

## **BABY MAFIA 131**

### **Chapter 131: "His Name"**

Grandpa Yofan was powerless, but it didn't mean no one could save Elliana. There was still one small variable that everyone ignored at one point.

Ainsley. Ainsley Sloan, the 18'th family head of the Sloan Family.

The only one who could reverse the situation if she woke up and proved to the others that she already bonded with the sacred guardian, even taming him.

But would she wake up in time?

The fourth day, the day Elliana was going to undergo a trial. 8 a.m when the maids had just scrambled to the main mansion to do their work.

Inside a silent, tiny bedroom without people...a baby slowly opened her eyes.

"Mmm..." Ainsley blinked. A groan slipped out of her mouth. Her eyesight was still blurry. Her mind was still cloudy, as if everything she just experienced was a dream.

Strangely, her body was light. Her heart...was also as light as her body. It was so refreshing. Feels like someone cleansed her heart, cleaned her doubts and negativity.

What's going on, though? She had no answer to that.

Ainsley blinked once more. Her butterfly-like eyelashes fluttered lightly as her creamy ceiling came into view.

...I am back?

The baby blinked for the third time. She lifted her right arm, trying to rub her eyes, but it surprisingly fell back to the crib.

Plop.

Her arm didn't have any energy whatsoever, leaving the baby dumbfounded.

Since when she was this weak? Surely it's not because of a chronic illness, right? She just had her soul entering Code-C's memories...right, wait.

Ainsley paused. She squinted her eyes as she silently looked at the ceiling.

'How long has it been since I entered Code-C's memory?'

Ainsley pondered. She truly didn't know how much time passed when she was inside Code-C's sea of memories.

Has it been a few minutes? An hour? A few hours? A day? Or maybe...a few days?

At the thought of remaining unconscious for a few days, Ainsley laughed bitterly and shook her head.

Ey, that's impossible. Maybe it has only been a few hours...

The baby thought she would die of hunger if she remained without a soul for a few days. Her body would rot without a soul, right?

Little did she know that a certain fairy of time kept her body fresh. It's just that...he didn't bother to control the time in the Sloan Family's main mansion, letting the chaos to happen.

It's not like he wanted to watch a drama...but well, it's nice to set up a stage for his best friend's lover to prove herself, right?

Not knowing a certain fairy of time's thoughts, Ainsley tried to lift her arm once more. This time, she did it. Her arm didn't fall back listlessly to the crib. The next thing she knew, she could also move her body parts.

Head. Neck. Arms. Waist. Legs.

In no time, Ainsley regained her sense of touch, and her special abilities also poured back into her body. In other words, it seemed that when her soul left her body, her abilities also followed her soul.

So...the keen hearing ability..was it her ability or this body's ability? Maybe it was this body's ability since a keen hearing was related to physical ability, a concrete one.

Either way, Ainsley didn't have time to ponder about her abilities. The baby hurriedly moved her limbs, and after she could control them well just like usual, only then she rose from the crib.

"Hwaaaa..." the baby yawned and stretched like a lazy cat. A teardrop gathered at the edge of her blue eyes, looking similar to a crystalized ore. Wait. Speaking of a cat...

Ainsley abruptly turned her head around and her eyes immediately caught sight of a furry cat stretching its body. When he stretched, he looked like a high heel...but with fur.

"Hmm, Cwode-C?" Ainsley carefully called out to her future partner. It was rare for her to be this cautious...of course she would. She just experienced Code-C's life...how could she not feel a bit guilty?

It's as if she peeked into the deepest part of this sacred guardian, striping him naked. She felt guilty, but at the same time, she was glad. She was glad that she could understand Code-C and even carried his dream with her.

And now, it's time to fulfil this furry friend's wish.

"Awoooo." Code-C replied with his unique meowing sound. The cat's black eyes twinkled as he swayed his fountain-like tail, brushing it against the baby's face.

Swish. Swish.

Purrrr. Purrrr.

Ah, the cat was going to act spoiled again.

Ainsley rolled her eyes but somehow, her lips didn't curl into a disdainful sneer. She tugged the corner of her lips into an innocent smile.

"Hehehe, Cwode-C...now Ain ish fwully bwonded with ywou! (Now Ain is fully bonded with you!)" The baby exclaimed with an excitement in her voice.

Indeed, she could feel the invisible bond between her heart and this cat's heart.

Ba-thump. Ba-thump.

The sound of her heart beating was in sync with the cat's heartbeat.

At that moment, Ainsley's chest felt warm. She could feel a string of thread seeping out of her chest and slowly penetrated Code-C's heart.

She successfully created her bond. The foundation to tame the cat. But of course, this wouldn't be enough. Before she used her power of luck and charm to trigger Code-C's bloodline...

She had to name him, right?

The baby broke into a grin. She rubbed her tiny palm against Code-C's face and softly muttered.

"Youl nwame...ish nwot Cwode-C. (Your name...is not Code-C.)" Ainsley brushed her fingers among the cat's thick fur.

"Youl nwame shall bwe...(your name shall be...)" The baby inhaled.

"Cwellino. (Cellino)."

### **Chapter 132: "Miss Me?"**

Once Code-C received his name, his eyes widened in shock. His cute mouth suddenly dropped open, and his furry fur shook like mad.

Ce...Cellino?

The sacred guardian shuddered.

That name...how could he not know the meaning behind it? It's not such a simple name that one thought on the spot.

Cellino. A name derived from Marcellino.

This name means "consecrated to the God Mars, God of war, dedicated to Mars".

The name 'Marcellino' was derived from the Latin praenomen "Marcus" originated from "Mars", the Roman God of war.

In other words, the meaning behind his name was...

The God Of War!

For such a weak sacred guardian who hadn't truly become one suddenly getting a name with imposing meaning...

How could Cellino not shed tears? The importance of a name for a sacred guardian like him was no less important than triggering their bloodline.

Following the meaning of their name, their power would also match the name they were bestowed with!

However, naming a sacred guardian wasn't as easy as it seemed.

If the one giving the name didn't believe in the meaning behind the name or didn't think it's suitable for the sacred guardian, that name would be useless for the sacred guardian.

