her because she was upset. She had been wondering if Javier was truly interested in her and how she should reject him if he crossed the line tonight, but now, she thought that she had been too oblivious.

A look at Jade was enough. If she was a queen, Sally would be a peasant girl in the forest at most. She could barely pass for a maid in the palace. There was not much to compare since she lacked too much, especially when she was dressed so formally. It felt embarrassing, as she felt like a bumpkin dressing up for the first time.

After dinner, Javier thanked Sally for the treat and left, holding Jade's hand. He did not care about any outsiders looking, and that made Sally feel envious of the woman and wish she was standing next to Javier instead of her.

It was not like she wanted Javier's money or anything. She just thought that a woman whose hand was constantly held by a man while she was pampered by him was blissful.

Sally was not the only person thinking that way, as Jade felt the same way. Having her hand held by her man in front of other women was a form of confirmation and support in itself. Vaguely, Jade saw it as a form of bragging too.

If it were not for her age and status, she would really have liked to shout in public, "Look, look how nicely my husband is treating me! My husband's the best man in the world!"

On the drive back home from the hotel, Jade probed. "Darling, that woman's beautiful. Why didn't you eat alone with her? You know that I wouldn't have an opinion if something happened between you."

Javier asked with a chuckle, "Really?"

"Really." Jade nodded after thinking about it. She honestly would not have an opinion besides feeling a little upset about it.

Javier moved his hand from the gearstick to Jade's lap. "You really think I'm the kind of king who could have a harem when I want

every pretty girl I see? Or do you want to be the queen-in charge of all the ladies?"

"No way!" Jade answered upon hearing Javier's joke.

Javier stroked her lap gently. "Don't worry. I couldn't bear to keep bullying you. I'm already lucky to have you by my side. How could I push my luck and keep taking you for granted? I'd feel bad for you!"

What Javier said pleased Jade, as it warmed her heart.

As the car sped to their place, Jade pointed at the underground parking entrance. "Let's go down!" Javier paused. They had always parked in the public parking area of their unit. Why were they going to the underground parking lot all of a sudden tonight?

When he asked about it, Jade merely urged him to do it without answering. Javier did not think much about it and drove down to the underground parking lot doubtfully, driving to the corner by following Jade's instructions.

The corner was so far from the exit that it would take at least five minutes to speed walk from there and leave the parking lot.

When Javier asked Jade why they had driven here, the latter got up abruptly to pounce on him in his seat. She then yanked their suits so messily off that she even pulled their undergarments off.

“Darling! Darling! Darling!”

Without another word, Jade kept moaning for Javier and...

From the outside, it looked like the G63 kept shaking. Its absorbers seemed decent. It was just that the noises emitted from the inside were uh-not quite appropriate for children to hear...

Javier had known. This was what Jade had been thinking about when she had asked him to drive to the underground parking lot for no reason. It seemed that she was quite deprived, as they came back at around nine but only went up at around ten.

By then, Jade looked radiant, feeling blissful both mentally and physically. She went to the bathroom to take a shower upon returning, while Javier went to see Ingrid

“Ing, the holidays are coming up in a few days. Where are you spending them?”

Javier honestly had no idea if Ingrid still had family and had somehow always overlooked this.

“Here, I guess. I don’t have anyone at home now and I’m your and Jade’s housekeeper for the time being. Of course I’ll be watching the house for you two,” Ingrid replied.

Understanding Ingrid’s situation, Javier invited her to go back and spend the holidays with them. He thought that Ingrid would agree. After all, she was alone, and it would make no difference no matter where she spent the holidays. It would be better if she went back with him.

Despite that, Ingrid refused, not wanting to spend the holidays on the island.

This made Javier curious. “Why? Everyone will be together on the island. That’d be nice.”

Ingrid shook her head. “I’ll pass. I need to stay home and watch the house for you.”

Javier could more or less understand what Ingrid meant by watching the house. She was worried that someone would break in and install a tapping device or do something that would invade his and Jade’s safety and privacy.

Nevertheless, Ingrid would not act so alert out of the blue. When Javier asked again, she answered, “I can’t be sure. I saw someone lingering downstairs this afternoon with eyes on our block. I’m not sure which unit he was looking at, but it’s possible it was ours.”

Chapter 235 An Immense Honor

“Keep an eye out then. Better safe than sorry.”

Javier furrowed his brows, not knowing if the person Ingrid had mentioned was targeting him. If that was the case, who had sent the person?

The question remained unanswered. Of course, it was unanswered because Ingrid could not catch that person. The latter had only been roaming below their building. There was no reason for Ingrid to seize them, so this could only remain a mystery for now.

Ultimately, Javier invited Ingrid to the island repeatedly, stating that they could get someone to check their place in detail when they returned, but the woman still rejected him.

Seeing that she was firm about her decision, Javier said no more.

“Ing, I have nothing else to say. Just let me know if there’s anything I can help with.”

