

BABY MAFIA 481

Chapter 481 - "A Mind-reader"

Why is this woman so similar to Zack?

Ainsley had just thought so when the woman lowered her right leg and looked at Ainsley with a calm smile on her face.

"So, you're the rumoured Godtoddler, a prodigy of the century?"

Ainsley had goosebumps at that 'title'.

"N-nwo, I'm noth a pwodigy. But I'm the Godtoddlel." Ainsley laughed as she secretly contemplated whether to use her charm ability or not.

After all, if the charm fails, the woman might feel offended that someone is making a move on her.

However, as if knowing what's inside Ainsley's mind, the woman giggled as she showed her pearly teeth.

"You don't need to use charm on me. You're already cute even without your charm ability."

!

Ainsley was so spooked out that she almost ran away from the room.

How did she know?! How could she know I'm about to use charm? Is she reading my mind? Or am I that easy to read—

The woman paused for a bit before giggling softly. Her voice sounded so calm and soothing...yet it was still menacing.

"Hahaha. You're really an interesting child. Of course, I'm a mind-reader. I can read your mind." The woman beckoned Ainsley to come closer while tugging the corner of her lips.

"I can tell whatever you're thinking right now."

Ainsley froze on the spot. Instead of walking toward the woman, she looked at the woman with a blank gaze instead.

...the fck? A mind-reading ability user? They exist? Heck— Waaahhh!

Ainsley finally knew why the woman said that she's interesting...must be because whatever was in her mind didn't reflect a three-year-old toddler's mind.

At that moment, Ainsley felt that if she didn't act carefully, the woman might discover that she's not from this world simply from her thoughts...

That's scary...

Thus, Ainsley tried to think of anything but her secret as she walked to the woman with small steps.

"A-auntwie...y-you really can read my mind?" The baby mumbled as she stopped right in front of the woman.

Ainsley was still confused about why the woman asked her to come closer when the woman casually lifted the baby and placed her on her lap.

"There, there, don't be too formal. I truly can read your mind. I'm a mind-reader. Pretty rare." The woman made sure Ainsley was comfortable on her lap before stroking the baby's head.

"You're really like the rumour when you're in the Godtoddler's appearance. Black hair and red pupils...no one will suspect that you're not from our Billios Family."

The woman couldn't help but giggle once more as she casually played with Ainsley's hair.

The way the woman touched the baby was so casual and sudden, but Ainsley didn't feel uncomfortable at all.

If anything, it felt as if...she's back to her mom's embrace.

"Umm..." Ainsley blinked slowly as she tried to lift her head. Somehow, being on the woman's lap just made her feel sleepy and drowsy...

It's so comfortable.

Seeing Ainsley who already looked like a kitten ready to sleep on her momma's lap, the woman laughed cheerfully.

"Hehehe. You're really cute." The woman patted Ainsley's back before muttering in a voice that even Ainsley couldn't hear.

"No wonder Jake can't stop talking about you."

The woman paused for a moment before stroking Ainsley's back, giving her more comfort even when they're practically strangers.

"My name is Jacqueline Billios. You can call me Auntie Jaccy, okay?"

Ainsley nodded weakly. "Hum. Auntwie Jaccy."

The more she stayed around the woman, the more she felt something...was definitely wrong.

How come it's so comfortable to be around this stranger? She felt so familiar and friendly...but we have just met now!

Ainsley couldn't help but raise her guard a bit, afraid that the woman was using her other abilities that could lower one's guard.

What if this woman has something like a motherly charm ability or anything that makes people feel comfortable around her, as if they're around their real mother?

That won't be good!

But Ainsley truly forgot for a second that Jaccy could read minds.

The woman caught whatever Ainsley thought of her, and instead of getting offended, she had to suppress her laughter so much that her shoulders shook hard.

"G-godtoddler. Hahaha. Your thoughts are really interesting. Pfff– no wonder you can lead your family to this height."

Jacqueline covered her mouth with one hand as she tried to remain elegant, yet she almost broke her character.

"Pfff– hahaha– motherly charm ability, you say? I-I wish I had that. My son won't be so cold toward me, then."

Jacqueline was already close to crying since she couldn't hold back her laughter anymore.

Why is this child so funny?? Whatever happens in her mind is always so bizarre, yet it's cute! She's so on-guard towards anyone but she's clearly comfortable around me...

What a cute oddball!

"Child, you really think too much. The reason why you're comfortable around me...might be because I'm that person's mother."

Jacqueline laughed once more while ruffling Ainsley's head, definitely messing up her hairstyle.

Ainsley was seriously thinking about whether Jacqueline used a northerly charm on her or not when she heard what the woman said...and the baby suddenly remembered that the woman could read her mind.

The baby's face instantly flushed red like a boiled crab.

"Ah– AHHH! I'm so sowwy, auntwie! I-I didn't mean to– hwaaa!" Ainsley almost pushed Jacqueline away from her if not for the woman gripping Ainsley's waist tightly.

"A-auntwie I was wrong. I-I am sowwy! W-what was I thinking??" Ainsley already freaked out.

The baby was close to burying her face on Jacqueline's shoulder to hide her shame.

Fck! How could I suspect this Auntie right in front of her?

I'm screwed!

Chapter 482 - "A Chairwoman"

I'm screwed!

I forgot she could read my mind–

Ainsley almost slapped her cheek.

FCC, I SHOULDN'T THINK ANYTHING AT ALL! SHE CAN READ ME!

Ainsley felt like her brain wasn't working properly anymore. This was the first time she met a mind-reading ability user...so she didn't know what to do!

Sensing Ainsley's anxiety, the woman stopped teasing Ainsley and sighed.

"It's okay...I'll try not to read your mind, so you don't need to be on edge around me, okay?"

When the woman said that, her voice sounded a bit melancholic, and her previously bright face turned gloomy.

'Yeah, no one likes to get their minds exposed to another person, after all. Even my son...'

Jacqueline realised that she was going to think too far once more. Thus, she immediately stopped her thoughts and tried to divert the conversation.

"Anyway, I called you here because I wanted to meet you. You don't mind, right?" Jacqueline giggled while ruffling her poodle-like hair. She's truly unique in a sense.