They could choose to reject the name that didn't reflect the owner's faith in them or didn't portray the owner's trust and thoughts.

The sacred guardian would feel it when the name they got didn't represent their owner's state of mind. So, even if their owner gave them an imposing name, if the owner didn't believe it, it would be useless.

However, that's not the case with Ainsley. Cellino could clearly feel the pure trust and thoughts behind the naming he just got.

This baby...truly meant it when she gave the name 'The God Of War' for him. She...believed that he could reach that state one day, becoming the true God of War.

Even though he was still weak...even though there's no guarantee that the baby could successfully trigger his bloodline and made him into a true sacred guardian...

She still bestowed him such a precious name.

Cellino. The Roman's God Of War.

That would be his future from now on and the hope his owner placed on him.

He would be the true God of War to deserve such a name.

"Awooo..." Cellino meowed weakly as tears trickled down his cheeks. The tiny cat wobbled to snuggle into Ainsley's embrace. His black eyes were wet from tears, and his beautiful fur wasn't spared either.

But he didn't heed it. Drop after drop of tears kept pouring out of his bead-like eyes. As the tears dripped down, the cat opened his mouth once more.

"Awoooo..." the cat couldn't speak just yet because he wasn't officially Ainsley's tamed beast. He still couldn't turn into a sacred beast, so all he could do was to meow with all of this heart.

However, his heart-wrenching meowing sound conveyed many words he couldn't directly say.

"Awooo!"

Thank you.

Thank you for giving me such a precious name which you believe in the meaning behind it.

Thank you for taking me out of the prairie.

Thank you for never giving up on me.

Thank you for your efforts to bond with this stubborn me.

Thank you for choosing me to be the first scared guardian that will bond a contract with you.

Thank you...for all the things you did for me in less than a month.

What you did for me in less than a month had succeeded what others gave me for years of my life.

Once again...

"Awooo..." Cellino weakly meowed, but his tone got higher and higher, expressing his genuine excitement.

Thank you.

Not knowing Cellino's thoughts behind those meowing, Ainsley took it as Cellino liking the name she gave him.

"Hehehe. Cwel!" The baby giggled as she called out to the sacred guardian.

After she bestowed him a name, the two of them formed a bond so strong that this time, Ainsley was sure she could trigger Cellino's bloodline and made a contract with him.

She just needed to do it now, or anytime!

Excitement bubbled inside Ainsley's heart. A smile slowly spread throughout her weary face. The baby cast a gentle look at Cellino, who was busy fawning her.

Finally...I did it.

Ainsley clenched her fists. Pure pearls of laughter escaped her lips.

I did it!

The baby almost jumped and rolled on the floor to express her emotion. Indeed, she was that excited. A dam of happiness just broke and gushed to all parts of her body.

It was something marvellous. Not only did she feel happy because she got Cellino's assistance, she was also happy because she could help this friend of hers.

After she triggered Cellino's bloodline, the cat would regain his self-esteem as a genuine sacred guardian. With her as his master, she wouldn't let anyone wronged Cellino!

"Heheh. Hehehehehe." Ainsley giggled once more, and her laughter somehow sounded ominous. Even Cellino couldn't help but shiver from the evil laughter.

Master, you sounded so vicious! What kind of sinister plan are you planning to do?

Alas, amid her evil laughter, a calm voice sounded in the room.

"Are you in a good mood, Ain? Until you forgot your friend for four days straight..." The sound belonged to a young boy with a childish voice, but his tone was so calm that he sounded like an adult using a boy's voice.

Ainsley couldn't help but stiffened. Such a bizarre speech...it would only belong to the shameless fairy...

Finnie!

Ainsley hurriedly turned her head around and saw the boy floating inside the room, near the window. A wide grin swept his face.

"Hey? Miss me?"

### **Chapter 133: "Sentenced As A Sinner"**

The moment Finley opened his mouth, Ainsley already had the urge to slap his face.

Miss you? your a\*s! Since when you become so cheeky? Aren't you a shy, timid fairy?

Ainsley rolled her eyes in disdain. The longer she got in touch with Finnie, the more she discovered the fairy's true nature.

Finnie was not shy or timid. He's actually a two-faced, shameless fellow!

Ainsley clicked her tongue and crossed her arms in front of her chest.

"Yesh, Ain mish ywou! (Yes, Ain miss you!)" The baby lied without batting an eyelid. Of course, there's no smile or joy on her face. She put on a deadpan expression instead.

Finley's lips twitched at such a cold response.

C'mon, can't you at least put effort into your lie? Your beloved best friend is doing so much for you, yet you give him the cold shoulder!

Finley shook his head and sighed. "Okay, okay, I won't tease you. Anyway, have you formed a bond with Code-C?" The fairy leapt to the ground, and the wind around him vanished without a trace.

Chronos was also not there around him since the tiny fairy decided to hide inside the boy's chest pocket. With that, he could peek at Ainsley from a close distance.

Indeed, the baby was abnormally cute...she even subconsciously used her charm ability against everyone. Even a fairy like him was slightly charmed.

What a talent!

Hearing Fin's question, Ainsley's eyebrows shot up. "Nwot Code-C. Cwellino! (Not code-C. Cellino!)" The baby corrected Finley before running her fingers across the cat's head.

"Yesh, Ain dwid ith! (Yes, Ain did it!)" Ainsley nodded, affirming Finley's guess.

In that instant, Finley's eyes lit up. "That's good! Congrats~ with this, you only need to use your charm and luck ability to trigger this fellow's bloodline."

The boy couldn't help but chuckle.

"You can then directly form a contract with Cellino. I should congratulate you in advance." The boy cupped his palms together and laughed brightly.

When he laughed like that, he truly resembled an 8-year-old boy...

"Your four days of effort isn't wasted." Fin added.

Receiving a bunch of praises from the boy, Ainsley grinned as she lifted her head proudly like a peacock.

"Hwum! Twank yyou!" The baby didn't hesitate to thank Finley as she approached him. Thanks to this boy, she managed to understand Cellino's heart, thus, earning his trust.

With that, she only needed one last step to completely tame Cellino. And this step also had a high chance to succeed.

