

Nathan and Penny frowned at these words.

Ferlyn Smith was much more vocal. “What do you mean? What kind of service is this?” she raged.

The tea specialist, Yvonne Lou, said with her chin up, “These are our rules. If you can’t afford good tea, you’ll have to sit right outside the bathroom. Why are you acting like a queen when you’re so broke?”

Ferlyn was beyond livid. “It’s all your fault,” she said to Penny. “Why did you order such cheap tea? You’re embarrassing me.”

After berating Penny and Nathan, she then declared to the tea specialist, “I want a pot of your finest tea—the kind that costs ten grand a pot!”

Yvonne was elated. “Really?”

“Of course,” Ferlyn said smugly. “This table’s too small for four people. Have them sit somewhere else.”



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Chapter 421 Appear Before Me In Three Minutes

The tea specialist nodded fervently with a smile. "Certainly."

Then, she turned to Nathan and Penny with a straight face. "Please move to one of the tables outside the bathroom. You can pick whichever you want."

Penny was furious, but Nathan asked calmly, "Why do we have to give up our seats? We were here first."

"That's because they ordered the most expensive tea," Yvonne retorted. "You, on the other hand, chose the cheapest one. Naturally, they deserve a better table."

Ferlyn and Theodore smirked at Nathan and Penny with glee.

Nathan remained calm. "Is ten grand for a pot of tea the most expensive thing you have on the menu? I thought it costs more to have your boss, Mary Sharp, brew someone's tea."

Everyone's eyes widened.



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Chapter 421 Appear Before Me In Three Minutes

Yvonne laughed coldly. “Of course. The tea Ms. Sharp brews costs the most. In fact, she only does it for the most distinguished guests. Unfortunately, few in Channing have the privilege of drinking something brewed by her personally. Even the mayor could only dream of this experience. Who do you think you are? You ordered the cheapest pot of tea. You’re clearly broke, but you’re thinking of getting my boss to brew you some tea?”

“Is Mary Sharp’s tea really that incredible?” Nathan asked with a smile.

“Of course it is,” Yvonne scoffed. “Every bigwig in Channing who has tried Ms. Sharp’s tea is proud to have done so.”

With a nod, Nathan took out his phone and made a call. “I’m Nathan Cross. I want Mary Sharp to appear before me in three minutes. I want her to brew me some tea!”

Everyone was taken aback by Nathan’s words.

Yvonne, Ferlyn, Theodore and the other



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Chapter 421 Appear Before Me In Three Minutes

guests stared at him in shock.

Have the owner of Ivory Teahouse show up in three minutes to brew this guy some tea? Not even the mayor could do that!

Mary Sharp came from a wealthy family and opened this teahouse in Channing many years ago. Countless guests yearned to try her tea, but no one ever dared threaten her.

Because of her prominent family history, no ordinary big shot could afford to get on her nasty side.

Nathan's always lived off the Smiths, and now he wants Mary Sharp to come over within three minutes?

Ferlyn was the first to laugh coldly. "Hah! There's nothing really embarrassing about drinking cheap tea or sitting outside the bathroom, but you've just humiliated yourself completely with your bluff. Never call yourself a son-in-law of the Smiths. You're nothing but an embarrassment."



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Chapter 421 Appear Before Me In Three Minutes

Yvonne mocked him too. “Ha, what a load of nonsense. You’re so full of yourself. The Ivory Teahouse isn’t a place for beggars like you to run amok. Please leave right away, or I’ll have security kick you out.”



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Chapter 422 I Want To See Him In A Tough Spot

Several men in suits with Bluetooth headsets in their ears walked over. “What’s going on, Ms. Yvonne?”

She pointed right at Nathan’s nose and announced, “This broke guy is here to cause trouble. He picked somewhere nice to sit but ordered the cheapest tea available. After I told him to move to another table, he now says he wants our boss to show up in three minutes and make him some tea. Isn’t he a troublemaker? Should I chase him out?”

Despite being taunted by Yvonne and having everyone’s fingers pointed at him, Nathan remained unfazed. “Didn’t you say whoever orders the most expensive tea gets to sit here? That’s why I’m asking your boss to come and brew me some tea. Is there a problem with that?”

Penny turned red with embarrassment and couldn’t stop signaling him with her eyes.

She wanted Nathan to stop talking. *This is all humiliating enough.*

Chapter 422 I Want To See Him In A Tough Spot

Even the mayor, Russell Crow, couldn't get to enjoy Mary Sharp's tea despite coming for three days in a row.

How could an ordinary guy like Nathan expect her to show up in three minutes and make him tea?

Yvonne sneered, "Do you really think someone as lowly as you is worthy of drinking Ms. Sharp's tea?"

"How about we kick him out right now, Ms. Yvonne?" asked one of the security guards.

Ferlyn, who stood and watched the commotion, chimed in sarcastically, "The man says he can get your boss to come in three minutes. It's already been two minutes, so why don't we just wait another minute?"

"I agree with her," Theodore said with a fake smile.

Yvonne crossed her arms and laughed coldly. "Sure. I'd love to see him in a tough

Chapter 422 I Want To See Him In A Tough Spot

spot.”

Penny was truly worried that Nathan would only end up in a difficult situation. Before three minutes passed, she quickly pulled onto his hand and said, “Come, Nathan. Let’s have our tea somewhere else.”

“No. I want to enjoy my tea here today, and I want Mary Sharp to brew it.”

Yvonne couldn’t help but laugh. “I’ll crawl out of here if you actually get to drink Ms. Sharp’s tea.”

Nathan smiled. “I’ve never heard of such a bet in my entire life.”

Yvonne glared at him and said haughtily, “Then you’ll crawl out of here on all four limbs if you don’t get to drink her tea. That shouldn’t be a problem, right?”

Penny’s expression turned ghastly, but Nathan immediately agreed before she could stop him. “Alright!”