Ingrid spoke up lecherously. “I think there’s something you’d definitely be able to help with.” Javier waved his hands swiftly. “Uh, Ing, I have something to do. I’ll be heading upstairs!” Ingrid chuckled She was just joking. She had always considered Javier her little brother. How could she think of him like that? Besides, if she did have that urge, she just had to grab him forcefully. There had yet to be a man she had failed to have once she had set her eyes on him....

Returning to the bedroom, Javier waited for Jade, who was done showering. The two of them made out for a bit before Javier told Jade about going home for the holidays. She had been quite happy but she turned hesitant when that was mentioned ;

“Darling, maybe I shouldn’t come? It’s not quite appropriate for me to spend the holidays with you before we confirm our relationship.”

Javier understood what Jade meant. She was worried that his family was too large and well off and she would not deserve him. Aside from not being his match, she might also be worried about being despised and looked down on by other members of his family

Enveloping Jade in his arms, Javier coaxed her. “How’s that possible? It’s nothing like that. I’m here. No one can bully you with me around You’re my woman. Besides, you need to get to know my family. Grandpa likes you a lot too.”

Javier’s comforting and coaxing, especially when he called her his woman, gave Jade plenty of courage. She had figured it out by now. As long as Javier was by her side, no problem was a problem at all. She nodded then, snuggling into Javier’s embrace like a bird back in her nest.

Only by Javier’s side did Jade feel the greatest warmth and sense of security...

As the days passed, they drew closer to the new year. The company had gone on a holiday break, but even before that, Javier had asked Lloyd and his girlfriend, Carmen, to come around.

Lloyd did not quite get why Javier would summon them and protested on the phone. “I’m going on an overseas vacation with my girlfriend!”

Javier replied, “Oh, that’s a good choice. Enjoy your holiday. Right, if you come back and realize that your position as general manager is gone, don’t come to me. You might have taken it with you on your trip abroad. Perhaps it didn’t want to come back.”

Lloyd protested even harder, “You’re threatening me. It’s the holidays, and you’re not giving me a break. This is exploitation!”

Javier thought about it and answered seriously, "You're right."

He admitted it, indirectly meaning, "I'm exploiting you, so don't come over if you can!"

Could Lloyd do that? He could, he definitely could, but he dared not. He was truly scared that his precious position as general manager would go on vacation with him and stay out there forever.

Therefore, he could only give in to the threat and come over with Carmen in a huff. It had to be mentioned that Carmen was a pretty girl who looked clean and graceful.

That said, Javier was not that interested in his friends' women. He was able to stay in line under most circumstances. What had happened with Dana had been unexpected. He thought that a favor was a favor and he ought to help if he could...

Lloyd was not the only one Javier had threatened-he had threatened Chad too. The latter pulled a long, bitter grimace.

"Mr. Kersey, I haven't seen my wife and kid for almost half a year. Let me go back and spend the holidays with them! I called my kid previously, and you know what he asked his mother? He said, 'Mommy, who's this uncle?'"

"That's my biological son, Mr. Kersey. There's only one new year's day in 365 days. Please, let me and my family reunite!"

Javier answered, "Sure, have them fly over."

Chad was speechless. This was not the reunion he wanted-he wanted to go home, Javier did not allow it, though. "Either fly them here for the holidays or buy a one-way ticket back."

A one-way ticket naturally meant that Chad would not have to come back anymore once he went home, but what had Chad been dreaming of? He just wanted the McCools to be able to rely on a gigantic tree like the Kerseys. If he went back with a one-way ticket now, the biggest wish in his life would be shattered.

Helpless, Chad could only give in to the threat and fly his wife and son over. When he saw that Mary Jane did not get to leave either, though, he was instantly soothed.

"Heh, Ms. Gould, Mr. Kersey's detaining you here for work too?"

Chad felt much better when he opened the door and saw Mary Jane watching her drama series in the office. However, the latter was looking at him as though she was looking at a fool.

"Are you really dumb, or are you faking it? Detaining me for work? Javier's giving you a year-end bonus! You look quite smart usually. Why are you so silly right now?"

Mary Jane muttered before going back to her series.

Chad froze. He was so impatient to get home that he had completely overlooked this. Now that Mary Jane had pointed it out loud, his mind cleared up and thrill colored his face.

"Mr. Kersey is getting us prepared to go home for the holidays?!"

“Duh. Why else would he make you fly your wife and kid over for the holidays? Does he have that much time?”

Mary Jane’s confirmation only made Chad get even more excited. He was already in his forties but he skipped around in the office like a child, even flailing his fists and punching the air just to vent the indescribable ecstasy he felt.

He was finally recognized by Javier. The latter had finally recognized him as a follower. This would be Chad’s first time stepping on the Kerseys’ territory.

Anyone who could set foot there was either wealthy or noble. There were plenty of absolute big shots who did not even qualify to go there.