Thinking that she would get a sacred guardian as her companion soon, Ainsley became agitated. She couldn't wait to tell Grandpa Yofan and Elliana, but then, she suddenly paused.

...wait. Wait. If I don't remember it wrong...did Fin just say...four days of effort?

The baby squinted her eyes. She stopped talking for a second before looking at Finley with a grave face.

"Fwin. How mmany days Ain spwent inside Cwel's memolies? (How many days Ain spent inside Cel's memories?)" Ainsley trotted to Finley's place and looked up at the boy.

Somehow, she got an ominous feeling...

Facing the question, Finley only tilted his head. With a nonchalant attitude, the boy caressed his chin before opening his mouth.

"Oh...you have been inside Cellino's memories for four days! This is the fourth day already." Finley waved his hand, taking his words lightly.

However, his words sounded like a thunderstorm to the baby.

Boom!

Ainsley's mind exploded. The baby widened her eyes until her pupil almost jumped out.

"Foul...dways...?" Ainsley gaped. Her body trembled from head to toe.

Four days! I'm asleep for four days! Wait. Not asleep. Maybe I lost consciousness, or maybe I lost my heartbeat, looking like a dead person...

Ainsley was thrown into disarray. She hurriedly asked Finley what happened for the past four days. She didn't believe that no one wouldn't make a big deal out of her condition.

Surely there must be chaos happening in the mansion, right?

Indeed, her guess was right. Finley briefly explained what's going on, but he deliberately didn't tell the baby about the trial. He only said to her that Elliana was going to be blamed for this incident.

Once Ainsley heard that her beloved vassal would be a black sheep, the baby's eyes burned in fire.

"H-howh...Elh! Ugh!" Ainsley clenched her fists so hard that her palm almost bleed. The baby's fragile body swayed, and she almost fell if Fin didn't catch her in a hurry.

"Calm down, Ain! It's not as serious as you thought..." The fairy shook his head as he grabbed Ainsley's shoulders, trying to let her calm down.

"It's not like we can't save Elliana from getting blamed by others. Now that you're awake, you can save Elliana with your testimony." Finley gave a hint to the baby.

Of course, he wouldn't say that the trial was about to start. After all, he was sure that some maids would pass by the room and talked about it. With Ainsley's keen hearing...she would discover the situation sooner or later!

Feeling the strong grip on her shoulder, Ainsley snapped out of her fury. The baby's flushed face from anger slowly turned back to its original colour. She took a deep breath...and exhaled.

Right. It's not time to throw a tantrum. Now that I'm awake, I should save Elliana ASAP!

"Twank ywou, Fwin!" Ainsley hurriedly thanked Finley and was about to go out of the room to find Elliana when her keen ears caught several people's voices at the corridor.

"Hey, do you know that our family head's guardian, Lady Elliana, is going to face a family trial!"

"The family judgment trial? Isn't that akin to sentence her as a sinner?"

Ainsley's heart instantly skipped a beat.

A...trial?

#### **Chapter 134: "Time For A Bluff"**

A...trial?

Ainsley's eyesight blurred. The baby swayed and almost fell once more.

A trial to punish a sinner? And that sinner is Elliana?

This...how did this happen? Is it because of her being unconscious for four days straight? That's why they blamed Elliana to be the mastermind behind it?

Ainsley immediately realised that, indeed, that was plausible reasoning. Those old foxes couldn't wait to blame Elliana and replace her seat as the guardian of the current family head!

They still wanted to make me a puppet family head?

Ainsley's face darkened. For the first time ever, her expression changed into that of a mature lady. The fury in her eyes was so intense that even Finley and Chronos could sense it from afar.

[Oy, oy, isn't your lover a bit strange? She doesn't look like a toddler at all...] Chronos sent telepathy to Finley with his face contorted in astonishment.

That look in Ainsley's eyes...there's no way that she's a toddler! Even Finley also started to doubt it.

[Hmmm...maybe she is a regressor like me? But can't you check whether her soul is like me or not?] Finley squinted. He continued to observe Ainsley, who was eavesdropping on the servants in the corridor.

[Ha. I can't check her soul. It's Aetheria's expertise. However, I can see that her time isn't wrapped like yours...she is not a regressor.]



Chronos shook his head. He was also a bit dumbfounded to see someone as miraculous as this baby.

He had suspected that Ainsley might be another regressor, but it didn't seem to be the case.

Signing, Finley could only smile bitterly. [Maybe she got possessed by the dead spirits...maybe she is a shaman...who knows? If she's not a regressor, what is she?]

Finley couldn't just dismiss what he just saw. Indeed, Ainsley didn't look like a toddler at the moment. However, if she wasn't, who was she? She's not a regressor. So...the only logical reason would be a dead spirit taking over Ain's body.

Maybe she's indeed a shaman.

Finley didn't know about the lie that Ainsley made to show Grandpa Yofan. Thus, he didn't realise that the girl had the shaman ability and the prophetic dream. Of course, those two abilities were never Ain's, to begin with.

[Hm, hm, a shaman, huh. No wonder. Okay, let's see what she's going to do.] Chronos nodded and didn't pursue this matter any longer.

[It will be good to see the spirit contracted to this baby is a powerful one so that they can wreak havoc at the trial later.] The fairy of time chuckled mischievously.

Of course, even Finley wished that Ainsley would flip the table and taught those foxes a lesson.

[Yeah, let's hope that her contracted dead spirit is powerful...] Finley smiled bitterly.

To be honest, finding that the baby might be a shaman when she's only 3 years old did feel shocking. She already had 3 abilities, right? To be a multiple abilities user at such a young age...

That's quite scary. Such a talent was comparable to his talent when he went back in time! Even though Ain's abilities weren't offensive so far, if she could use them well, it could be an offensive skill.

Shaking his head, Finley tapped Ainsley's shoulder and smiled wryly. "So? What are you going to do? Elliana needs you." He reminded the baby.

Ainsley stiffened. Rage filled her face, and the tiny toddler gritted her teeth until others could hear the noises.

"Um! Ain...will swave Elh! (Ain will save El!)" Ainsley clenched her knuckles tightly. While she eavesdrops earlier, she managed to understand the current situation.