Ferlyn and Theodore grinned from ear to



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Chapter 422 I Want To See Him In A Tough Spot

ear. “Haha! Looks like something interesting’s about to happen.”

Looking as though her victory was secured, Yvonne gazed at her watch and declared, “You have ten seconds left.”

Suddenly, the sounds of hasty footsteps came from the stairs.

Everyone turned toward the stairs. “Oh, God! The boss is here. It really is Mary Sharp!” someone exclaimed.

Dressed in a green embroidered cheongsam, a stunning-looking woman in her thirties rushed in with a few subordinates.

It was Mary Sharp—the owner of Ivory Teahouse and Channing’s best tea connoisseur.

Her appearance instantly caused an uproar.

Yvonne, Theodore, Ferlyn and Penny were in complete disbelief.



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Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

“What are you doing here, Ms. Sharp?”
Yvonne asked, horrified.

Mary made a beeline for Nathan and greeted him respectfully, disregarding Yvonne.

“It really is you, Mr. Cross. I’ve idolized you for the longest time. It must be my lucky day to see you in person.”

Everyone in the teahouse was dumbfounded once more. This woman, who never even gave the mayor the time of day, was actually treating Nathan with reverence.

Yet, he responded nonchalantly, “Is that so? Your employee doesn’t seem to welcome me.”

Yvonne paled instantly.

Astonished and furious at the same time, Mary immediately asked what happened.

She fumed with anger and glared at Yvonne coldly. “I never said good seats



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Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

were only meant for customers who order expensive tea. You're my disciple; how could you mistreat my patrons like this?

"I'll personally brew Mr. Cross some tea to apologize. You can start crawling out of here. Also, you're no longer my disciple. Look after yourself from now on!"

Yvonne went on her knees with a loud thud. "Ms. Sharp!"

"I've told you many times to conduct yourself well before you learn to brew tea," Mary said aloofly. "You have a terrible attitude. You should go home and reflect on yourself."

Yvonne kneeled on ground and bawled with regret.

Unfortunately, there was no use crying over spilled milk.

With a wave of Mary's hand, two subordinates dragged Yvonne away.

Then, Mary turned to apologize to Nathan.



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Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

“I’m truly sorry for what happened, Mr. Cross and Ms. Smith. Please allow me to brew you some tea as my apology.”

“Sure,” Nathan replied.

The crowd was in an uproar again. *She’s really going to make him tea!*

Ferlyn and Theodore gazed at the couple with mixed emotions. Ferlyn, in particular, looked especially jealous.

Mary instructed her subordinates to fetch some expensive tea leaves and a top-quality tea set.

She then burned some charcoal in a tiny red clay stove and boiled some water that was to be used for Nathan’s tea.

Well aware of Nathan’s status, she did her utmost and dared not leave out a single step.

Her movements looked extremely effortless and pleasing to the eye. She truly was a connoisseur.

Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

The tea was soon ready, and Mary served Nathan a cup. "Please enjoy your tea, Mr. Cross!"

Everyone's eyes widened as they stared at Nathan with envy. *She's actually offering him a cup with both hands. No one's ever been given such treatment!*

How they wished to be in Nathan's shoes right now.

What Nathan did next caused everyone's jaws to drop. Instead of taking the cup from Mary, he tapped the table lightly. "Put it down."

Mary began to feel anxious. "Is the tea not to your liking, Mr. Cross? Please let me know if there's anything you're not happy with. I'll take care of it right away."

Everyone gazed at Nathan.

The man remarked, "You used Yuqian Dragon Well tea leaves and half-boiled water sourced from deep mountains. Your skills aren't bad either. It's just a shame."

Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

Mary was extremely shaken before Nathan even finished.

He could tell at a glance the kind of leaves and the water's origin I used. He even knows about the importance of the water temperature and my technique.

Nathan was showering her with compliments all the way until he said 'it was a shame'. "What is it?" she hurriedly asked.



He gazed at a couple standing nearby. "It's just a shame that I have to look at two unrefined scoundrels while enjoying such a lovely cup of tea. What a mood killer."

Hearing that, Ferlyn and Theodore instantly turned grim.

Mary understood what Nathan meant. She turned to the couple and said coldly, "I'm sorry, but we won't be serving you. Please leave at once. You're bothering my distinguished guests."

Theodore was infuriated, but Ferlyn looked

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Chapter 423 Please Enjoy Your Tea

murderous. “Great! Just you wait!” she exclaimed while glaring at Nathan and Penny.

With that, the two scuttled away.



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Chapter 424 Not Worthy Yet

Everyone gazed at Nathan in astonishment. To them, Mary wasn't just being respectful; it seemed like she was trying to butter the man up and flatter him.

"I've admired you for a long time, Mr. Cross," Mary said while gazing at Nathan like a fangirl. "Judging from the way you accurately described the leaves and water used to brew your tea, you're certainly a tea connoisseur yourself. If you don't mind, could we be Facebook friends? I was hoping to learn more from you when you have the time."

Everyone was dumbstruck with envy.

The beautiful Mary was voluntarily asking him to be friends on Facebook; this was something that had never happened before!

Yet, Nathan surprised Mary along with everyone else by turning her down with a simple reason. "Sorry, but I don't use Facebook."

The crowd exchanged glances.



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Chapter 424 Not Worthy Yet

Mary knew some elite members of society didn't use Facebook as it seemed informal.

However, she asked for his precisely because she wanted to communicate with him more casually.

Having been rejected, Mary could only settle for the next best option. She took out an embossed name card and handed it to Nathan politely with both hands.

"Since you don't use Facebook, please have my name card instead, Mr. Cross. I hope to have a chance to learn more from you."

Wow!

All the big shots present in the teahouse were astonished.

Mary was now proactively giving him her number. This was something almost every upper-class man dreamed of!

Penny initially didn't mind Mary keeping in touch with Nathan.



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Chapter 424 Not Worthy Yet

However, the latter was persistent.

In addition, Mary was a stunner. Her eyes seemed to sparkle with excitement whenever she looked at Nathan.