"Hwum. I don't mwind..." Ainsley nodded at Jacqueline.

It's actually an honor to meet someone from the Billios Family, anyway....even though it's a bit nerve-racking.

"Then, do you know what my position is in the Billios Family?" Jacqueline looked at Ainsley, and she couldn't help but show a slightly evil smirk...

When she smiled like that, she resembled Jake's easy-going yet evil nature by a lot. Oh no, that young man might have inherited the attitude from a certain someone!

"Uh...your position..." Getting asked like that, Ainsley was caught off guard. The baby moved her legs a bit while still sitting on Jacqueline's lap.

Her position in the family? Must be quite high, right? Maybe a main descendant...uh...the family head's auntie? A daughter-in-law?

Ah, no, no, she's definitely the Billios Family's main descendant.

Uh...then...what is it...

"An...advisor? Vice head?" Ainsley tilted her head as she made her guess. At first, she didn't think much and wouldn't really care whether Jacqueline held an important position or not...

But when Jacqueline opened her mouth...Ainsley's expectation was thrown to the sea.

"Well, I'm the chairwoman. You can say I'm above the family head, like the family head's supervisor. You know...like the empress dowager."

!

There's a position higher than the family head??

Ainsley was absolutely baffled. The girl looked at Jacqueline with eyes full of questions.

"Isn't the famiwi head position...the highest?"

Since she's also the family head and held the most authority in the family, she couldn't help but be curious about the woman's words.

Even when they had just met a few minutes ago, Ainsley felt that she could trust this woman and asked her tons of things.

As expected, Jacqueline didn't refuse to answer and immediately replied to Ainsley's question.

"Well, things can be different in the non-mafia family. But let's talk about the mafia family first."

Jacqueline took a deep breath before continuing.

"Usually, mid-rank mafia families have the family head at the highest position, but for high-rank families and above, they still have elder councils or chairperson."

The elder councils or the chairperson was usually the family head's direct family, such as their father, mother, uncle, auntie, grandma, or grandpa.

It all happened because high-ranking mafia families were too big to be managed by only one person. In this case, the family head.

The elder councils or the chairperson supervised the family head and made sure that they're not doing things as they pleased.

That's why Evan couldn't immediately make Ainsley's family as his family's sworn ally because he didn't get the elder councils' approval yet.

The elders were all the direct descendants of the family that had retired. They could be the previous family head, or the grandma, grandpa, auntie, uncle...

So on.

"For a non-mafia family like ours, we usually adopt the business-style hierarchy. In a company, there can be the CEO, the chairman, the director and other shareholders too, right?"

It didn't mean one person controlled everything like a tyrant or a king in the medieval era. If that happened, under Jake's easy-going nature, the Billios Family would have sought trouble here and there...

"And I'm coincidentally the current family head's mother and I'm from the direct descendant line. Thus, instead of my husband, I become the chairwoman."

Jacqueline grinned when she said that. She looked really proud of her position and what she had done for the Billios Family!

Seeing Jacqueline's triumphant smile, Ainsley couldn't help but laugh.

"So auntie is actually so powerful? Cwool! I bet your son must be an outstanding famiwi head too...because ywou are amazwing!"

Ainsley's honeyed tongue made a move once more, and Jacqueline couldn't resist the temptation.

The woman unknowingly blushed while giggling like a maiden despite her age around fifties.

"Hahaha, you are such a sweet child! But well, my son, the current family head, isn't that kind...he is brilliant and all but his personality...ugh. He's a devil."

When Jacqueline mentioned her son, she instantly looked a bit gentler than before but there's also this silent rage in her eyes.

If her son was right in front of her, she would have spanked him to the moon.

Seeing Jacqueline's reaction, Ainsley's curiosity was tickled. The baby tugged on Jacqueline's ribbon accessories on her chest and asked innocently.

"Who is your son, auntwie? I have never seen the Billios Famiwi head's face...he's too mysterious..."

Oh, well, even Jacqueline was mysterious. If not, she would have recognised the woman as the Billios Family's chairwoman!

When Ainsley asked like that, Jacqueline appeared to be a bit confused as she poked Ainsley's cheek.

"Haven't you met him already? He's the Billios Casino owner...the young man you met under the name 'Zack', ah!"

....Z-ZACKKKK??

Chapter 483 - "Spilling The Beans"

When Ainsley heard the name 'Zack', her mind couldn't process the information clearly. She was in a daze for a few seconds...before something finally exploded in her mind.

!

"ZWACK?? That ZWACK??" Ainsley almost fell from Jacqueline's lap straight to the floor. The baby looked at Jacqueline with her mouth wide open.

"Ywou...ywou sure, auntwie?"

"Huh? Of course! He didn't tell you yet? He told me everything...ah, wait. You really don't know anything?" The woman suddenly looked flustered as she muttered to herself.

"This is bad. I thought Jake already told this girl since Evan did...he still didn't tell her?!"

Jacqueline inhaled deeply before smiling gently at Ainsley, trying to stay cool.

"Uh...well, my son told me not to tell anyone, but I thought he already told you...my bad."

Ainsley wanted to facepalm.

So if you knew Zack hadn't tell me anything, you wouldn't tell me, right??

Ainsley felt like her whole world was being turned upside down. She didn't know who to trust anymore.

So Zack is the Billios Family head? But that liar already swore an oath to be at my back and call...

This...isn't this bad?!

Knowing what Ainsley was thinking, Jacqueline chuckled while shrugging her shoulders casually.

"It's Jake's fault, anyway. You don't need to worry that he had sworn an oath to you. I know you will definitely not abuse it, right?"

The woman patted Ainsley's head gently as she continued.

"And his oath is only to fulfil your wishes, right? It's nothing serious like dying for you or being loyal to you. No worries!"

"Hwumm..." Ainsley already got used to Jacqueline reading her minds and could only nod weakly.

So his real name is Jake and not Zack? Hmph. What a liar! All of you are liars!

From Zack to Jake, Uncle Max to Evan, and then Neil Alter, who's actually Finley Walter...no one could be trusted.