The baby immediately dashed to the main hall while musing in her mind.

Right now, every upper echelon of the Sloan Family already gathered at the main hall along with Elliana. From the servants' gossips, it seemed that the 7 great elders, the heir of the branch families, and the branch families' heads were there.

Maybe even the five buds would also attend in secret.

They would interrogate her, but in the end, they would still pin the blame on the innocent lady.

That...can't happen!

Ainsley already formed a plan in mind within those minutes of eavesdropping. First, she had to enter the hall and told the others that she was unconscious because she attempted to make a bond with Cellino.

At this rate, she didn't need to hide it anymore. She could just finish the bloodlines triggering ceremony and tamed Cellino for real.

However, whether those people would listen to her or not was a question to ponder. What if they insisted on saying that she's too young to understand anything?

Even if she told the others that she just bonded with Cellino, they might not believe her. That's why she had to trigger that fellow's bloodline in front of those bastards.

But...would they give her a chance to speak? If they thought of her as an ordinary puppet family head, they wouldn't listen to her.

Even worse, they would ignore her...

That's why she also had to display her power to make others listen to what she wanted to say!

In this case, revealing her shaman ability would be the best move. Once Godfather descended, no one would ignore her.

It would be instant K.O!

Of course, to make such a great lie in front of many experts, she had to be cautious.

Let's mix 10% truth into 90% lies—the truth laid in the fact that she could tame Cellino, and she could prove it. The lies would be...that she's a shaman and Godfather spirit possessed her.

Thinking like this, Ainsley started to map a foolproof plan in her mind, and after contemplating for a few minutes, she felt that she needed a 'cooler' stage effect.

Well, well...it's time for a bluff!

### **Chapter 135: "Bye-bye, Cheeks..."**

One key rule in bluffing was how confident one looked like and how much 'power' they could falsify.

A cool effect was needed to look domineering, to falsify one's strength, thus easily earning others' respect.

But a normal stage effect couldn't just bluff the experts at the trial. Ainsley knew that she needed a rather cool effect...

If only she could fly....or maybe charm all of them, making them kneel, worshipping her...

Uh, that's quite impossible. But at least using Fin's wind power, she could float to assert a domineering effect, right?

Ainsley rubbed her chin and nodded in satisfaction. Her plan was good.

Now, she only needed to borrow Fin's ability. Thus, the baby didn't delay and immediately told Fin about her request as the two walked down the corridor with Fin outside the building and they talked through his wind ability.

"You want me to help you float following your signal? To assert dominance?" The boy asked in disbelief. His eyelids twitched, feeling ominous.

Why the hell did this baby need such an effect to scare those higher-ups? What is she trying to do?

Despite his inner question, Finley didn't ask it further since the baby already replied to him.

"Yesh, hewp me, Fwin! (Yes, help me, Fin!)" Ainsley nodded. The girl even hesitated briefly before going closer to the window and whispered to the boy, telling him what things she would do just to get Fin's help.

She then got back to running.

Well, well, if Fin wanted to squeeze her cheeks as the payment, then so be it! Patting her head? Okay! Belly rub? Still okay! Adopting her to be his sister? Okay!

Just...don't suddenly come with a marriage proposal.

Hearing what Ainsley offered him just in exchange for a tiny bit of help, the boy couldn't help but choke on his saliva. He looked at Ainsley as if she's a monster.

Yoooo, can't you tone down your offer? If it's like this, what if I ask you to be my fiancé or something? Even though that's impossible for now, no one knows what will happen in the future!

Finley suddenly felt so distressed for Ainsley. If she was too innocent, he was afraid that other fairies or other boys she met in the future would take advantage of her...

Aish.

"Okay, okay, I'll help you. There's no need to offer a lot of things..." Finley hastily stopped Ainsley from offering whatever she wanted to offer. The brazen baby even said that she would give him her favourite milk and mocha Pocky...

Like hell I need that!

If she also offered a diaper, he would spurt blood.

"Hwmm?" Ainsley tilted her head in confusion at Finley's firm refusal of the offers she just proposed. The boy said that he would help her, but why would he reject her offers?

Is it not good? I even say I'll give him my favourite pacifier that I never use!

The baby couldn't help but puffed her cheeks.

"Fwin, whath ish youl wish? Ain will helph! (Fin, what is your wish? Ain will help!)" Ainsley once again tried to offer something in exchange for the fairy's help during the trial later.

Without Fin's wind manipulation ability, the 'bluff' she prepared wouldn't be too impactful!

Finley could only smile bitterly.

"Fine, fine, if you insist. I'll just squeeze your cheeks later as a payment. How is it?" The boy wriggled his forefinger in front of Ainsley. "For two weeks straight!"

Ainsley almost spurted blood.

Two weeks? My cheeks would be gone by then!

The baby's lips twitched. She touched her plump cheeks and suddenly regretted offering her cheeks to this demon. If only she knew the Fin would be kind enough to help her without demanding anything for a payment...

Why would she offer her cheeks?! No!

Alas, it's too late. Ainsley could only rub her cheeks and sighed.

"Owkay..." the baby lowered her head, resigning to her fate.

So be it. Bye-bye, my cheeks...

Ainsley waved her imaginary handkerchief to part ways with her plump cheeks.

Contrary to Ainsley's gloomy face, Finley's face brightened. He laughed wholeheartedly while stretching his evil claws to the baby's cheeks.

"Deal!" Finley just sealed the deal when his evil claws already made its way to Ainsley's cheeks. In just a few seconds, Finley recharged his energy by squeezing the baby's plump cheeks.

He did it while floating outside while Ainsley ran...

In no time, Ainsley's fair cheeks turned red from the squeezing and the pinching, but the baby could only grit her teeth and harrumphed.

"C'mwon! We swave Elh! (C'mon! We save El!)" Ainsley slapped Finley's hand and immediately fastened her speed.

Finley, on the other hand, would wait outside of the main hall's window to observe the things happening inside. For now, he floated outside while helping Ainsley to run faster with his wind ability.

After all, he's still a 'fairy', and humans shouldn't see him that easily.