Penny couldn't help but felt jealous.

Yet, Nathan turned Mary down once again. "Sorry. I've been busy these days, so I'll think about it next time!" he said with a faint smile.

The other guests were about to go insane.

They patronized this teahouse regularly, hoping to catch a glimpse of Mary.

Being able to see her was something worth feeling happy about, and it was a great honor to have a chance at sampling her tea.

Countless men dreamed of getting this woman's number, yet Nathan rejected her twice.

How they wished they could rush over and



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Chapter 424 Not Worthy Yet

snatch her card.

Nathan's refusal to maintain contact disappointed Mary. "Sorry for being presumptuous, but I still hope I can remain in contact with you someday. I'd really appreciate your guidance."

"I'll see about that," Nathan replied calmly.

He obviously wanted her to leave.

With that, Mary bowed politely, then served Nathan and Penny their tea before leaving with her subordinates.

Seeing how gloomy she looked, many of her fans wished they could give Nathan a beating.

Still, they could understand why he paid no heed to her.

That was because the woman sitting next to him was incredibly gorgeous.

Sure, she wasn't as stunning as Mary was, but her elegance and class were



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Chapter 424 Not Worthy Yet

unmatched.

Penny grinned at Nathan. “Why didn’t you agree to exchange numbers? Ms. Sharp is such a devout fan of yours.”

Nathan merely replied, “She’s not worthy yet!”



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Chapter 425 Seduce Nathan Cross

Penny's eyes widened upon realizing that her husband was far more arrogant than she thought. She didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Of course, she had no idea that it was never easy for one to obtain Nathan's number.

Penny changed the subject. "You shouldn't have done that to Ferlyn and her boyfriend. Forgiveness is a virtue. We shouldn't burn our bridges with them in case we ever meet again."

"I didn't want to have to resort to that, but think about how they treated us. I don't mind being humiliated by them, but they were rude to you. I couldn't let them get away with it."

Penny's heart turned warm and fuzzy upon hearing that.

Meanwhile, inside an indoor hot spring at Mt. Autumn Hot Springs.

A strong, muscular Theodore had just

Chapter 425 Seduce Nathan Cross

gotten frisky in the hot springs with Ferlyn.

At present, she leaned into his scar-filled chest, glistening with sweat. "I've never been humiliated like that all my life, Theodore," she said meekly. "To think I got chased out of a teahouse! You'll have to avenge me."

While Theodore looked like he was just accompanying Ferlyn back home, he had actually been ordered to face off against Nathan Cross.

"Don't worry. Nathan Cross pisses me off too. I'll have to teach him a lesson," he remarked while narrowing his sharp eyes.

Ferlyn's eyes twinkled. "How will you do that?"

"I'm going to make his wife leave him and tear that family apart."

"Sounds good! But their marriage looks really stable. I don't think it'd be easy to break them up."



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Chapter 425 Seduce Nathan Cross

Theodore grinned while staring at Ferlyn. "It will be, but you'll have to get yourself involved."

Ferlyn froze. "Me?"

Theodore eyed the woman's naked body from head to toe. "That's right," he said with a smile. "You're his cousin-in-law. You're beautiful. If you seduce him, there's no way he can resist you."

Ferlyn slapped Theodore's chest in disbelief. "You jerk! How could you ask me to seduce Nathan? Are you trying to ruin or dump me?"

Theodore pulled her into his arms with a laugh. "Why would I ever dump you? I told you I used to be a mercenary abroad for a few years. I'm as open-minded as foreigners are. Don't you want to see Penny's family destroyed?"

An image of Nathan surfaced in Ferlyn's mind. The man looked decent at first glance, but the more one gazed at him, the more attractive he looked.



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Chapter 425 Seduce Nathan Cross

Ferlyn had been promiscuous ever since her high school days and her private life was an absolute mess. Chastity was a non-existent concept to her.

A one-night stand with Nathan doesn't sound that bad, to be honest!

Putting on a hesitant and reluctant face, she accepted Theodore's request.

Theodore narrowed his eyes. "It is your birthday tomorrow. You can host a small party at a hotel. Don't invite the elders—only your friends. Get Nathan and Penny to come too, then find a chance to seduce Nathan."

He continued smugly, "If it works, we'll leak the news and make sure Penny finds out. She'll definitely divorce him."

"Okay," Ferlyn said excitedly. "I just hate seeing a bitch like Penny do well in life!"

Both Theodore and Ferlyn were filled with anticipation, but they had their own hidden motives.



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Chapter 425 Seduce Nathan Cross

She looked forward to having fun with the attractive and delectable Nathan Cross.

She was excited to see Penny divorce him, causing the entire family to fall into ruin.

Theodore also wore a smirk on his face.

His mission wasn't just to kill Nathan; he had also been tasked with taking the manufacturing rights for the liver cancer vaccine from Cross Group.

He knew it wasn't going to be easy dealing with Nathan, which was why he deliberately instigated Ferlyn to seduce the man.

If it works out, Penny will divorce Nathan.

When that happens, he will leave miserably, and she will be alone and helpless.

It'd be a piece of cake for me to deal with her then.



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Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

The next day, Ferlyn called Penny to apologize for her actions from the day before.

The latter replied awkwardly, "Nathan wasn't exactly right either. I've talked to him about his actions."

Then, Ferlyn jumped on the opportunity. "It's my birthday today. I'm planning to hold a mini party at Channing Hotel tonight and invite my friends. Why don't you and Nathan come along too?"

Penny was slightly hesitant. "I'm not sure if he's available."

"Why? It's not like he has to work at night. Or are you both still mad at me? Is that why you don't want to attend my birthday party?"

"No, that's not it at all," Penny hurriedly replied. "Okay then, I'll tell Nathan about your party. We'll be there."

"Great! I'll see you both then."



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Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

Ferlyn hung up and made an OK gesture at Theodore, who was standing nearby. "She's agreed to come!" she sneered.