Only Finnie can be trusted!

Ainsley puffed her cheeks. It was the first time she sulked like that...and in Jacqueline's eyes, the baby looked so adorable that she almost kidnapped her.

"You really look similar to our descendants with that appearance. Hehehehe." The woman stroked Ainsley's head once more with a smile decorating her face.

She only had one child, and that's Jake. She was also an only child before this...so the Billios Family's inner circle was actually small.

They brought their in-laws into the family to make the family circle quite big for such an influential family like the Billios Family.

Ah, and since they didn't adopt the style of marrying multiple wives or husbands, they didn't have many descendants.

The good thing was, there's no internal conflict so far. The family was united, and only the in-laws usually created a scene.

But nowadays, even the in-laws knew how to behave...just like Jacqueline's husband. He's the third son of an influential non-mafia family but had no power in his family.

When he entered the Billios Family, he was treated like a king and the man didn't become an a*shole from all the treatment. Thus, he now had a fairly good position in the family, on par with his wife.

But still, the Billios Family liked children due to a shortage of descendants. Somehow, each generation could only have one child throughout their life...so it's truly, truly hard for the Billios Family.

Despite the weird curse, they still didn't want to marry many wives or husbands and kept their tradition up to this day.

It's uncommon for people in this world to have more than one wives or husbands, especially the mafia families, but the Billios Family was one of the unique examples.

Oh, the Walter and Aretha family were also monogamous believers...

What about the Sloan Family?

Ainsley still didn't know about it, but since her father ran away after having her, maybe there's no time to have a mistress or anything.

But in the past, there were tons of cases with mistresses or multiple husbands...

And that's how they got 6 family branches, okay?

Back to Billios Family. They didn't lack money, but they lacked children. It's not a wonder that every single Billios Family descendant liked kids and treated them well...

Just like Jake and Jacqueline. Jacqueline couldn't help but look at Ainsley in her disguised appearance with some kind of expectation in her eyes.

'Hum...if only her family isn't rising to the top right now...we can coax her to come to our family...right?'

There were many cases where the Billios Family adopted an orphan, and the orphan was groomed to be a successful child.

So far, there's no ungrateful brats that turned their back on the Billios Family. The orphans lived well in the Billios Family as young masters and miss. They even got along well with the true descendants.

And so, Jacqueline couldn't help but think if there's a possibility...to adopt Ainsley.

'She will definitely become more successful under the Billios Family's grooming, right? She's only three and her family affairs already burden her...'

If she could be free from her duty, she might be able to unleash her potential in a short time. Or maybe it would be the opposite.

Jacqueline recalled Jake's idea about adopting Ainsley if she ever wanted to run away from the family, and the woman giggled to herself.

'Ha...I know why he's so obsessed with this baby. She's truly cute, amazing...and somehow she resembled the Billios Family main descendants!'

A lot of people could simply dye their hair black and wore red eye contact lenses, but not many could look this similar to a Billios descendant.

This baby...had an aura similar to those from the Billios family. Her demeanour, attitude, and everything...

Chapter 484 - "Another Big Shot's Connection"

'If Jake said this baby is his bastard daughter or something, I'd believe him too.'

Jacqueline giggled once more before patting Ainsley's back.

"Don't be too mad at Jake, okay? He only wants to remain hidden and mysterious..."

Jacqueline paused for a bit before sighing.

"If he told you he's the Billios Family head from the start, you might act unnatural around him...that's why he lied to you."

Well, he didn't lie. He just didn't tell the truth.

Ainsley also could understand why the big shots covered their identities. Thus, she wasn't that mad at Jake. The baby nodded at Jacqueline and giggled.

"It's owkay, auntwie. I don't hate Jake..."

I'll only punch him in the face the next time we meet.

Ainsley was already grinning from ear to ear and planned all sorts of methods to bully Jake. Unlike when Evan disclosed the truth about his identity, Ainsley was more pissed off at Jake.

It's weird. You can call it a bias, but whatever. Uncle Evan deserved the best love, and Jake earned the worst beatings.

I'm fair! It's not because Uncle Evan looks like Finnie or anything. It must be because Jake is actually so annoying. Hmph!

Jacqueline knew whatever was in Ainsley's mind, and she couldn't help but cover her mouth to suppress her laughter once more.

T-this child. She knew Jake is from the Billios Family and even the family head...but she still wants to punch him in the face? If she's not a Billios descendant, what is she?

The Godfather's disciple? Can be!

Such a brazen little brat...how cute, ah! This is why I want a cute yet evil daughter...like me.

Jacqueline tried hard to maintain her calm and elegant vibe in front of Ainsley when in fact...she's no different from Jake. But of course, she's already 50-ish...she had to act mature.

"Cough." Jacqueline cleared her throat before patting Ainsley's head.

"Anyway, nice to meet you, Ain. Let's exchange contact numbers, okay? I'm also interested in the potions you will auction..."

Oh, well, her main goal wasn't to bribe the baby to sell her the potions. It's truly just to see what the hype is all about and whether it's real or not.

If it's real, maybe the Billios Family could make an exclusive partnership with the Sloan Family.

"Here's my phone number. Give me yours."

Jacqueline gave Ainsley her business card with her personal contact there, something that only big shots like Rie, Geraldine, Cain and the other guild masters could have.

Ainsley knew nothing about this and just casually told her phone number to Jacqueline while saving Jacqueline's phone numbers.

"You already got Jake's phone number, too, don't you?" The woman suddenly asked right after she saved Ainsley's contact as 'Cute Baby'.

"Hum, I goth his numbel." Ainsley nodded innocently.

She still didn't know that getting Jake's personal phone number was something only a few people could have...

She has a privilege right off the bat!

"That's good, that's good. You can call him anytime...ah right, I heard he's going to come to the auction. Maybe he will be late, but he will be here."

Jacqueline winked at Ainsley while stroking the baby's head.

Of course, she didn't say that Jake would come with Geraldine, the alchemist guild master, and a female elf from the elven continent...

That's a secret that only Jake's close friends knew, after all. It might be too burdening for Ainsley if she knew that an elf would come to her auction.