Thus, the 3-years-old baby and the 8-years-old mafia heir disguised as a fairy strode to the main hall carrying a grand plan to save Elliana.

Ah, a tiny fairy of time also followed the two of them in silence, waiting to watch a good show.

30 minutes before Ainsley woke up.

The Sloan Family's upper echelons already gathered at the main hall, the one used to crown Ainsley as the new family head a few weeks ago.

Inside the hall, a bunch of men and women dressed in black suits with their respective branch family's logo at the back stood solemnly.

In front of them was the stage where a throne reserved for the family head stood still. Right before the stage was a circle inscription carved on the floor. In the middle of the circle was a tanned-skin lady with her head hung low.

She wore a prisoner-like uniform, and one could see a huge handcuff tying her hands. A thick stone choker was placed on her neck to seal her special abilities.

The woman was none other than Elliana!

### **Chapter 136: "The 5 Buds Gathered!"**

Elliana knelt on the floor with her hands tied behind her back. Her blonde hair was scattered across her shoulders, messy and filthy. None would guess that her hair was blonde if they looked at her now.

Circling the weak lady was the 7 great elders, each of them with their hands clasped behind their backs. The white robe priest-like clothes they wore fluttered with the hall's air conditioner, imposing and grand.

Of course, Grandpa Yofan wasn't among the six elders. The old man chose to stand beside the family head's throne while watching Elliana's wretched back.

His eyes squinted in pain, yet the old man tried to look nonchalant. He couldn't show any favour toward Elliana since he didn't have any proof to support the woman's innocence.

Standing several meters in front of the circled Elliana was the crowd consisting of all the branch families' heads, the vice head, the heirs, even the 9 Sloan Family's generals.

Unlike the other members, these generals donned a cloak with various colours representing their forces.

One wore a red cloak. Another wore silver, golden, navy, dark green, brown, violet, pink, and white.

The female generals wore a violet, pink, and white cloak while the rest of the generals were men.

All of them still looked rather young, maybe in their mid thirty. The youngest was in their early thirty, the seductive woman in a violet cloak.

This was the first time the 9 generals visited the main hall after the previous family head went missing. The generals didn't even attend Ainsley's coronation ceremony, but at this moment, they participated in the trial.

One could see just how serious the matter was.

Each general was accompanied by their vice general and 2-3 subordinates, making the hall packed with these people. The branch families also didn't go there with just their family head, vice head and the heir.

They also brought 4-5 close subordinates to act as their children's bodyguards. The heir of these branch families was someone important even for the Sloan Family. Thus, their safety was a top priority.

Of course, even the youngest heir was already 17 years old, with the oldest almost reaching 30. There were no 'kids' at the gathering.

Once these people gathered at one place, they easily numbered around 100!

Not counting the hidden five buds hiding at the corner of the halls and their private subordinate, the number of the guests were quite big for a mere trial.

After all, the one they're going to judge was accused of harming the current family head. It was a big offense enough to call all the core members of the Sloan Family!

Not to mention that the suspect was the family head's guardian, someone who wielded considerable power among the family members.

Such a matter couldn't be taken easily. Even the unruly five buds hastily came back to the mansion to attend the trial.

Standing at each corner of the vast hall, the five buds communicated with each other using telepathy tools they got from the capital.

"Hey. Do you think the suspect is truly guilty?" The voice of a young man sounded within the telepathy group chat. The young man's voice was still so childish that one could guess his age was still around 15!

"Hmm, guilty or not, once she's in this trial, she's bound to be a sinner." Another menacing male voice replied to the young man.

This one had a deep voice befitting an adult even though he was also younger than most of the Sloan Family members.

He's still 20!

"Though I wonder how she got into this position." The male clicked his tongue, pitying Elliana. His tone carried a slight disdain toward the current situation, showing his compassionate but strong head nature.

There were already two of the five buds with such a young age conversing about Elliana.

Contrary to everyone's thoughts about the five buds not getting along with each other, they seemed to be close instead.

Not wanting to get left behind, a member of the current generation's five buds chipped in. "What a pity. That lady is actually strong. She's also young. If I can, I want to make her my subordinate."

A graceful voice rang throughout the five buds' telepathy group chat. The calm, soothing voice resembled one of a mature lady, showing the owner's characteristics.

If the first young man seemed to be relatively immature and innocent, the second young man was someone with a strong nature, maybe an egoistic, the third member was a sophisticated lady with the calmest nature.

She would be the mother of the group, or maybe the big sis.

Hearing what the lady said, the fourth member immediately retaliated. "Who wants a traitor to be their subordinate? Marietta, you're too kind! Watch your back!"

The one speaking was a woman with a hoarse voice. Her fiery tone matched a rather reckless personality, coupled with an undying will.

Maybe she's the bull of the group, the one with the most formidable offensive ability.

One wouldn't wonder if this woman clashed with the stubborn young man before. The two of them had a similar personality, with the latter seemingly more arrogant than reckless.

The four members of the five buds already started to chat merrily, but the fifth member didn't bother to open his mouth. Hiding at the ceiling, the last member of the five buds yawned.

What a bunch of noisy ducks. Can't they shut their mouth? We are just going to see a dirty political show...

The fifth member shook his head and continued to maintain his stealth. Unlike the other four, he liked to be alone, and his nature suited an assassin job.

It's not shocking if he owned a few formidable assassin forces.

With this...all five buds were present!

### **Chapter 137: "The Five Buds Gossip Group"**

Once the five buds gathered, the five of them conversed with each other, excluding the oddball assassin-like guy.

They chatted merrily talking about the family situation starting from Elliana's case up to the new family head, Ainsley.

"I heard that the new family head is a baby, is it true?" The innocent young man, Nouvan Sloan, curiously asked his friends through telepathy.

As he asked, the young man scanned the main hall to see the family head but found no trace of the baby.

His blue and red mismatched pupils dimmed in disappointment.

"Uhuh. Heard that she's still 3. Tch. Which bastard makes a baby a mafia boss?" Ethania clicked her tongue and ruffled her man-cut light blue hair.

Even when she tried to hide at the corner, her hair was so eye-catching that she literally became everyone's focus.