Theodore squinted. "Excellent!"

Night fell and the city lit up.

The second floor of Channing Hotel had been turned into a birthday setting.

An array of delicious food filled the buffet tables and there were champagne towers.

Hundreds of young, well-dressed men and women stood in groups of two or three, holding their champagne glasses while chatting away. There was a pleasant piano track playing in the background.

At that very moment, Nathan and Penny walked in.

The man was handsome and well-built, whereas the woman was slender and gorgeous.

They caught everyone's attention upon



Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

entry.

Cross Group was a dark horse, booming rapidly in Channing's world of commerce.

Because of that, Penny shot to fame and was known as the goddess of Channing's business world.

All the men and women went over to greet her, causing Ferlyn, who was dressed in a sexy off-shoulder gown, to become filled with jealousy.

Ferlyn had been pampered by her elders since young and often pitted against Penny.

She would wreck whatever the latter liked. Penny always ended up crying in exasperation because of this.

Tonight, Ferlyn was about to steal Penny's man!

She discreetly adjusted her dress to expose more of her bosom.



Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

Then she walked over to Nathan and Penny with Theodore.

“Nathan and Penny! You’re finally here,” she exclaimed, pretending to sound excited.

“Sorry, we’re late. There was a bit of traffic. This is for you,” Penny replied, handing Ferlyn a gift.

The latter took the gift and faked a smile. “Thanks, Penny!”

Theodore smiled too. “Don’t just stand there, now—let’s sit down and have a chat!”

Very quickly, the four of them, along with a few of Ferlyn’s high-status close friends, sat down and engaged in conversation.

They chatted away happily while enjoying their dessert and champagne.

Suddenly, Ferlyn changed the subject and turned to Penny, who wasn’t wearing any makeup. “Why are you bare-faced, Penny? You came without putting on any

Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

makeup?" she asked, as though feeling very surprised.

Penny didn't wear any makeup tonight, nor was she dressed glamorously.

She figured that since today was Ferlyn's birthday, it was best to let the birthday girl shine. Penny didn't want to steal her spotlight.

That was why she came in her everyday clothes and chose not to doll herself up.

"Oh, I'm just used to not wearing makeup on regular days," Penny said rather sheepishly.

Ferlyn couldn't stop shaking her head while glancing at Penny's clothes. "You didn't wear any makeup and you're dressed so ordinarily. You're not feminine at all. You'll end up turning into an old, haggard housewife soon enough."

Penny laughed heartily, not taking offense at all. "I'm already married, so it doesn't matter how I end up looking. It's fine as

Chapter 426 Laughing at Penny

long as Nathan doesn't hate me."

"That's not necessarily true!" Ferlyn immediately argued, "What kind of man doesn't like pretty women? Who would ever like a haggard housewife?"



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Chapter 427 Resist The Temptation

Ferlyn's friends spoke up too.

They said Penny wasn't ladylike and that she would soon end up looking like an old housewife. "No one like a woman who isn't feminine!"

The more people said the same thing, the more believable it sounded.

Penny didn't really mind Ferlyn calling her unladylike, but now everyone else was saying the same thing.

She wondered if she truly was as they described. *All I do is work, and I only wear light makeup when I need to.*

Will Nathan hate me for that?

Penny felt anxious.

She stood up and said apologetically, "I have to use the loo."

After Penny left for the bathroom, Theodore stood up and announced, "I'll go check if the cake's ready. You guys have

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Chapter 427 Resist The Temptation

fun.”

He left, too.

All who remained were Nathan, Ferlyn and her friends.

Penny’s gaze fell on Nathan. The man had such a well-defined face. With his thin lips slightly curled into a subtle smile, he looked extremely captivating.

Her heart suddenly fluttered. *Damn it. The more I look at him, the more ravishing he looks.*

I have to win him over tonight!

Ferlyn raised her glass of red wine and stared at Nathan alluringly. “Nathan,” she called out coquettishly.

Nathan’s gaze fell on Ferlyn, who looked especially revealing. “Yes?” he responded with a faint smile.

Fluttering her eyelids, Ferlyn glanced at him flirtatiously. “The more I look at you,

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Chapter 427 Resist The Temptation

the more I realize how dashing you look. Penny sure has good taste.”

Nathan smiled indifferently.

Ferlyn smirked like a vixen. “Are you into old-fashioned and unladylike women like Penny? Or do you prefer passionate ones like me?”

By now, Penny had already returned from the bathroom.

Upon vaguely hearing what Ferlyn had just said, she froze on the spot.

Instead of walking over, she quickly hid behind a pillar nearby.

What will Nathan say?

“Penny is the only woman I’ll ever love for the rest of my life,” Nathan answered simply.

“That’s because you haven’t tried other women, like me!” Ferlyn said brazenly.



Chapter 427 Resist The Temptation

Penny instantly turned ghastly from hearing Ferlyn's words.

She was shocked and furious at the same time. How could her own cousin flirt with her husband so shamelessly?

Nathan's gaze darkened. "Have some self-respect, Ferlyn."

He's such a pretentious saint!

He's probably thinking of getting it on with me. He's just too proud to admit it in front of other people.

Thus, she leaned closer and said meekly, "Aww, come on, Nathan. Why so serious? I really like you. It's so boring here. How about we go somewhere a little quieter and get some fresh air?"

Penny's eyes widened in astonishment, fury and concern. She was worried that Nathan would accept Ferlyn's offer.

Even an idiot could tell her cousin was trying to seduce Nathan. If they were to



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Chapter 427 Resist The Temptation

head out, they were definitely going to commit something taboo.

Penny was truly afraid that Nathan wouldn't be able to resist the temptation!

Yet, just as Ferlyn leaned over and was about to press herself onto Nathan, the man chided, "Stay away from me! You stink and I can't stand it!"



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Chapter 428 I Will Avenge You For Sure

Boom!

Nathan's words struck Ferlyn like lightning. She remained frozen on the spot.