It's her first auction, too...she should be more relaxed.

"Alright. I think I have held you back here for quite a time. The auction is about to start, right?"

Jacqueline looked at her phone and saw that it's only ten minutes before 8 o'clock.

The auction will be starting soon!

"Make sure you eat bread or something to fill your belly before you supervise the auction, okay?" The woman warmly advised Ainsley as she stroked the baby's bulging belly.

Ah...this baby is still so cute!

Ainsley could feel Jacqueline's friendly intentions toward her, and she didn't reject it at all. "Hehehe, twank ywou, auntwie. I'll be gwoing now."

Ainsley hugged Jacqueline for the last time before jumping off her laps and called Cellino to leave the room.

"Auntwie, I will gweet ywou again aftel the auctwion!"

And, of course, Jake has to be next to you, the mother. Hmmm, it will be fun to beat up Jake in front of his mother, right?

Hmph! Hmph!

Ainsley was already planning something evil even when she hadn't left the room...

Jacqueline couldn't help but laugh.

That baby truly belongs to the mafia society. She's going to be the second Godfather for sure!

"Okay, Godtoddler. See you after the auction. I'm looking forward to the potions you're going to auction."

"Hwum! Byeh byeh!" Ainsley waved back at Jacqueline before leaving the room with Cellino.

Of course, the silent Godfather spirit and Zev followed closely behind, each with different thoughts.

[...the Lil Lass has a really good social skill, huh.]

[Yeah, she's a big shot magnet. She met big shots as easily as buying something from the market.]

Zev sounded a bit jealous of Ainsley when he said that. After all, the Godfather, the previous host he got, was a total anti-social guy...

It was so hard to get him friends and connections!

On the other hand, the Godfather looked in a good mood. He whistled here and there while tugging the corner of his lips.

[Hmmm. Lil lass will definitely not follow after this lord's doomed path.]

That's a good thing.

And just like that, Ainsley went to the first floor to see her first auction that would start in a few minutes.

Let's go!

Chapter 485 - "Ainsley's Precautions"

Since it's already time to start the auction, before they took out the items, Ainsley, as the one holding the auction, went to the stage and stood behind a mini podium prepared for her.

It was really short that it looked a bit funny somehow, but when Ainsley went to the stage, none of the guests dared to say anything or comment about her.

The initially bustling hall quietened. Even those on the second floor also focused their attention on the baby.

Let's see what she's going to say!

Under everyone's gazes, Ainsley stood behind the podium while fixing her cute ribbon tie on her chest.

Once she's ready, the baby tapped her fingers on the wooden podium while bringing her mouth closer to the microphone attached there.

"Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for attending my auction tonight."

Ainsley flashed a professional smile as she cast her gaze on everyone in front of her. This time, she didn't bother using her cutesy language since it wasn't that appropriate.

She needed a charismatic and dependable image right now. Thus, Ainsley secretly told her inner demons to start using a tiny bit of intimidation.

When the inner demons activated the intimidating aura, bit by bit...there's a holy light behind the baby, making her look like an angel or something.

Of course, it's not a cute angel but a holy one.

The intimidating aura wasn't bloodthirsty or cruel this time since Ainsley wanted to appear gentle yet dignified.

With a soft smile on her face, the baby nodded at the crowd.

"I, as the Sloan Family head, the one holding this auction, shall officially start the auction—" Ainsley took a deep breath before snapping her fingers.

"Now."

The stage light immediately focused on Ainsley and the podium, the place where the auction item would be displayed.

Right away, the baby tucked her hair behind her ear while waving her hands at the guests.

"Before we start, as a precaution, please don't mind me placing my ability's domain inside the hall."

Once Ainsley said that, she pointed her finger at the ceiling, and from the tip of her finger, a bright gold light slowly shot up.

The gold light started to expand, covering the hall's ceiling, the second floor...and also widening in just a few seconds.

The gold light perfectly created a gold-transparent some that trapped everyone inside it!

When the guests saw the golden dome, all of them instantly reacted.

"It's the golden dome! The domain that killed 500+ Aretha people!"

"What is this? What is she planning? Does the family head plan to attack us or something?"

"Are you an idiot, ah? She said it's as a precaution. It means, no one can make a mess inside the hall and no one can rob the potions either."

"Ah, I see. Since it's incredibly fast to kill someone using her curse when they're inside the dome, right?"

"Right. So, just chill. Look, the big shots are also calm."

Indeed, the guests were a bit startled by Ainsley's doing, but the big shots on the first and second floor didn't react harshly.

On the other hand, they nodded at Ainsley in approval.

They are making sure that the auction safety is guaranteed, huh? That's a good move. This way, the guests will trust the auction staff more than before.

The big shots didn't mind Ainsley's move, and actually admired her instead. For a three-year-old baby to make such a bold movement...she's truly exceptional.

After making sure she had covered the whole building, which wasn't that big anyway, only then did Ainsley lower her hand and look at the guests.

"That's it, ladies and gentlemen. Please, enjoy the auction."

Ainsley slowly walked away from the podium while still activating her intimidating aura. In this case, she didn't want to use her charm ability to make everyone like her.

What she wanted was respect and reference, not mere affections. And it seemed that her tricks worked. None of the guests dared to look down on her just because she's a baby.

The shining golden dome around them became their silent warnings.

Never pick a fight with that lass!

Well, in the end, even though the guests felt a bit more cautious inside the golden dome, they're also relieved that the Sloan Family could guarantee the auctions' safety.

Of course, not everyone in the building felt the same way. A few spies sent by various forces gulped nervously while looking at the golden dome surrounding them.

If we make a move now to steal the potions or rob them, we might die even before we reach the stage!

They all knew just how fast Ainsley could kill someone inside her dome. It was practically a child's play.

Thus, the spies could only stay still for now and looked for opportunities later.

At the same time, the auction host already came up to the stage. It was surprisingly Marietta, the one with a mature woman vibe around her. She's truly the best choice as a host!

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Without further ado, let's start our auction tonight with the first item..."

Marietta, dressed in a body-tight emerald mermaid dress, held the microphone tightly in her hand while gesturing the five buds to bring the items to the stage.