That's fcking annoying!

"This rotten family is finally showing its true colour. To make a baby as the family head." Ethania shook her head. Fury brewed inside her golden eyes.

"They're all sick!"

"For once, I agree with you, Thania—"

"Don't call me Thania! I'm Ethan. Ethan!" Ethania instantly rebuked in a high tone. The tomboy lady glared at Jevon, who was standing at another corner of the hall.

"Tch. You are clearly Thania, not Ethan." Jevon harrumphed and ignored Ethania's silent protest.

"Anyway...these people are all morons. They're out of their mind." Jevon fiddled with a tiny dragon-like monster hanging around his finger.

As a handsome monster tamer, how could he not bring his pets to the trial?

The young man lifted his chin high as he brushed his sleek black hair to the back. That hair model was precisely like those bastard CEOs in romance novels.

"But how the heck I don't see the family head? That puppet should also attend the trial, no?" The young man squinted, and his dull, grey pupils darted around to find the subject of their conversation.

Right, where's that baby?

This time, Nouvan couldn't help but join those two's conversation, afraid to get lagged behind. "Hum, hum, maybe she's injured? Someone said that the sinner harms the family head..."

Nouvan's long silver hair shimmered as he turned his head around, trying to find his friends at each corner of the hall.

Up to now, he still didn't know why these people chose to stay at the corner. Since he was still a new member of the five buds, he could only follow his seniors...

"That nice-looking lady, the so-called sinner, harms the family head who is only three years old?" Marietta gasped. She blinked softly before staring at Elliana with her hazelnut, chocolate-like pupils.

"That lady doesn't seem evil..." the woman sighed gently. She cupped her hands on her cheeks and observed Elliana once more, still in disbelief.

How come such a pure-looking lady harm a baby? Even though one shouldn't judge others from their appearance, as someone with the power to manipulate nature, she's sensitive to evil people.

Clearly, that lady feels innocent.

"Tch. You're too pure-hearted, Marie. We can't just judge others from their appearance, you know?" Ethania pricked her ear before flicking her finger.

"If the other higher-ups hold this trial, it means they have sufficient proof to say that the lady is a sinner." She added.

"Hmm. I don't really care about that insignificant sinner, but I'm more curious to see our new family head." Jevon immediately cut in.

The young man tugged the corner of his lips and stroked his pet's head as he spoke with a voice full of disdain. "Can't believe they choose to crown a baby as the boss! Can't they just pass the throne to me?"

Jevon brushed his hair once more before crossing his arms in front of his chest. "I have been eyeing that position for a long time, but how come those morons choose a toddler instead of me? Isn't this funny?"

He glanced at his friends across the hall while he kept complaining through their telepathy group chat.

"Don't you guys think I'm the most suitable candidate to be the family head? How come those foxes don't see that?"



His question was met with Ethania eyeroll and Marietta light chuckle.

"Hey, monster maniac. You think an ill-tempered, arrogant bastard like you can lead the family?" Ethania raised her hand and showed a middle finger at the man a few meters away from her place.

"Dream on!" The short girl kicked the ground as she flicked her middle finger.

"Right, right. Jevon, you're too rash to be a leader. I don't think you're suitable to be the family head..." Marietta smiled warmly as she twirled her brown hair between her fingers.

"Maybe if you calm down a bit, you can be the family head, " she added.

Of course, their comments went through Jevon's left ear and fled through his right ear.

"Yeah, yeah, you guys are just jealous of me. I'm the most suitable candidate to be the family head." The towering guy shrugged. His dragon-like pet snuggled affectionately against his cheeks.

"Right, Nouvan? You also think so, hm?"

The poor innocent Nouvan flinched at his senior's words. With a bitter smile on his face, the young man nodded even though the other party might not see him anyway.

"Uhuh! Senior Jevon is the best!" He said with a cheerful voice.

"Though...the family might go straight to hell once you take over..." Nouvan whispered to himself, not daring to say his pieces through the telepathy group chat.

Jevon might roast him with his thunder ability if he dared to say that! Even though he had healing power and wouldn't die so easily, getting struck by thunder still hurts...

And if his monster army attacked him, that would be quite scary.

One shall not underestimate Jevon, a monster with a zombie-like regeneration ability!

### **Chapter 138: "A Genius Toddler?"**

Nouvan put on a fake smile as he clasped his hands behind his back. The tip of his finger suddenly burned, and golden fire seeped out of his left forefinger while chilling ice fragments floated around his back.

I should be ready whenever Jevon decides to run amok!

The 15-year-old teenager nodded to himself. As someone wielding four abilities, he shouldn't back down easily, even if pitted against Jevon, the bastard with three all-rounded abilities.

Jevon had a wide area range with his monster tamer skill, a powerful offensive ability with his thunder skill and lastly, a God-tier defence with his registration ability.

No wonder he was the first candidate to be the family head if only the higher-ups didn't decide to make the 3-years-old toddler as the puppet family head.

Nouvan shook his head as he recalled the shocking decision a few weeks ago. Truthfully, he was also shocked when he heard the news of the new family head being a toddler.

Even if she's the sole heir of the Sloan direct bloodline, it's too ridiculous to let a weak baby bear a mafia boss's responsibility!

Maybe she's just a puppet head, but as a 'mascot', she's still in danger...

That's what pissed off the five buds. As the most powerful family members, the 5 buds never pledged loyalty to someone undeserving of their commitment.

They would only choose a worthy master to pledge loyalty to! And that's why the group unanimously decided not to attend the crowning ceremony of the new family head.

They didn't want to see a useless puppet taking the seat of the most important position in the family.

Others said that the five buds didn't care about the family, that they would leave the family anytime if they wished to.

Who said that?

Nouvan's mismatched eyes flickered for a moment. He cast his gaze on the crowds chattering without care for the sinner, and he subconsciously gritted his teeth.

We, the geniuses of the family, also love this family, okay? This family is the one grooming us to this point. Why would we abandon the family if the family isn't so rotten like now?

Nouvan clenched his fists tightly.

Even though their group usually lived at the capital, not at the main mansion at the outskirts, they still knew a lot of news regarding the family.