He had no intention of sounding like a loser, but Chad felt that being able to set foot in the Kerseys’ territory itself was an immense honor!

Chapter 236 An Eye-opener

After Javier pondered it for a while, he decided to grant Luca that honor.

“Hurry up and get your *ss over here right now! Bring whoever you wish.”

Luca was not Chad, so he was in no position to negotiate with Javier.

If Javier had not taken into consideration that Luca had tried to gain his favor and how much effort Luca’s father had put into Xerxes Village, Javier probably would not have made that phone call.

Thus, the moment Luca received that phone call, he took Edelgard with him and rushed over there.

“Did you want to see me about something, Javier?”

Javier patted his shoulder. “It’s something so good that even your old man will yearn for it.”

Aside from Luca, Edelgard, Lloyd, Carmen, Mary Jane, Chad, and his family, Javier even brought Sam with him.

Sam did not even need to be called. He went up to Javier, saying that he was single and he wanted to share a meal with Javier.

Since Sam had been recently helping Javier with his work, of course the latter would allow him to join him.

Hence, Javier brought Jade along, and they all headed to the airport at 6 am.

Lloyd was rendered completely speechless. “Where are you taking us, Mr. Kersey? You really do have your way of doing things. You even managed to get us on a flight today.”

Javier replied, “Would you like to rent a helicopter and fly by yourself there while the rest of us sit on the plane instead?”

Lloyd almost choked to death and decided not to say anything at all. ‘Fine, take us wherever you want to then. I’ve got Carmen to accompany me anyway, so it doesn’t make a difference.’

Meanwhile, Sam somehow managed to get them all on a bus, which was quite cool.

The large bus then parked outside the airport. Javier and the rest got out and headed inside the airport lounge.

Although it was the day before the festival, there was still quite a number of people rushing around, eagerly waiting to get home to meet their families.

Of course, Javier was no exception. However, what made Javier different from the rest was the fact that he and his group did not need to go through customs.

Meanwhile, Sam was still asking where their flight tickets were, Herschel was mumbling that he had forgotten to put his knife in his checked luggage, while Lloyd was looking around for a lighter.

However, they were all shocked to see that Javier was not going through the passage that led to the customs check. Instead, he was using a special boarding passage.

All he needed to do was scan his cell phone and he brought his entire group of people inside with him.

Herschel was holding his knife in his hand as he asked the security personnel, "Um...Could you help me deliver this by courier?"

The security personnel replied, "You may bring that with you on your flight, sir."

Herschel was shocked!

I've been on many countries' planes before, and our country has the strictest procedures with the highest number of safety checks.

'But... No matter how flexible these security checks are, I've never come across one that will allow passengers to bring knives onto the plane, have I?

Herschel initially thought that the security personnel was playing a prank on him, but Javier ended up dragging him inside. "What are you doing there? Why are you standing there like an idiot? He already allowed you to bring it with you. Why would he be afraid of you hijacking the plane?"

Herschel thought about it. "You're right, I wouldn't need a knife with me if I wanted to hijack a plane. It wouldn't make a difference anyway."

Javier impatiently scolded Herschel, saying, "Would you even know how to pilot a plane once you hijacked it?"

After dragging Herschel inside, Javier brought the group to a car that transported them directly to the plane.

All of them had been on flights before, but they had never come across one with such unique procedures.

They did not need to have their tickets checked, they did not need to go through security, customs, or even wait for their plane to begin boarding. Instead, they felt as though they were returning to their own homes, and all they needed was a keycard to open the door.

It was not until they boarded the plane and saw the luxurious interior that they instantly realized in shock...

“Holy sh*t, your family owns a private jet?!”

Javier nodded. “Yes, we do. This one is a medium-sized jet, as this airport can’t handle the large one we have.”

The entire group was speechless. ‘He’s not flaunting his riches. No, he isn’t...His family owns two private jets, one bigger than the other...’

Aside from Mary Jane, none of them knew just how wealthy Javier’s family was.

Of course, even Mary Jane herself had never been on this medium-sized private jet before, so one could also say she had her eyes opened that day.

Javier then pointed at the bottles of red wine, the food, the cigarettes, and the cigars on the counter and said, “Go ahead, help yourselves.”

Everyone was overjoyed! Although Herschel knew that Javier was from a wealthy family, he only knew that he was special. He had no idea just how special Javier was. Thus, his eyes were now wide open ‘Oh my God...This is awesome!’

Meanwhile, Lloyd admired Javier to no end. He knew that Javier was rich, much richer than he was. However, he had never thought that Javier would end up springing surprise after surprise on him that day, nor did he even dare to imagine any more than that.

Seeing the group’s shocked and envious expressions, Jade wrapped her arms around Javier even tighter. Then, she excitedly whispered to him, “That’s my man!”

Jade sounded as though she was declaring her ownership over Javier, sounding very happy about it, in fact.