"Introducing, pseudo-awakening potion!"

Jevon, the one bringing the item, immediately placed three bottles of pseudo-awakening potions on the podium they had prepared before.

Of course, one placed an exquisite small pillow above the podium so that the potions would look even more expensive.

At the same time, Ethania played a demonstration video and let the projector show the video on the screen behind Marietta.

"Three bottles of pseudo-awakening potions," Marietta said as the stage light illuminated the three glistening bottles.

Start the bidding!

Chapter 486 - "Crazy Bidding"

The moment Marietta displayed the potions, the guests gasped and held their breaths.

"So that's the miracle potion that can possibly get us a new ability!"

"The colour is so pretty. It looks legit."

"Hey, you're an alchemist, right? Have you ever seen that potion before?"

"I haven't. My seniors said the potion isn't supposed to exist on the human continent. It's rumoured to be an elf's potion."

"Elf's potion? Damn! We have to get it then!"

"Well, sure, but don't forget the big shots are also aiming for those items..."

While the guests were excitedly talking about the first type of potion to be sold, Marietta gripped the microphone once before speaking gently.

"The starting price of the first pseudo-awakening potion will be anything that has an equal value with an adult fist-sized 7-coloured energy crystal!"

Once Marietta announced the base price, the guests sucked in the cold air once more.

Ishhhh, that's more than \$1 million! As expected of a miracle potion. The starting price itself is already above average!

However, the guests were all rich and influential people. A million dollars in exchange for a potion like that was already cheap.

The final price would definitely sky-rocketed!

Indeed, a few seconds after, the guests started to raise their hands to bid.

"Oh, the gentleman over there bid 1.5 million dollars in cash!"

"Ah, two pieces of 7-coloured energy crystals...adult fist size!"

"Another one— a Holy beast's perfect fur! Worth 3.5 million dollars!"

"A high-rank elite monster core with metal elements? Worth 6 million dollars!"

Since the guests could use any items that have the same value when converted to dollars, many guests were offering rare and exotic items to bid for the potions.

Thus, the appraiser that Ainsley hired got to work now. He estimated the price of the item offered and also appraised whether it's real or not.

The guests only need to raise the item, and the appraiser's eagle-eye skill would immediately evaluate them.

So far, the appraiser had helped Ainsley to identify several items that the guests brought. While sitting near backstage, the appraiser kept telling Marietta the item's worth.

"That one is 6 million dollars. It's authentic, yes."

At the same time, he also looked at Ainsley, who's sitting next to him, to confirm whether the baby wanted the item or not.

Even if the item had a higher value than the others, if Ainsley didn't want it, she could casually reject the item to be used as a bidding item.

Thus, the guests came prepared. They brought all things that Ainsley might take interest in.

"Hmm, dat monstel cole is gwood...6 millions is owkay fol one bottwle." Ainsley secretly contacted Marietta through the earpiece that the woman was wearing.

"Settle for the monster core. We want it."

With Ainsley deciding the final transaction, Marietta immediately announced the result.

"Congratulations to Mr X with a high-rank metal element monster core worth 6 million dollars. The first potion is yours!"

When the deal was closed, other guests that offered a more valuable item but weren't what Ainsley needed got dejected.

"So, it's true that the family head is raising a metal-element raptor monster! We should have brought many metal-element items..."

"Hahaha, I bring wind-element items suitable for the family head's contracted sacred beast. I'll use them for the next potion."

With the first bidding as the example, many people who had analysed what Ainsley wanted immediately made a move.

For the second bottle, someone brought it in exchange for wind-element holy grass seed, something that Ainsley wanted to plant in her dimensional bracelet.

The seed was worth 7 million dollars, even more expensive than before, but the guest was satisfied with the exchange.

For the last bottle, since it was the last of the kind, everyone went mad and actually bid so high that the item value reached 10 million dollars!

In the end, the item Ainsley chose was a peach blossom Ravens tea, a good tea that could prolong one's lifespan by half a year.

It was worth 10 million dollars and it could only prolong one's life for 6 months. Imagine how expensive the other lifespan-prolonging items would be.

No wonder no one wanted to auction such items or sell them!

Still, Ainsley was in a good mood after securing the tea.

The baby whistled to herself as Jevon took away the three potions sold to the guests. The guests would claim the items after the auction finished, anyway.

'Hehehe, I got items for Ava, Cellino, and Grandpa Yofan. This is good! We can make sure Grandpa Yofan has another 5 years and 6 months to live.'

Good, good, I'll get tons of money and items tonight!

While Ainsley was giggling over the items she got from the first batch, Marietta already went to the next item.

"Introducing the second item on the list....core-healing potion!"

As usual, Ethania showed the video demonstration while Marietta explained the potion's effect and origin.

"This potion is also made by an elf. So, the starting price will be any item worth 2 million dollars!"

After the guests knew that the potions were indeed made by an elf, they didn't hesitate to bid like mad for the potions.

"I offer a storage ring that can house a dead spirit! The spirit will feel at home!"

"I offer a one-time teleportation bead. Can bring you anywhere in the world!"

"A drop of pure-blood elf's blood! Can prolong one's life by a year! Worth \$15 millions!"

"Baby phoenix feather. It can revive a dead flying-type beast once!"

Many of the guests were desperate to buy core-healing potion that the offer they made...were truly tempting!

Even Ainsley was in a dilemma.

Which one should I choose? They're all good, ah!

Chapter 487: "Three Secret Intruders"

Ainsley was in a dilemma for a few seconds, but then she immediately asked the Godfather.

[Godtahel, do you want to live inswide that spiwit ring?]

The Godfather instantly shook his head. [Hell no. It's the same as trapping this lord. It's not a house for spirits. It's a jail!]

Hearing the Godfather's extreme refusal, Ainsley crossed the spirit ring from her favourite item list. Next, she thought about the baby Phoenix feather...

She didn't have any flying-type beast. It's useless even if she could revive them once.

Thus, the only good choice left would be the teleportation bead and the pure-blood elf blood.

A teleportation bead was good since the owner said it could even send the user to another continent in an instant. But the pure-blood elf blood could prolong one's lifespan by a year...