It's just that...the news was getting worse, and worse...

It became slightly better when their subordinates at the main mansion said that the new family head fired a bunch of corrupt accountants 'on a whim'.

"...do you think the young miss truly fired those bastards on a whim?" Nouvan abruptly raised a question via their telepathy group chat.

His sudden question caught everyone off guard. Even Alvaro, the lone wolf of the group, perked his ears.

"The young miss fired the accountants on a whim? Nah. Impossible," Alvaro murmured, joining the conversation. His purple eyes glowed in the dark for a second before he shook his head.

"She's still a child. It's understandable for her to fire those who displease her," Alvaro spoke in a low voice. However, his voice didn't contain any disdain or contempt toward the subject of their conversation, Ainsley.

Maybe because he also had the same hair colour as the baby...

It almost made others think of him as the real heir of the Sloan Family when in reality, he's just...someone lucky enough to possess purple hair?

That's the sole reason why the previous family head adopted an orphan like him and groomed him.

Or maybe he was truly a bastard child of the Sloan Family? No one knows. It could be that the previous family head's siblings played around outside and got a baby, which was him.

Alvaro paused for a second before sighing.

"Why are you asking about that incident? Do you think the young miss did it on purpose?" The usually aloof guy couldn't help but ask Nouvan out of curiosity.

To someone who possessed the same unique hair colour as him, he couldn't just ignore the baby, right? Not to mention they suddenly discussed her recent actions.

"Indeed. How come I think the young miss fired those bastards on purpose..." Nouvan chuckled slightly. "And you heard that she has a charm ability, right? That's quite a rare power belonging to the mid-tier rank."

"Charm ability? I thought she's just naturally cute?" Marietta's eyes widened in disbelief. She also heard of the rumour, but she didn't believe it at first.

The young miss is just 3! How could she awaken any ability? Maybe the people at the main mansion are just jealous of the baby and tried to defame her...

After all, those possessing charm abilities always have a negative stigma stuck to their back.

"I don't know whether the young miss truly owns a charm ability or not. But if she truly has it...doesn't it mean she's a genius?" Nouvan peeked at Jevon, who was standing quite far away from his place.

However, even if he couldn't see that young man's face, he could imagine what kind of expression that arrogant bastard was making...

As a genius who awakened his power at the age of 8, Jevon had the right to brag when he's around the Sloan Family. He's just slightly overtaken by the Walter Family's heir, who awakened his power by 6.

But if the current puppet family head awakened her first mid-tier power when she's barely 3...

Nouvan hadn't continued his words when Jevon's cold voice sounded through everyone's mind.

"So you mean to say that the puppet family head might be a genius? She also fired the accountants on purpose?" Jevon's eyes glinted in a dangerous light.

You want to say that Ainsley Sloan might be better than me?

### **Chapter 139: "In A Pinch"**

Jevon's voice over their telepathy group chat sounded cold and merciless, sending a shiver down everyone's spine. Facing Jevon's silent wrath, the group shut their mouth.

Undoubtedly, he was still the strongest among them, being an all-rounded ability user. It's unwise to provoke him over a baby that they had never seen.

The baby's miraculous feats could also be a rumour, right...

Noticing the awkward atmosphere between them, Marietta hurriedly spoke in a gentle voice.

"There, there, let's not talk about the puppet family head. Our focus should be on watching the sinner undergoing the trial– "

She hadn't finished when Grandpa Yofan's loud voice suddenly rang throughout the hall.

"Ladies and gentlemen. It's time to start the trial." The old man put his hands behind his back as he adopted a dignified air of an expert. With his beard swaying in front of his chest, the old man truly looked like a living sage.

Just that one announcement filled with authority rendered everyone in silence. Even Jevon didn't dare to act unruly in front of Grandpa Yofan. The youngster could only focus on the trial at the moment.

Seeing the crowds shut their mouth and directed their focus on him, Grandpa Yofan nodded in satisfaction. His face was still grim at the moment as he lifted his arm, swaying his wide sleeve.

"Begin the trial." The old man cast a cold look at Elliana and the 6 elders, who would do the trial. His eyes were devoid of any warmth and affection, but one could see a slight pain in his eyes.

As the one with the most authority after Elliana, Grandpa Yofan had to conduct his principle even though he believed that Elliana was innocent. They simply lacked proof to flip the situation.

If only Ainsley already woke up...

They could hear the baby's testimony over Elliana's innocence!

Hearing Grandpa Yofan's order, the other 6 elders moved to their position, forming a formidable star formation with the last elder standing at the centre, next to Elliana.

"I shall begin the trial, supreme elder." The elder at the centre of the star formation nodded at Grandpa Yofan before looking down at the woman on the floor.

The woman was still kneeling with her head lowered. One couldn't see her face at all, but she appeared to be weak.

The centre elder cleared his throat before flicking his wide robe, adding a solemn atmosphere upon himself. With a sharp voice, the elder bellowed at Elliana.

"Sinner Elliana! The current guardian of the family head. Accused guilty of harming the 18'th family head, Ainsley Sloan, making her slumber into a deep coma!"

The centre elder recited Elliana's crime with a crisp voice. Maybe he used a weird power or something, but his voice sounded loud and clear even for those at the back.

Without using a microphone, his voice was that powerful. Obviously he used a special ability or other tools.

Not stopping at reciting Elliana's crime, the old elder furrowed his eyebrows and took out the reports from the other branch families' heads which he hid inside his robe.

Once he took out the paper, the elder inhaled deeply before reading the proof of Elliana's sin out loud.

"According to X eyewitnesses, Elliana..."

"At the crime location, Elliana.."

"Up to now, the family head's condition is affirmed to be critical. She suffered an impact on her soul, making her fall into a deep coma."

"The investigation indicated that there's a mystical power behind this incident. Either a fairy or a sacred guardian's power. It's later assumed to be a sacred guardian's hidden power."

The elder continued his explanation, announcing the proofs to the guests in front of him. The crowds nodded along with the explanation, deep in thoughts.

Some of them shook their heads while smiling bitterly, others looked excited, and the rest had a deadpan expression all along.