Fear quickly rose in her eyes. Her private life was always a mess, so her lady bits indeed emitted a foul stench.

She usually covered it up with so much fragrance that even her boyfriend, Theodore, never took notice.

Yet, Nathan had just pointed this out in front of everyone!

Ferlyn instantly turned red with embarrassment and anger.

Even Penny was stunned at first, but upon realizing what was going on, she didn't know whether to laugh or cry. *You're horrible, Nathan.*

Nathan gazed at Ferlyn and exclaimed, "So is this is what it means to be ladylike? Hah! You get full marks in this category then. Get away from me. I might just throw up!"



Chapter 428 I Will Avenge You For Sure

Nathan's words dumbfounded the surrounding guests. They cast unusual glances at Ferlyn.

Rather than the stench Nathan spoke of, everyone could only smell the branded fragrance Ferlyn wore.

But thinking about how promiscuous Ferlyn was and judging from how worked up she looked right now, everyone knew Nathan had to be telling the truth. *She definitely stinks!*



Ferlyn became even more embarrassed and livid.

She had just laughed at Penny and called her unladylike.

She shook with rage from Nathan's unbearable comment..

Completely disregarding her, Nathan got up to leave while calling out to Penny. "Stop hiding, Honey. We have to go now. I could pass out from the stench."

Chapter 428 I Will Avenge You For Sure

Penny walked away from the pillar, blushing as she didn't expect Nathan to know she was hiding there.

She stared at him, unsure whether to laugh or be mad at him. *Look at what he's done to Ferlyn!*

But it's not exactly his fault either. Ferlyn was asking for it.

Theodore frantically showed up just as Nathan and Penny were about to leave.

"Why are you guys leaving so soon? I thought I heard you talking about fish, Nathan. What was that about?"

Nathan smiled faintly. "Nothing. I just said you must really like fish."

Theodore was taken aback. "I'm okay with it. I only like fish and chips, though. Why do you say that?"

Nathan glanced at a fuming Ferlyn before giving Theodore a smile. "Maybe you should ask your girlfriend. See you."

Chapter 428 I Will Avenge You For Sure

With that, he turned and left with Penny.

Ferlyn had started off by mocking Penny and calling her a haggard housewife. Then she seduced Penny's husband.

After discovering Ferlyn's true colors, Nathan and Penny had no qualms about walking away.

Theodore turned to Ferlyn. "What's up with them, Ferlyn? Weren't you supposed to seduce Nathan while Penny and I were away? Didn't you want to break them up?"

Ferlyn burst into tears.

She naturally wasn't going to talk about her body odor. "Nathan humiliated me. You have to get back at him for me."

Theodore didn't expect Nathan to resist Ferlyn's charm at all. He found it rather strange.

However, after thinking about how Nathan's own wife was more gorgeous, classy and elegant than Ferlyn, it wasn't

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Chapter 428 I Will Avenge You For Sure

much of a surprise that the man wasn't tempted.

Even Theodore himself was just putting on an act with Ferlyn.

"Don't cry," he consoled her. "I'll avenge you for sure!"

"And that woman from the Ivory Teahouse too," Ferlyn said cruelly. "Everyone who has ever humiliated me will pay!"



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Chapter 429 A Prominent Family In Northania

“Sure,” Theodore said with a smile. “I’ll have someone abduct Mary and make her kneel while making you tea. Then, I’ll take care of Nathan and Penny.”

Mary came from a prominent family in Northania. Most people in Channing admired her background and dared not lay a finger on her.

Theodore Lloyd was the general manager of Ocean Corporation that dealt with firearms.

He used to be a mercenary abroad during his earlier days and was rather well-known in Southeast Asia.

He then became Trip Turner’s right-hand man, overseeing the weapons deals to Southeast Asia’s Armed Forces.

Whether it was tribal leaders, army chiefs or drug lords, he had seen it all.

Someone like Mary meant nothing to him.

Besides, this woman probably knows Cross

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Chapter 429 A Prominent Family In Northania

very well, considering how much she respects him.

I should capture and interrogate her about him.

That very night, Theodore ordered his subordinate, Lucas Payne, to kidnap Mary.

With a large frame and muscular build, Lucas was a formidable fighter and killing machine.

Unfortunately, he was brash and impulsive, and certainly not the brightest bulb around.

The man barged into the Ivory Teahouse with several dozen henchmen to take Mary away by force.

However, the guests and security guards blocked their paths. By the time Lucas ordered his men to knock everyone down, Mary had already escaped amidst the chaos.

He hurriedly gave Theodore a call.



Chapter 429 A Prominent Family In Northania

Fuming with anger, Theodore ordered Lucas to expand his forces and capture their target at all costs.

Mary was like a lost dog tonight. She had dropped her purse while escaping, thus losing her phone, wallet and identity card among other things.

With not a single cent on her, she wanted to head over to the police station, only to notice a suspicious person looking around.

Mary tried to get help from her friends, but they all said she had ticked off Ocean Corporation's general manager. The man had declared that anyone who tried to protect her was against Ocean.

None of her friends dared help her.

She wanted to take a cab and leave Channing, but there were even people looking out for her at every taxi station!

The most frightening thing was that Theodore's henchmen were searching for



Chapter 429 A Prominent Family In Northania

her all over the city.

After running and hiding like a rat, Mary finally made it to the municipal council and headed straight for the mayor's residence.

"I've offended Ocean Corporation's general manager, Mr. Mayor," Mary said in tears. "He's using his connections to seal the entire city, and his men are searching for me everywhere. Please help me. No one else wants to."

Russell Crow's head spun at the mention of Ocean Corporation.

The owner of Ocean Corporation was Trip Turner. His father, Dip Turner, was the King of the South.

Russell was the mayor of Channing, but he couldn't risk going against the King of the South by protecting Mary.

It certainly wasn't worth the trouble of getting on the Turner's nasty side.