It's definitely what Grandpa Yofan needed.

In the end, Ainsley leaned more toward the pure-blood elf blood.

She's about to tell Marietta to give the first core-healing potion to the one offering elf blood when suddenly, the appraiser nudged Ainsley with his elbow.

"Hwum? What ish ith?"

"Milady, you better not choose the elf blood. I just checked it, and the blood wasn't purely an elf's blood!"

Ainsley sucked in the cold air.

"What do ywou mwean? Ywou said it was authentic befowe..."

"It is authentic, but I just did another round of appraisal and found the blood was tainted with another race's blood...so it's not purely pure-blood elf's blood."

The appraiser shook his head and blurted out.

"It's a mixed breed's blood!"

"Ehhh? Mixed bweed?" Ainsley was instantly reminded of Axelle. Axelle was also a mix-breed...

"Yes, it's a mix-breed. That's why, there won't be any lifespan-prolonging effect. Only pure-blood elf's blood has that effect!"

And that's why, in the past, the elves were hunted down by the humans and other races before they settled down and built their own territory.

They are now one of the strongest races in this world, but they were so strict about other races entering their territory, much less letting other races contact the pure-blood elves.

Thus, the elves involved in business and other trading that needed cooperation between races were all mix-breed elves or elves that didn't have 100% pure blood.

The elf that Geraldine and Jake met a few weeks ago was also not one with 100% pure blood. She only had 90% pure blood, and thus, her blood didn't have any lifespan-prolonging effect.

When Ainsley knew that the so-called pure-blood elf's blood was actually not 100% pure, she instantly chose the teleportation bead.

[Marietta, choose the teleportation bead. The elf's blood is useless!]

At Ainsley's command, Marietta raised the tiny hammer in her other hand and knocked the podium three times.

"The bidding is over. Congratulations, Miss Y, for winning the first core-healing potion in exchange for a magic teleportation bead!"

After the first bottle was sold, the second and third bottles were also sold out in less than 10 minutes. The second bottle was sold in exchange for a magic fertiliser that could grow any kind of plant.

Ainsley chose the item because Zev told her she could grow more crystalline plants with this fertiliser! Of course, she wouldn't miss out on the chance to cultivate more crystal-making plants.

The third bottle was sold for a wind-element enlightenment stone that could inspire someone with a wind-related special ability to gain a new skill.

The stone was given to Cellino so that the beast could have one more unique skill, to become stronger than before.

After the second type was sold out, Marietta moved into the third type...energy-line condensing potion.

It was at this time that three people wearing grey robes and hoodies sneaked into the auction hall and took the seat at the very back, looking so inconspicuous.

The three people sat side-by-side with the one in the middle was actually a woman wearing a full-face white mask, the same as the other two men were wearing.

Right after they took their seat, the woman in the middle spoke in a low voice that only the two men could hear.

"It seems that we are quite late. The first and second potion types are already sold out."

"Yes, milady. We are quite late...but we can still bid for the other potion types. We still have time!" A young man's voice sounded from the one sitting on the left side.

"But milady, do you bring anything valuable or something? I didn't bring too many valuable items since we were in a rush..." This time, an old man's voice sounded.

The old man touched his storage ring afterwards and sighed.

'I just knew the little baby held a potion auction...no wonder when I could turn on my phone once more, I got a message from her about the auction license...'

Geraldine finally knew about the auction, and when he's back to the human continent, his people also told him the details of the matter.

After hearing about it, he was sure that Ainsley truly had a potion made by an elf...and that elf must be the slave she bought from Jake's last auction!

Even Jake had the same thought.

'So...the blue-skinned elf is an alchemist? No wonder that baby is so brave to buy him despite the risks...she is really insightful!'

At the same time, the woman with emerald hair sitting between the two men also carefully observed the third potion displayed on the stage.

Energy-line condensing potion!

Other alchemists might have to check the potion sample or use potion testers to check the authenticity, but the lady could already see through the potion just from its colour.

That's...a real potion...made by an elf.

A royal elf on top of that!

Chapter 488: "A Mysterious Treasure Island"

Only a royal elf could make that kind of potion...so there's a royal elf on the human continent? How could it be? The elves wouldn't let that happen!

The female elf was curious about the alchemist that created the potion.

Since the potions ended up in a human's hand...the elf must be working for the humans, right?

A royal elf working for the humans....is this a shady deal behind the elf's authority, or someone kidnap a royal elf?

No, no, that's impossible. There's no way a missing royal elf wouldn't trigger the elves to find them.

Still confused with the whole matter, the elf finally looked at Geraldine before whispering, "Can I meet the auction owner after the auction finished?"

Since the suspected royal elf made potions and the humans auctioned it, maybe the mystery will be solved after meeting whoever arranged the auction.

Who is it? A powerful grandpa? A mysterious woman? Someone from the Billios Family?

However, none of the big names came out of Geraldine's mouth. Since the elf, Geraldine and Jake came late, it's normal for the elf not knowing about the auction owner.

Geraldine opened his mouth and answer.

"Ah, you mean Ainsley Sloan?"

"Ainsley? The auction owner is a female?"

"Yeah."

"Who is she? I have never heard of her name...and the Sloan Family, huh. They're not anyone influential, right?"

"Right, but lately, they're a rising star. If you watch the news and Metube, you will know about it."

"I see, I see. Still, it's just a budding power...how could they get an elf's potions..."

"Maybe because of the family head, who is also the auction owner. She's a miracle...and she can do many impossible things!"

Geraldine couldn't help but praise Ainsley whenever he recalled the news and all the videos about the baby.

There's no baby as good as her and there's no young prodigy that would ever surpass her.

"Just so you know, Ainsley Sloan, the Sloan Family head and this auction's owner...she's still 3 years old."

When Geraldine disclosed the truth, the female elf was so shocked that she almost bit her tongue.

"What? She's still 3 years old? A toddler??" The elf was eloquent in the human language since she was used to interacting with humans all this time.

Thus, speaking to Geraldine and Jake wasn't an issue anymore.