However, she felt slightly worried later on.

‘Javier’s family is so wealthy...I wonder if I’m even worthy of him at this rate!’

Javier could tell what was going on in Jade’s mind, so he said, “What’s mine is yours. I’m the king, and you’re my queen.”

Jade felt especially happy at that moment, and that little bit of concern in her mind was dispelled entirely in an instant. “Okay, I’ll be your queen forever...”

The plane then flew through country after country, with a brand-new convoy accompanying it whenever they arrived at a new country.

‘Awesome!’ At first, when Lloyd had entered the private jet, he had been wondering whether he could possibly buy one for himself. However, there were many departments he would have to work with, and it would not be that convenient to fly at the end of the day.

However, he still had the courage to think about owning a private jet...until he saw the fighter jets accompanying Javier's plane. Then, all those thoughts instantly disappeared, as he did not even dare imagine receiving such treatment for the rest of his life.

'I really shouldn't try and compare myself to him. I'm only going to end up feeling even more depressed about my situation...'

At that point, Lloyd felt that if he were to compare himself to Javier, he would not even be worthy of dying...

Finally, their plane landed at its destination that afternoon.

Everyone was in a pretty decent mood when they saw the sea that spread across the horizon and the lush greenery.

"So this is where you live... This looks great, and you have an endless sea view to enjoy every time you leave your house."

Edelgard could not help exclaiming in surprise, while Mary Jane suddenly said, "He doesn't live here. His house is in the sea."

Edelgard was slightly stunned, failing to apprehend what Mary Jane had just said.

It was not until two heavy-duty helicopters arrived on the square that everyone understood what she had meant...

This was especially true when they all landed on the island, which left them all dumbfounded.

Mary Jane then explained, This is Lustmord, an island spanning more than 2.2 million square feet. This is Javier's home."

The group was shocked! They had originally thought that it was rather decent to have a humongous mansion by the sea.

However, they now realized their poverty had limited their imagination...

'Javier's house is actually on an island, and this entire island belongs to his family!

In fact, when they landed, Lloyd and Herschel even noticed that there were private firearms on the island, including an anti-aircraft vehicle with rocket launchers installed in it.

Herschel was so shocked that he was almost in tears. "Mr. Kersey, is this a house or an entire country? How is it that you even have an anti-aircraft vehicle here?!"

Javier was introducing to Jade the scenery on the island at that moment, so he was not paying attention to Herschel at all. Instead, he perfunctorily explained, "We bought it to play with it."

"He bought an anti-aircraft vehicle to play...'

If anyone else had said that, Herschel would definitely have thought that they were just bluffing.

CULTATET

However, since it had come from Javier's mouth, none of them thought that he was kidding.

Lloyd said in his unique accent, "You're seriously awesome..."

Chapter 237 Nobody Else Is Worthy

After the helicopters landed on the island, two luxurious Rolls Royce limousines drove over to welcome them.

The first driver who arrived seemed to be a little unskilled and even ended up parking the car at a crooked angle.

However, when the limousine's door opened, everyone's eyes sparkled, especially the eyes of Edelgard and Jade, the two beauties. When they saw the person who got out of the car, they somehow felt threatened, although not with ill intent. Instead, they felt like their beauty was severely challenged at that moment.

Then, the beautiful woman who got out of the car ran over and threw herself into Javier's arms like a fragrant gust of wind.

"Javier, you're back!"

Javier stroked Ciara's head and then told her, "Mary Jane's here, so behave yourself."

Ciara giggled happily and stood before Mary Jane. Then, she wrapped her arms around Mary Jane's neck and kissed her, leaving behind a pink lipstick stain. "I missed you, Aunt MJ. I've been dreaming about you every night. In fact, I always wake up with tears in my eyes every morning. "When will you ever come back, Aunt MJ? I've been gazing at the stars and the moon, and I finally managed to wait for your return!"

Mary Jane was rendered speechless by all the flattery Ciara had just spewed. "You and your sweet words. You're the one who chased me away previously, and now you're crying about how much you miss me. In the end, you leaped into your brother's arms the moment you saw him and ignored little old me completely."

"Aww, when have I ever done that..."

Mary Jane hurriedly waved her hand when she noticed that Ciara was about to go on another coquettish bout. "Alright, alright, you win. There are so many people here, you know?!"

Ciara finally greeted everyone with a huge smile before standing before Edelgard and Jade.

After looking for a while, Ciara wrapped her arms around Jade's. "You must be my sister-in-law! Javier's told me so much about you. He said you're both beautiful and intelligent, as well as a huge help to him at work."

Jade smiled and said, "I'm not that great. However, your brother has also mentioned you to me frequently. He's been saying how beautiful you are. Probably the most beautiful woman in the world. He also told me that you're a very good girl who's always been helping him behind the scenes."