He gazed at Mary pitifully and shook his

Chapter 429 A Prominent Family In Northania

head. "It's not that I don't want to help you, but you've gotten yourself into too big of trouble. I'd only end up getting myself in trouble too."

Mary fell to her knees crying. "If even the mayor can't help me, I'm really doomed."

Russell hesitated for a moment before remembering someone.

He immediately told her, "Ocean Corporation is just too powerful. I won't be able to guarantee your safety even if I help you. However, there's one person in Channing you can go to. As long as he agrees to help, no one can touch you."

"Who is it?" the woman frantically asked.

"Nathan Cross!"

Chapter 430 Look Out

Nathan's phone rang at 3 am while he was still fast asleep.

He got up and answered the phone.

Mary's voice came through the line. "Hello, Mr. Cross? This is Mary Sharp. I'm being tracked down. They want to kidnap me, but nobody will help me. You're the only one who can protect me. Please save me!"

Nathan walked out of the bedroom with his phone and frowned. "What's going on? Slow down."

While in tears, Mary briefly explained what was happening.

After finding out that Theodore was after Mary, Nathan asked calmly, "Where are you now?"

"I'm in a small alley across the municipal council. I borrowed this phone from a janitor who cleans the streets."

"Stay where you are and don't move. I'm coming over right now."

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Chapter 430 Look Out

Nathan hung up and got dressed. Seeing the sky flash with lightning, he took a black umbrella with him and left home.

Mary hugged herself and trembled with fear while crouching in the dark alley. There was a filthy trash bin nearby that was swarming with rats.

She was cold, hungry and afraid. Just earlier today, this woman was the well-respected tea connoisseur enjoying everyone's idolization at the Ivory Teahouse.

But tonight, she was like a lost dog and a street rat. Everywhere she went, there were people trying to hunt her down.

Having remained hidden for half the night, Mary had never suffered this much in her entire life.

Lightning flashed across the sky, followed by thunder. A heavy downpour ensued.

Suddenly, a few black cars stopped in front of the alley. "Mr. Cross?" Mary asked as

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Chapter 430 Look Out

she happily walked over.

The moment her words fell, out came a dozen tall, muscular men.

The man leading them was none other than Lucas!

Mary's expression changed abruptly.

Lucas watched as Mary's cheongsam became soaked from the rain, causing it to hug the woman's body and reveal her curves.

"Mr. Lloyd wants to see you, Ms. Sharp," he said with a smirk. "Be a good girl and come with us. Or do you prefer us to carry you instead?"

Mary instantly paled. "You're despicable! You barged right into my teahouse, and now you're chasing after me relentlessly. Do you think you're above the law?"

Lucas laughed ruthlessly. "Mr. Turner has the final say, and Ocean Corporation IS the law—for commoners like you, at least."



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Chapter 430 Look Out

He then waved his hand. "Take her away!"

The henchmen snickered as they stared at the drenched woman. "Haha! Don't be afraid, pretty lady. Be a good girl and come with us."

Just as they were about to make a move on Mary, an icy voice suddenly rang out from behind them. "Hold it!"

Lucas and his men turned to see a tall figure holding a black umbrella.

"Mr. Cross!" Mary exclaimed, almost breaking down.

Lucas recognized the man, too. "Heh, you just love getting yourself into trouble, don't you?" he scoffed. "After him, men! Let's kill him and get our rewards from Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Turner!"

"Charge!"

Lucas and his dozen men drew their knives and attacked Nathan.



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Chapter 430 Look Out

Nathan walked over indifferently while holding the umbrella with his right hand.

Lucas, who was leading the assault, aimed his sharp dagger at Nathan's chest.

"Look out, Mr. Cross!" Mary screamed.



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Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

Suddenly, Nathan raised a leg and kicked Lucas in the knee.

Crack!

With a shiver-inducing noise, Lucas' kneecap instantly broke. The man wailed in pain and fell to his knees.

But Nathan didn't stop. He walked right past Lucas.

Whoosh!

Another man dashed toward Nathan's gut.

Nathan raised an arm, grabbed onto his opponent's wrist and instantly snapped it.

"Arghh!" the man screamed and retreated.

Nathan carried on walking like a passerby on a rainy night, ignoring Lucas and his henchmen.

All he wanted was to head over to Mary; he would simply kick aside anyone who got in the way.



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Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

By the time he stood before Mary, Lucas and his gang were laying on the ground with broken limbs, moaning in pain.

Mary turned crimson and her heart raced, as though she just had one too many drinks.

Nathan held the black umbrella over Mary's head, shielding her from the rain.

"You're just in time, Mr. Cross," Mary said excitedly. "I would've been in danger otherwise."

"It's fine now. Let's go!"

Having noticed that Nathan came alone, Mary quickly persuaded him, "We can't just walk out of here without a care. There are still many people searching for me. We're in trouble if they spot us."

Nathan gazed at Mary and asked blankly, "Why can't we walk outside without a care? Did you rob or kill someone?"

Mary subconsciously shook her head.



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Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

“No.”

“Did you commit a crime?”

“No.”

“Then why can’t we walk as we please?
Let’s go.”

Mary’s eyes widened. She ran like a street rat all night and hid from Theodore’s men.

At this very moment, she saw how resolute Nathan looked and gave him a firm nod.

“Okay. I’ll do as you say!”

Just as the two walked out of the alley under the umbrella, eight SUVs showed up and about thirty menacing-looking men got down. They had rushed over to back Lucas up.

Mary instantly tensed up and turned to Nathan. “Mr. Cross?”

“Don’t mind them.”

The moment his words fell, a Bentley and

Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

about a dozen vans arrived at the scene.

Out of the vans came nearly a hundred men, and in the lead was Thomas Dunn's right-hand man, Jack Green.

Jack said furiously while holding a machete and bringing his large group of men with him, "Goddammit, these Ocean bastards actually think Channing belongs to them. How dare you cause a stir and attack Mr. Cross? Y'all must be tired of living."