"Are you sure the owner is only 3? How can she hold such a grand auction and sell such a high-class potion? These potions are not something one can easily acquire!"

The elf was in disbelief. She twirled her emerald hair between her fingers while looking at Geraldine with wide eyes.

"Is there an elf working for her?"

This must be the case. Else, which elf would want to trade with a 3-year-old toddler? Us elves aren't idiots!

Even when the toddler might be a super prodigy, it's impossible to trade with an unknown human who's also young to the boot.

She's too young!

Thus, the only logical answer to the mystery...must be because there's an elf working for that baby.

"Hmmm, I think so? I'm not that close to Ainsley Sloan. I just met her once."

Geraldine tried to cover up for Ainsley, knowing that Axelle had a complicated background. He could drag the Sloan Family into danger anytime.

"Jake is closer to Ainsley than me." The old man cleverly tossed the responsibility to Jake.

Jake was busy bidding for the first energy-line condensing potion just for fun when the sly old man tossed a hot potato to him.

The young man froze. He instantly looked at the female elf with sweat drenching his back.

"L-lady Sherleen, I-I am close to Ainsley, but I also don't know anything about an elf alchemist..."

It's the truth. Jake didn't know that the blue-skinned elf was actually an alchemist. He's not lying, right? He just realised it now...but he chose to keep silent.

Sherleen didn't see anything wrong with Jake's answers. She didn't know about the elf auction happening a few months ago at Jake's casino. Thus, the lady sighed and didn't pursue this conversation any longer.

"Okay, okay. Just arrange a meeting with the little owner. I'm curious where she gets the potions."

"If you successfully bid for the potions, you can meet her when you go to claim your goods, right?" Jake shrugged at Sherleen, not treating her too highly even when she's an elf.

That's just his nature and Sherleen didn't mind it.

"Hum. I have some items from the Elven continent. I'll bid for the second bottle."

The first bottle of energy-line condensing potion was already sold out. The winner was a young man from a wealthy family that bought the potion with a rare island.

The island he traded for the potion was well-known to be a mysterious land full of treasures.

It was near the sea and also not too far from the dwarf and beastmen kingdom.

One could get many lucky items and treasures from that small plot of land.

Ainsley accepted the land because the Godfather said he also once did a hunting treasure, and he could ensure that there were still tons of treasures hidden somewhere on that island.

Someone said that there's a wormhole or a space crack inside the island that sucked many items from other continents.

The island became a place where weird creatures and items gathered from all over the place.

Unfortunately, only lucky or strong people could benefit from the island.

The young man's family already sent many forces to dig and hunt treasures, only to lose more than what they gained.

If that's the case, why not give the useless mysterious island to the Sloan Family instead?

Let's see if they can benefit from the island!

Chapter 489 - "A Scheme"

Thus, the young master's family thought of trading the island with a potion that clearly was more beneficial for the young master to become stronger.

They thought that they won a good deal since the Sloan Family was still weak to explore the island, anyway.

The island would be useless for the Sloan Family too!

Little did they know that Ainsley already rubbed her hands excitedly as she planned to visit the island sometime in the future, maybe after she roamed the country while establishing family branches here and there.

An island that relies on one's luck to get treasures? That's her speciality!

After securing the deal, the auction continued. Marietta tried to auction the second bottle of energy-line condensing energy.

"The base price is still the same as before. Anything worth \$3.5 million. Start your bidding— now!"

However, unlike the previous bidding when those smaller big shots on the first floor were the one making a move, this time, those on the second floor were a step ahead.

"Dylan Family. A Pegasus Feather. Worth \$3.6 million."

When someone said this from the second floor through the microphone connected to each room, the whole hall went silent.

Those on the first floor, who were about to bid higher, suddenly stopped.

It's the Dylan Family. One of the 7 sacred families!

Who would be dumb enough to raise the bid when they're going against the Dylan Family? Even if they bid higher, it would mean offending the Dylan Family, and the smaller big shots didn't want to risk that.

Thus, no one on the first floor continued to bid. Only those on the second floor did.

"Fellow brother from the Dylan Family, giving a Pegasus feather worth \$3.6 million is too little, isn't it? The last bidding for the first potion is actually close to \$100 million in value, right?"

Someone from the room next to Dylan Family's room spoke casually.

Of course, the mysterious island was worth \$100 million, but the original value was only \$20 million or so since if the owner couldn't exploit the island, they would only suffer from all the losses.

But the person saying that didn't seem to 'know'.

The young man next door chuckled as he looked down at the state through the one-sided window glass on his VVIP room.

"Brother Dylan, allow me, from the Yefta family, to bid higher. We offer the underworld panther's shredded fur...worth \$3.7 million!"

When the others heard the young man, they sucked in the cold air.

Another family from the 7 sacred families!

As if it wasn't enough, another family chipped in.

"Our Fraun Family offered a piece of 1000-year-old Fenrir's claw, worth \$3.8 million!"

The Fraun family was also from the 7 sacred families!

One by one, those from the 7 sacred families bid for the second bottle of energy-line condensing potion, but something didn't seem right.

Even those on the first floor could also feel something strange going on.

\$3.6 million. \$3.7 million. \$3.8 million...

All the items they offered only differ by a bit in terms of monetary value.

Unlike the previous bidding session, where everyone raised the price by a lot, this time, they only raised the price bit by bit.

Not to mention that...the items they offered...sounded ridiculous.

A pegasus's feather? The Dylan Family is close to the Aretha Family. Of course, it will be easy to acquire a fallen Pegasus feather.

For the Dylan Family, it's not even worth \$3.7 million even when the actual price of a Pegasus feather in the market was indeed that high!

A pegasus feather could be used to craft flying-type items, thus making the price unreasonably high. But the 7 sacred families didn't lack a pegasus's feather...

They had Vallan with them, a horse with a pegasus's bloodline!

Even if the little pegasus wasn't really legendary since he's still a sacred beast, his feather still counted as a pegasus feather, right?

Then...the Yefta family offered a shred of fur of the legendary underworld black panther...isn't the Sloan Family's second sacred beast a descendant of the underworld black panther?

Surely they had his fur way back when he fought in the war against the other families, right?