Obviously, there was no way Javier would have told Jade that Ciara was the most beautiful woman in the world, so Jade had clearly added that part of her own accord.

Ciara could tell as much as well, but she was pretty happy anyway, not because of how polite that sounded, but because of Jade's E

Q.

Actually, she had already known about Jade's existence long ago. Although she was slightly unhappy about her existence, there was nothing she could do about it.

Ciara knew that she was still Javier's little sister in the end and she would never be suitable to be his official wife even if her secret did get exposed.

Thus...she still felt very happy to be a concubine with a queen with a high EQ.

Then, both of them happily rushed into the limousine hand in hand.

Meanwhile, Edelgard felt slightly embarrassed, as she could not figure out how Ciara had been able to tell who Javier's woman was between the two of them.

'Is it because of my looks? Do I look that much uglier compared to Jade....

As they sat in the Rolls Royce, the group admired the view on the island, while Lloyd was still genuinely shocked deep inside.

He grabbed his girlfriend's hand and whispered, "If I'd known Javier was this awesome, I wouldn't have fought with him in the first place! I thought he was someone on the same level as me and I could train myself to beat him, but it turns out I was the one being played..."

That was the first time Carmen saw Lloyd feeling dejected, so she consoled him and said, "It's alright, you're decent enough the way you are. The fact that you obtained his recognition and you're his friend is proof of that. Otherwise, he wouldn't have invited you here to spend the holidays with him, right?"

"I mean... I wouldn't invite someone other than my friends to my home."

Lloyd thought that Carmen's words made sense.

With that thought in mind, Lloyd felt a little better.

Meanwhile, in the other car, Luca and Edelgard were softly exclaiming. "Thank goodness my old man's intelligent. Javier's freaking awesome!"

Luca was still exclaiming, but Edelgard did not say anything. In fact, she was ignoring everything he had just said.

No matter how non-materialistic Edelgard was, she could not help but feel slightly sour about the fact that the woman next to Javier was Jade and not Edelgard herself. Initially, if she had wanted, she would have been able to enjoy this glory as well...

When the cars arrived at the mansion, the group rested for a moment before they took a stroll around Javier's extremely luxurious mansion

When Herschel and his trio heard that Mackenzie was on the island, they immediately rushed off to meet with their boss, while Sam hurried behind them as well.

Although Sam and Chad knew each other, they were not in the same group. Sam and Herschel were rougher people, which was why the three of them headed out to meet Mackenzie.

Meanwhile, Javier led the group over to meet the old fox in his huge tiled house.

At that moment, Zephiel was lying on his rocking chair, leisurely smoking his jade pipe. Surprisingly, Zephiel had more of the exact same jade pipe, as Javier had already broken two of them. Thus, one could not help but wonder exactly how many pipes of the same design the old fox had... However, just as Zephiel had once said, so long as one's status was there, it did not matter what they were holding because it would instantly become genuine.

Thus, whether the pipe was genuine or fake meant nothing to Zephiel at that point.

When he saw Javier return, there was a kind smile on Zephiel's face.

Javier brought Jade with him to greet the old fox first, and the latter nodded his head in satisfaction. "Come, have a seat!"

The group then sat on smaller chairs, like kindergarteners waiting to be taught by their teacher.

Zephiel did not recognize some of the children present, so Javier introduced them all one by one.

Zephiel then nodded his head and asked Chad to bring his son over. After saying that, Zephiel very kindly asked some questions in a very friendly manner, like how old he was and whatnot.

Chad's son got close to the old fox very quickly, calling him Grandpa in a very sweet voice that was filled with naivete. The old fox instantly felt happy.

"Good, good. I'm sure that anyone Javier brings over is a good kid."

were all referred to as kids.

However, in Zephiel's eyes, it was true that they were kids, so they all had no choice but to smile willingly.

When Javier introduced Lloyd, Zephiel smiled and said, "Lloyd Young... Your grandfather's name is Leonard, isn't it?"

Lloyd was stunned. "Do you know my grandfather?"

Zephiel replied, "A very long time ago, he and I were in business together. Your father wasn't even born at the time!" 'He even knows my late grandfather? This is unbelievable...'

However, Lloyd then thought of something and said, "I remember Grandpa once telling me when I was younger that we have someone we owe for the prosperity of our family business today. However, he ended up parting ways with that person because of a small trifle about their business

"Later on, Grandpa did tell me that he regretted adamantly making the wrong decision in the end because he had failed to listen to that man's advice...Was my grandfather referring to you?"

Zephiel waved his hand with a smile. "There's no such thing as a wrong decision. In business, there's no such thing as right or wrong so long as money is made."

Zephiel had undoubtedly acknowledged that he was the man Leonard had been talking about, which was why Lloyd suddenly stood up and bowed before Zephiel.

"Mr. Kersey, my grandfather left me a message saying that he was extremely sorry he betrayed the trust this friend had placed in

him. Even before he passed, he still felt quite regretful about this, so I'd like to apologize to you on his behalf today."