Then he roared, "Kill them!"

In a blink of an eye, Jack and his team charged toward Ocean Corporation's minions like a pack of hungry wolves. A vicious battle ensued.

Meanwhile, Thomas exited the Bentley and opened the door for Nathan and Mary. "Please get in, sir," he said politely while lowering his head.

Mary's dress was soaked from the rain. Despite Thomas lowering his head and not

Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

daring to look at her, she still felt embarrassed and hid next to Nathan.

Thomas sat in the driver's seat after they entered the car. "Take Ms. Sharp back to her residence," Nathan instructed.

Thomas immediately drove off after finding out that Mary lived at the River Bay Luxury Villas.

The Bentley headed toward River Bay at a moderate pace.

With a large, bearded man in the driver's seat, Mary couldn't help but think about how soaked her dress was. She was so embarrassed that she wanted to learn against Nathan.

He noticed the woman shivering, so he quickly removed his coat and covered her with it. "Use this if you're cold."

Mary was dismayed. *Doesn't he have any idea how many men fall for my charms?*

I may not be as pretty as Penny, but I'm certainly good-looking too, no?



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Chapter 431 Do You Dislike Me

Unfortunately, Nathan never even gave her a second glance. His eyes remained crystal clear the whole time, obviously unfazed by the woman's beauty.

This made Mary frustrated and disappointed.

She bit her lip and asked softly, "Do you dislike me, Mr. Cross?"



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Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

“We’ve only just met, so I can’t say whether I like or dislike you. However, I already have someone I love, so don’t ask me such questions again.”

Mary felt rather dejected. This was her first time falling for a man; unfortunately, he was married.

They soon arrived at her villa.

“Go on home,” Nathan said to her. “I’ve asked Thomas to send some men to protect you. You’re safe now.”

Mary reluctantly got out of the car with Nathan’s coat draped over her. “Thank you for tonight, Mr. Cross. Goodbye,” she said softly while gazing at him.

Nathan nodded and gave Thomas an order. “Head to the hot springs. I have a score to settle with Lloyd.”

“Yes, sir!”

Mary tightly clung onto Nathan’s coat, muttering to herself as she watched the



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Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

car disappear from her sight, “Some people are just like the moon; you can love them all you want, but you can never have them.”

The heavy downpour continued late into the night.

The hot spring recreational center was part of Ocean Corporation, only opened to its employees.

In the lobby were several men in black with Bluetooth headsets in their ears. They either remained standing, sat on the couch, or lay down.

Some had dozed off, whereas some checked their phones out of boredom.

Suddenly, the glass door opened.

A tall, young man with attractive features strolled in while holding a black umbrella.

It was Nathan Cross.

Following him with reverence was his



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Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

assistant, Thomas Dunn.

The security guards inside the lobby who had been slacking off quickly got up and made their way toward Nathan.

“What are you two doing here?” the leading man with a buzz cut demanded.

Nathan slowly retracted his umbrella before asking, “Is this one of Ocean Corporation’s territories?”

The security guard was slightly taken aback. “Huh? You know about Ocean Corporation?”

He eyed Nathan from head to toe with interest and chuckled. “Judging from your outfit, you must be a rich kid. Are you thinking of joining Ocean after hearing how great we are?”

The other guards laughed while gazing at Nathan. “We only accept mercenaries who have fought actual battles, punk. Even the worst of us would have at least finished martial arts school.”



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Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

“You look like a twig, so don’t even think about joining us.”

Ocean Corporation dealt with firearms, so it was in fact considered a private military company.

Many young men often considered joining Ocean Corporation as a mercenary something to be proud of.

Hence, these security guards assumed Nathan was nothing but a rich kid with a hero’s dream.

The man in the buzz cut smirked.
“However, it’s not entirely impossible for you to join us. Pay us your respects by giving us a million, then we’ll put in a good word for you with our boss. We might just let you in then.”

Nathan threw them a disdainful glance.
“Are you done with your bullshit? If you are, tell Lloyd to get his ass here and talk to me,” he remarked coldly.

The leading man’s eyes widened with

Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

shock and anger. “I think you’re just here to f**k around, you little punk. Are you tired of living!?”

With that, the man whipped out a wooden baton.

He violently swung it toward Nathan’s head with a roar.

The latter raised an arm before the baton came into contact with him.

Bam!

A powerful fist landed right into the security guard’s face.

His face caved in as it instantly covered in blood, and he collapsed before he could even make a sound.

“You’ve got some balls to lay a finger on our men! After him!”

Two other security guards immediately charged toward Nathan with their batons.



Chapter 432 Thank You For Tonight

He kicked them both swiftly in the chest.

They spewed a mouthful of blood, flew back and slammed into the wall before slumping to the ground.

The remaining guards gasped sharply as they observed the terror in front of their eyes.

Then, they turned on their heels and ran while screaming in panic.

“This is bad! Help! There’s a crazy bastard at the door!”

“Someone’s here to beat us up, Mr. Lloyd!”

“We’re in trouble, Mr. Lloyd. Someone just killed Cain, Igor and Finn!”

Nathan casually followed these men further into the center with Thomas.



Chapter 433 Last Chance

Theodore and Ferlyn had only just fallen asleep in their room a while ago after a long night of amorous congress.

Suddenly, vague cries for help could be heard from outside.

Theodore hurriedly sat up, causing Ferlyn to rub her eyes and asked, "What's happening, Theodore?"

Before he could answer, a knock suddenly came on the door, followed by frantic screaming. "Help, Mr. Lloyd! Someone's causing a stir in the lobby. He killed a few of our men!"

Theodore jumped in shock, swiftly put his clothes on and walked out in fury. "What the hell's going on!?" he demanded, glaring at the subordinate in the hallway.

Before the man could report what was happening, Nathan appeared in front of Theodore without warning.

The situation dawned upon Theodore. "So it's you, Cross!"