It's not hard to get just a shred of fur that was rumoured could revive the dead. It's just a rumour, so the price wasn't impossibly high.

But the market price was indeed that high, about \$3.7 million, due to the rarity and the mysterious effect.

But...in this case...it...sounded so inappropriate?

Especially when they offered it to the Sloan Family who owned the real sacred beast who's a descendant of the underworld black panther!

And what's with the last family, the Fraun Family from the 7 sacred families...they offered a 1000-year-old broken Fenrir claw...

It was clearly a humiliation to any Fenrir descendant since their ancestor in the past lost a bit of their claw to the humans and somehow the Fraun Family owned the fragments.

And now they dared to offer the claw fragments to the Sloan Family who had a sacred beast with a Fenrir bloodline?!

That...isn't that an insult?!

If the guests realised this, how could Ainsley not? The baby was already trembling hard as she glared at the rooms on the second floor.

You guys are trying to buy the potion cheaply while also giving us insulting items? Is this how those from the 7 sacred families work?

I shouldn't have allowed them to attend!

Ainsley let the 7 sacred families, aside from the Aretha Family to come, all because she wanted to pressure them by showing her family's capability in the potion field.

Now they wanted to humiliate her?!

Chapter 490 - "Super Suitable"

Ainsley finally realised that these people wanted to cheat her. They wanted no one to bid against them and then got the potion at a low price.

They would also be giving an extremely humiliating item...

Damn it! Is there a way to solve this? Maybe get someone who dared to bid against them...

Ainsley bit her lips as she observed from backstage. She didn't plant any of her people among the guests to make a bid. It's too late to do so...

Should she step in? Or maybe called those big shots from the guilds? Grandma Rie?

Ainsley was about to call Grandma Rie, the Shaman Guild Master when Sherleen, the female elf, suddenly raised her hand that was holding her auction number.

The female elf's face was glowing as she opened her mouth—

She had been waiting for this!

What's so hard to get an item that a baby would like? Especially something from the elven continent...that baby would be satisfied with this!

Amidst the tense atmosphere, Sherleen smiled smugly while shouting in a disguised voice.

"I offer an item worth \$10 million!"

The sudden price rise startled the guests, especially those on the second floor. They were sure they could humiliate Ainsley and got the potion with a useless item when a woman suddenly interrupted.

An item worth \$10 million? What is it?

Before anyone asked, Sherleen already took out something shiny from her pocket and proudly lifted it to the air so that everyone could see it.

The moment the item was revealed, everyone gasped and held their breath.

That— that item!

Some of them had to close their eyes because the item was too blinding. It even resonated with the golden dome around them.

The item...is gold! Made of pure gold! It looks so holy and godly!

However, the moment the blinding light disappear, revealing the item's true appearance, the hall went silent once more.

Those on the first floor, those on the second floor and even Ainsley...all of them twitched their lips.

Isn't that...

"A golden pacifier!" Sherleen rubbed her nose proudly as she stood still with her back straightened.

With the hoodie covering her head and face, no one actually saw her appearance.

They only saw the golden...pacifier.

It's a pacifier.

"A golden pacifier used by baby elves on the elven continent. It's worth \$10 million in the human continent. Any appraiser can check the item for its authenticity!"

Sherleen spoke in a stern and confident voice. Her chest was stuck out like a proud peacock as she held the golden pacifier in her hand.

Oh, yeah, it's not an ordinary golden pacifier but a pacifier used by baby elves—worth \$10 million.

It's good stuff!

"...AS IF!" Ainsley already jumped to her feet and was ready to beat up whoever brought up the golden pacifier.

DO YOU THINK I AM AN IDIOT??

The baby's face was flushing red, and she's panting hard.

Huff huff– which bastard offered such a useless item? A golden pacifier used by baby elves? So what?! Can it make humans live longer or something?

Fck!

Ainsley wasn't the only one who looked at Sherleen with twitching lips and veins bulging on their forehead.

Those from the 7 sacred families even almost jumped to the first floor to beat up Sherleen.

Are you an idiot? Why would you bring out such a uselessly expensive item?! A pacifier used by the baby elves? For what??

No one actually thought that the golden pacifier was a real deal, but Ainsley's personal appraiser already started to examine the pacifier from afar using his appraisal ability...

And he was stunned.

[Golden pacifier]

Grade: S

An item crafted especially for royal elves when they're still babies. The item stimulates the elves' connection with nature, nurturing their soul and spirit.

If used by humans, will greatly benefit a shaman ability user, enabling them to withstand their contracted spirit's overwhelming energy by half.

Will greatly help a shaman to avoid identity crisis syndrome, aura residue illness, and other cases caused by a large disparity between the spirit and the shaman.

Since it was made for elves, humans are advised to use them only when they need it urgently. Do not use it for too long!

The appraiser was dumbfounded.

There's such an item? This pacifier...is so good? Fck?

Sherleen herself didn't realise that she took out the wrong pacifier.

The one she intended to take out was an ordinary elf pacifier used for ordinary elves. It's also golden, similar to the golden pacifier, but it wasn't as good as the golden pacifier.

The one she took out was something she kept for the elf princess that she took care of ever since a baby. It's an heirloom for her...

And Sherleen just used it to bid.

Once she used it to bid, after she won the bid, staff would put a label on the item and not let Sherleen keep it back to her storage to prevent any kind of cheating.

That way...she would never know she made such a big mistake...

And she did!

But no one knew...only the appraiser knew.

Once he read the item details from his appraisal ability, he was suddenly convinced that Ainsley needed this pacifier.

'The little boss is a shaman, and it's rumoured that her contracted spirit is the Godfather, right? She will surely need the pacifiers!'

The appraiser gritted his teeth as he looked at Ainsley, who's about to storm out of the backstage.

I need to persuade the little boss!

The appraiser immediately tugged on Ainsley's sleeve and whispered in her ear.

"Boss, pick that golden pacifier! It's truly SUPERRR suitable for you!"

Alas...Ainsley misunderstood him.

"WHAT DID YOU MEAN IT'S SUITABLE FOR ME, HUH?!"