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"Raise your head. It's not as serious as you think." After asking Lloyd to raise his head, Zephiel did not mention another word about the past. When Javier introduced Luca, Zephiel nodded his head and thought that the latter was a good boy as well. However, he did not say anything else, which was actually very normal. Forget Luca Even his old man would not have the honor of being there that day.

Chapter 238 A Peaceful Reunion Amongst Brothers

Dinner that night was split into two tables.

One table was in the main banquet hall, which was very luxurious.

The people over there were rich and powerful people who knew a lot about what was happening to the world.

However, these people very soon realized that they had never seen the various dishes being served to them on the large table.

After asking Ciara, they found out that all of the dishes there were brand-new dishes made by expert chefs and nutritionists.

Meanwhile, the other table was in the Kerseys' ancestral hall on the island.

Only the Kersey men were allowed to dine at this table. When Javier was younger, there had been a lot more men. There had been seven altogether, consisting of the old fox, Javier's father, his two brothers, Javier, and his two brothers.

However, there were fewer and fewer people dining at that table now... That very night, only Zephiel, Arthur, William, and Javier were present.

After they paid their respects to their ancestors, Zephiel mocked himself and said, "I suppose I've done pretty well for myself since I'm able to bring my sons and grandsons here to play Spades."

However, there were no playing cards in sight, only the food on the table. Everyone present knew that Zephiel was lamenting about the fact that there were so few males left in the family. After all, it was rather pitiful to see that the huge family that used to consist of three generations only had enough people to play Spades now, a card game that required at least four players to play it.

William hurriedly said, "Don't worry, Grandpa. I'll work hard when I get back tonight so that you'll have a grandson by next year."

Zephiel chuckled as he nodded. "Good, good. How about you go back and work hard now then? You should seize the opportunity."

William laughed out loud. "Of course not! Javier's finally come home after such a long time, so we should get together and catch up!"

William then wrapped his arm around Javier's shoulders and warmly said, "Isn't that right, Javier?"

Javier had an even brighter smile on his face. "You're absolutely right, William! Let's drink until we both drop dead tonight!"

William laughed out loud and agreed to the suggestion, making it seem as though the siblings were very close to one another.

However, it was a completely different story behind the scenes. Forget Javier and William. Even Zephiel and Arthur were at odds with one another.

However, neither one of them was going to bring up a word about it during dinner that night.

No matter how ugly the situation was, it was still disguised by a huge facade called peace, and it would not be good for either party should the facade end up being broken.

When Zephiel raised his glass, the three others raised theirs and downed their drinks, bottoms up.

After wishing one another well for the rest of the year and expressing their hope that the family remained harmonious, Zephiel invited everyone to begin eating.

Throughout the entire ordeal, Arthur's face was pulled, as he was obviously very unhappy about something.

It seemed as if he was thinking about his wife and son, but nobody there wanted to mention a word about it.

As for whether Arthur was wondering if Marjorie and Sigmund were dead or alive, or whether he was thinking about something else entirely, no one really knew. After all, neither of them could see through what he was hiding beneath his hypocritical expression.

After dinner was over, it was time for them to be dismissed.

However, before that happened, Zephiel suddenly said, "You three are the only ones left in the Kersey Family now. Naturally, one of you three will take over the duties of the family head."

Javier raised his hand at that point, seeming exactly like a kindergartener who wanted to ask a question. However, he ended up causing William's expression to change immediately.

'Come on, you don't have to be so obvious about competing for that role, do you?' However, what Javier said next exceeded his expectations completely.

“I’m not capable enough and I’m a poor judge of character, so I’m going to give up trying to take over the family. I’d much rather live my life as a rich and free man.”

William was slightly stunned, but he very quickly smiled and said, “You’ve had too much to drink, Javier. How could you possibly say something that belittles you? Where is your fighting spirit?”

Javier had a serious expression as he answered, “I’m serious. Just running my company alone is extremely tiring. Plus, I’m not family head material, so I should leave that role to someone more capable while I enjoy my life in riches.”

William was feeling more and more overjoyed, as Zephiel would definitely despise such a useless man.

As he was filled with glee, Arthur suddenly said in a muffled voice, “I’m not going to compete for it either. Someone else can take over for all I care.”

‘What’s with all these sudden declarations?! It’s like Christmas arrived early! This is the best Christmas present I’ve ever received!’

William hurriedly put on an act. “Uncle Arthur, Javier, what are you two saying? We’re a family, so it’s our duty as members of the Kersey Family to do our duty and handle our responsibilities. We should all help bring our family glory, no matter how tough and arduous our future is!

“Grandpa’s getting very old now, so you two are really setting a very bad example for yourselves by only wanting to live your lives in luxury rather than sharing the burden.”

At that moment, William perfectly enacted how disappointed a person could be in his incompetent family members.