"The sinner Elliana once summoned a sacred guardian a few weeks ago, and is suspected to be the culprit behind the current family head's mishap."

Once the elder announced this, the five buds looked at each other in astonishment.

They didn't know the full case before, but once they heard it, somehow...it sounded ridiculous?

"Hey...that lady is able to summon a sacred guardian? But...only a direct descendant or someone with a Sloan bloodline can enter the prairie!" Marietta knitted her eyebrows in disbelief.

She knew that Elliana wasn't a direct member of the Sloan Family. She didn't possess the Sloan family's bloodline. So...how could she summon a sacred guardian?

She wouldn't be able to enter the prairie! Summoning out a sacred guardian on top of that?

Ridiculous!

"True, senior. Though others don't know much about the sacred guardians, we as the five buds know a lot about them..." Even Nouvan couldn't help but find something amiss here.

"If that lady can't possibly summon the sacred guardian, how can she use the guardian to harm the family head?" Nouvan added.

"Tch. That's why I said these people are idiots." Jevon shook his head. A hint of disdain resided in his grey eyes. "Also, there's no sacred guardian with the power to affect one's living soul."

"Yeh. That will be too overpowered!" Ethania agreed with Jevon, just this time.

"I think this isn't the work of a sacred guardian. It should be a fairy with soul-related ability, a powerful shaman or a fairy with space-related ability."

Ethania rubbed her chin as she looked at Grandpa Yofan, who was standing at the stage near the throne. She could see that the old man didn't truly want to punish Elliana.

That old man should have known the truth, but he simply didn't have any proof to help the lady.

He...is in a pinch!

**Chapter 140: "NWO! STWOP!"**

Grandpa Yofan couldn't just tell the others that someone without the Sloan Family's bloodline couldn't enter the prairie or tell them about the sacred guardian's ability.

After all, the secret with the sacred guardians was a significant matter.

No random family members should know. It concerned the core power of their family. Grandpa Yofan didn't want to disclose this secret just to save Elliana.

It's not that he's cruel, but he had to think as the one governing the family. If those foxes knew more about the family's secret, God knows what they might do in the future.

This was why only the five buds and the supreme elder knew about the sacred guardians' secrets. Not even the other 6 great elders knew about these facts.

Well, excluding the family head.

Uh, the current family head was still a baby, so she's an exception.

However, the five buds like them had the privilege to know a lot simply because they were the family's pillars.

They could be said to be the family's true protector even if they didn't pledge loyalty to the family head.

Their standing was almost on par with the sacred guardians!

Thus, the five buds of this generation knew a lot about those three cats, and they were baffled.

Really. Since when there's a sacred guardian in their family that can affect a human's soul?!

Only the five buds and the supreme elder indeed knew many things regarding the sacred guardians. However....it shouldn't be a reason to accuse an innocent person blindly!

"I think there's a deeper problem here..." Marietta let out a long sigh.

"Yes...should it be a political move from the branch families? Maybe they're the one harming the family head and want to blame it on that lady." Nouvan shook his head.

He had known that the family declined further ever since the previous family head took over the family.

The last head family was indeed somewhat competent, but he didn't weed out the poisonous people inside the family, leading to this state.

Now that his daughter took over his position, those toxic people couldn't stay hidden anymore and actively tried to take the family head seat for themselves.

But even the five buds couldn't easily take the family head's seat...how could those foxes easily take over?

Worst come worst, Jevon might 'avenge' the family head and took over the seat for himself.

Unfortunately, the problem was still too insignificant for the five buds to join the fray. So, the youngsters shut their mouth and watched the centre elder listing other nonsense proofs that sounded logical to others but none to them.

Five minutes later...

The elder tossed the papers back to his robe before glaring at Elliana as if she's a demon.

"Sinner Elliana! We have recited the proof of your sin! Do you admit it?" The elder pointed his finger at the vulnerable lady.

From start to finish, Elliana didn't even speak. She just lifted her head weakly and shook her head.

Seeing her stubborn action of not speaking and only shook her head as a sign of refusal to admit her sin, the other elders erupted in rage.

"Sinner Elliana doesn't want to admit her sin despite the concrete proof! We shall discuss the punishment for sinner Elliana."

The centre elder ignored Elliana and looked at the guests instead. Each of the guests had a high standing in the family, and they should offer some suggestions on how to deal with the sinner.

Once the elder dropped the question, the guests raised their hands and offered a sincere suggestion.

"How about we strip her status as the family head's guardian and send her to the battlefield to repent?"

"No, that's too light! She should be confined at the dungeon!"

"How about a death sentence? Maybe toss her to the monsters."

"That's too cruel and unsightly. After all, she is still an ex-guardian of the family head. How about beheading her?"

"Hmm, that's quite good."

"No, no, we should just cripple her, take her abilities and let her live as an ordinary human. That will serve as a better punishment."

"Taking her abilities? Not only is it painful, but it will also affect her mentality! That's good."

"Then take down her authority, strip her of her abilities and toss her to the monsters' lair. How is it?"

"Sounds brilliant. We can warn the others not to betray the family just like this lady."

"Agree with you."

"General Ciel is truly wise for offering such a good suggestion."

"Mmm. It's better than just letting her go to the battlefield. Who knows if she will backstab our comrades?"

The majority of the crowds agreed with the punishment of taking Elliana's authority, strip her of her abilities, turning her into a normal woman before tossing her to the monsters' lair at the capital.

That would truly be a cruel punishment and served as a suitable warning for others not to easily betray the family!

Not long after, the elders also agreed. Only the five buds and the supreme elders abstained from voting.

In a mere second, Elliana's fate was decided. The centre elder fixed his robe before announcing the result of the trial.

"With this, from today onwards, sinner Elliana will step down from her seat as the family head's guardian, shall have her abilities crippled, and will be thrown into the monsters' lair at the capital!"

The elder crossed his arms in front of his chest as he beckoned the six elders to approach Elliana.

"Carry out the punishment– " the centre elder hadn't finished when the door to the hall suddenly burst open with a loud bang.

"NWO! STOP!" A childish voice pierced the heavens as a tiny figure dashed to the front.

Ainsley has arrived!