However, his heart was screaming in joy, and he felt as if he had already obtained the family head role.

Just as he was about to say something, Zephiel patted him on the shoulder

“William, my dear boy...you are such a filial man!”

William was extremely elated, but he still seemed otherwise on the outside. “It’s only right that I do such a thing, Grandpa.”

Zephiel nodded his head. “In that case, you should make more effort to try and take over my responsibilities sooner”

Upon hearing that statement, William was overjoyed ‘He literally just made me the Crown Prince, didn’t he?

I’m going to become the next family head for sure!’

William hurriedly said that he was definitely going to make Zephiel proud but also said that it should be part of his duties.

“Alright, go ahead and leave us. Didn’t you say you were going to try your best tonight so that I could get a grandson next year?”

William laughed out loud. "Of course! Don't worry, Grandpa. I'll get right on it!"

Thus, William left joyfully. But Zephiel suddenly called out to him before he reached the entrance.

"William, you should read more about the Romance of the Three Kingdoms."

After saying that, Zephiel added, just to make sure that William understood what he meant, "Specifically, you should read more about the Sima Family."

William nodded his head fervently. "Don't worry, Grandpa, I know what you mean. The Sima Family was a family of outstanding men. One was a superb tactician, while his grandson was an emperor. I'll be sure to learn more about them and bring the Kerseys glory so we can reach greater heights!"

Zephiel then turned around, waving his hand with a bitter smile on his face.

After William left, Arthur got up as well and said in his muffled voice, "I'll be heading back as well, Dad."

Zephiel acknowledged this, and he and Javier were the only ones left behind.

After Javier helped Zephiel roll a cigarette stick, he helped the latter light it up. Then, Zephiel said, "William doesn't understand why I asked him to read up on that family even after I specifically pinpointed it. Sigh!"

Javier lit up his own cigarette and said, "Don't worry, Grandpa. The Battle of the Eight Princes won't come to pass. At the very least, there won't be a bloody battle." –

William thought that Zephiel wanted him to learn how to be as tactful and competent as the likes of Sima Yi, but what he failed to realize was that the old fox wanted peace.

However, Javier could understand what the old fox wanted, and Arthur naturally did as well. However, William, who was so hung up on his glorious days ahead, failed to notice completely. The old fox then said, "He'll never be able to learn how to keep a low profile, so keep your razor-sharp knife concealed."

Javier chuckled and said, "A knife? Me? Please. I'm just a man leading an honest life."

Zephiel coldly sneered, "Would a man leading an honest life fork out money to arm more than 3,000 mercenaries with complete sets of equipment? Would he be in an ambiguous relationship with Angelina from Thalarcsus? You aren't planning on bringing those 3,000 men to this island, are you?"

Chapter 239 Lazy Bums Who Are Meant for Greater Things

The old fox suddenly changed his attitude and seemed very cold, completely different from how kind and loving he had been to William a moment ago.

However, Javier did not seem to be fazed in the slightest. "I already knew what you were thinking about the moment you had Kenzo take over. Frankly, I was indeed planning on having those 3,000 men come to this island. However, I'm not afraid of William. I'm preparing myself to fight Uncle Arthur just in case.

"He's too good at hiding his true intentions. Marjorie and Sigmund are with me right now, and I can very well guess everything that's happened. His ability to endure this humiliation and raise someone else's child for more than 10 years is enough to make him a man dangerous enough that I need to be careful.

"I can leave behind wanting to be the family head or having an even more powerful position, as it's still the same job and authority no matter what you call it. However, I can't leave my grandfather behind. I could refrain from using those 3,000 men. In fact, I hope I don't have to use them at all.

"But if a time comes when I do have to use them, I don't wish to return empty-handed, not even to save my grandfather!"

Zephiel frowned and turned to stare at Javier. "How could you see your uncle like that? He's my son!"

Javier laughed. "Kenzo and I are very close, so you can drop the act. You had him take over the 3,000 men, but you're still feeding them for me, aren't you? If you really are not worried about not being able to control your son, would you leave those men to me?!"

Zephiel looked at Javier for a moment and shook his head silently.

After a full minute of silence, he mumbled, "You little fox."

Javier relentlessly said, "You old fox!"

The two of them glared at one another for a moment before they both laughed at the same time.

Then, Zephiel said, "Actually, I do believe your uncle wouldn't do such a thing. However, since you're trying to be filial to me, I had Kenzo take over those men on your behalf. There are so many men over there and so much equipment involved. Plus, you even got in bed with Angelina.

"If I hadn't had Kenzo take care of them on your behalf, you would've ended up coming into someone's crosshairs soon enough.

Javier, you must remember, in order to win the pot on the table, you must always have a trick up your sleeve rather than relying on your hand. It takes skill not to be caught cheating."

Javier nodded his head "I know. The reason I said all those things openly was only because I wanted them to know that I wasn't interested in being the head of the family in the slightest. However, if any one of them even dares to threaten my loved ones, I'll have them sent to their graves!"

"My goodness, why are you just like your father...Both of you are clearly destined to live and achieve great things, yet you both choose to be lazy bums. You really have taken after his character. Neither of you has been filial to me. My goodness..."

'Judging by what he just said, are Dad and my stepmother still alive?'

Javier hurriedly tried to get more information from his grandfather. "By the way, I've taken over the media industry, and it's now developing steadily. Lloyd and Saoirse are moving pretty steadily, so I'm sure the media market will belong to us soon.

"Since I've done so much...why don't you just tell me what's written on the Osborn Award's butt?"

Javier felt that it was good timing, as he was 30 years old and Zephiel seemed to be in a good mood. 'I should have a chance.

However, to his surprise, the old fox waved his hand without seeming worried at all. "There's no rush."

Thus, Javier's heart, which was filled with hope, instantly shattered to pieces when those three words were uttered so casually.

Javier tried to ask again but ended up being chased away by the old fox...

After leaving Zephiel's side, Javier met up with Jade, Ciara, and the others, who were full and content.

"Stop staring at the night sky already. It's completely black, so there's nothing worth looking at tonight."

Lloyd then asked, "What's worth looking at then? The festival gala?"

Javier pointed at the sky. "I'll take you all to release some fireworks. There's got to be some fireworks to blow up the sky on a night like this!"

Playing with fireworks was nothing new, but since there were so many people present, it seemed like a pretty decent idea.

Apart from that, everyone was thinking that there would probably be hundreds or even thousands of fireworks released at the same time judging by how rich Javier was, which would be a splendid sight to behold.

However, they were all proven wrong... When two Bentleys arrived at the armed camp on the island, Javier looked for the people in charge and gave each one of them a semi-automatic rifle with sufficient ammo.

"You can shoot wherever you want. Just don't aim at anyone. In fact, if you all don't mind walking back, you could shoot those two cars until they blow up."

The crowd was dumbfounded. 'I know you're rich, Javier, but this isn't how you should be squandering your wealth, right? What in the world are you thinking? Why would you ask us to fire away at two Bentleys?

'Don't you think these fireworks are a little too expensive?!'

However, Javier did not mind all that. With Jade's hand in his left hand and Ciara's in his right, the three of them walked over to the anti-aircraft vehicle.

Then, Javier looked at Ciara and asked, "How many missiles have you prepared this year?"

Ciara chuckled sneakily and said, "I spent all the 80,000 dollars you transferred to me, and Angelina's had them all delivered."

Following Ciara's finger, Javier saw a large pile of missiles packed in large boxes, probably around a few hundred boxes of them.

On the other hand, Jade was stunned as she looked at the siblings and asked, "Is this how you all celebrate every new year?"

Ciara shook her head. "Nope!"

Jade heaved a sigh of relief. Thank goodness. Looks like the two of them aren't as terrible around each other as I thought.'

Then, Javier said something that left Jade dumbfounded. “We do this whenever we want regardless of the festival. After all, releasing fireworks isn’t banned here, so nobody’s going to stop us.”

Jade was completely stunned, not knowing what she could say about both Javier and Ciara at that point.

Then, the sound of the semi-automatic rifles being fired could be heard, giving the crowd a great high.

Even Lloyd, who had been somewhat against the idea a moment ago, was extremely overjoyed.

Although there were rifle ranges within the country, the guns they had there were too low-quality, so it would not be fun shooting them.

However, this was much different. The rifles there were shooting actual live rounds, and they could shoot as many as they wanted! 1

Even Edelgard and Carmen each held a rifle in their hands and fired away under someone else’s guidance.

However, Carmen was slightly unlucky, as she completely ignored the semi-automatic rifle’s recoil, causing the rifle to slam against her chest the moment she fired.

She was in so much pain that she threw the gun away and covered her chest with her hand. Meanwhile, Lloyd was heartbroken for her.

While the crowd over there was having fun, Javier was done with his preparations.

After he entered the vehicle and armed the missiles, he pressed the button to fire away.

Immediately, a whole flurry of missiles shot up to the air in an organized manner, as if dozens of meteors were traveling in the sky.

However, in an instant, the missiles exploded and caused thunderous booms to be heard.

The moment they exploded, a huge firework explosion lit up the night sky.

Initially, Jade was frightened by the explosions, but she could not help wanting to look up at the sky at that moment. “It’s beautiful!” It was not just beautiful. There seemed to be countless meteors flying through the sky. In fact, the entire sky seemed to be alight with a wide variety of colors.

In the distance, Lloyd could not focus on being his girlfriend’s cushion for the rifle’s recoil, as he was looking at the sky with a dumbfounded expression.

‘So this is what Javier meant when he said we should “blow up the sky”... *D*mn, he really is going all out!’