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Chapter 433 Last Chance

Nathan remarked blankly, “The Turners must have sent you to deal with me. There’s no need for you to find out about me. If you’re that curious about my abilities, I’ll personally show you.”

A subordinate leaned over and whispered in Theodore’s ear, “This is the latest news, Mr. Lloyd. Lucas and his men are dead.”

Theodore glared at Nathan in shock and anger. “Heh! You killed my subordinate, Lucas, and now you have the balls to come walking right into my territory, you little shit? In that case, let’s not waste any more time. I’m going to personally find out just how much of a tough guy you are.”

With that, Theodore ripped his shirt apart, revealing a firm, muscular body full of scars.

Astonishment and idolization appeared on the faces of every Ocean Corporation subordinate as they saw Theodore’s body.

Just how much did one have to go through to have such scars as medals?



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Chapter 433 Last Chance

Thoroughly enjoying his subordinates' gazes of admiration, Theodore smirked at Nathan before flexing his muscles, causing all his joints to pop.

He beckoned Nathan over with a finger. "Let me show you what it's like to be up against the King of Mercenaries!"

Hearing that, Nathan's mouth twitched slightly. Meanwhile, Thomas nearly broke out into laughter.

A self-proclaimed mercenary up against the General of the North—the God of War, Ares? You've just landed yourself a worthy opponent, punk!

"Bring it on," Nathan said calmly.

"Prepare to meet your death!"

With a loud roar, Theodore dashed toward Nathan with a fist in the air.

His fist was swift like lightning and heavy like a thunderstorm.



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Chapter 433 Last Chance

The men of Ocean Corporation couldn't help but cheer.

Even Ferlyn, who hid behind the room door to observe the spectacle, couldn't conceal the twinkle in her eyes.

Unfortunately for Theodore, Nathan took a step back and easily avoided the punch.

Kaboom!

Theodore's fist landed on the wall, causing a huge hole as concrete debris flew everywhere.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Theodore threw seven more punches consecutively.

Yet, all it took Nathan were seven extremely small steps to evade his attacks. The wall was now filled with an entire row of holes.

Nathan shook his head in disappointment. "That's all there is to the King of

Chapter 433 Last Chance

Mercenaries? What a letdown.”

Theodore was stunned and livid. “Stop running away! Come and face me head on!” he roared.

“Alright!”

Nathan gladly complied, charging straight toward Theodore.

He moved so quickly that Thomas and everyone else watched with anticipation.

Nathan directed a fist at Theodore.

The latter didn’t expect Nathan to move at such a frightening speed. He quickly raised his arm and aimed a fist at Nathan too.



Bam!

The two fists collided.

Crack!

Theodore’s entire arm broke in an instant,

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Chapter 433 Last Chance

causing him to wail in pain.

Nathan took the opportunity to send a deep punch straight into the man's chest.

Bam!

Theodore collapsed to the ground. He was dead.

Everyone turned to Nathan in absolute fear.

Then, he announced to the Ocean Corporation subordinates, "Tell the Turners to retreat within a month's time. Get Dip Turner to personally come to me and beg for mercy on his knees. This is the Turners' last chance."



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Chapter 434 I Will Kill Him With My Own Hands

No one dared to utter a single word.

Nathan led Thomas away. When they walked passed the room, the men saw Ferlyn, who was covering her mouth with her hands, looking terrified.

They stopped in their tracks.

Ferlyn dropped to her knees in terror and pleaded in tears, "Please don't kill me!"

Nathan replied, "I'm not going to kill you, but I guess you'll have to get yourself a new boyfriend now. Also, regarding today's events, I hope that you would keep it as secret and don't let Penny know about it. I don't want her to worry."

Ferlyn was trembling profusely as she repeatedly muttered, "I won't say, I'm not going to tell anyone... "

Nathan didn't speak any further and marched off with Thomas.

The news of Theodore's death reached Alberesque very quickly.



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Chapter 434 I Will Kill Him With My Own Hands

Dip Turner gathered his two sons, Trip Turner and Philip Turner, and raged, "What's wrong with the both of you? The man you sent to deal with Nathan Cross got himself killed instead and his dead body was sent back. Not to mention that Nathan Cross even threatened us to quit the underground business completely and disappear within one month. He also demanded that I go to him personally and beg for forgiveness! If you don't settle him soon, I'll probably end up dying of embarrassment!"



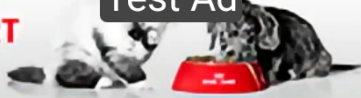
Trip Turner did not take Nathan seriously at first, and had only sent Theodore, his right-hand man, to deal with him.

Never would he have expected Theodore to be killed, and Nathan had even demanded the Turner family to retire from all their businesses.

Trip Turner was completely enraged by Nathan this time round. With a murderous glint in his eyes, he said in a deep voice, "Dad, I have indeed underestimated Nathan Cross previously. But now, I will kill

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Chapter 434 I Will Kill Him With My Own Hands

him with my own hands!”

As numerous protégés and followers of Dip Turner had already lost their lives in Channing, the man was more or less traumatized by the city.

Therefore, when his youngest son volunteered to take down Nathan himself, Dip Turner expressed his worry. “Nathan Cross is not easy to deal with, maybe it’s better for me to handle him instead?”

Trip Turner snickered and said, “Ha! What’s so great about Nathan Cross? He’s not important enough for you to exert yourself. Dad, just rest at ease. I’ll take Ocean Group’s Fantastic Four with me and we’ll set off for Channing right away to finish off Nathan Cross and avenge Theodore.”

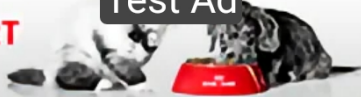
Ocean Group’s Fantastic Four!

They were the four main pillars of the Ocean Group, as well as the most powerful subordinates under Trip Turner.

The East Pillar, Wraith, was scrawny and

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Chapter 434 I Will Kill Him With My Own Hands

looked as flimsy as a ghost. He had a violent and cruel temperament and he enjoyed torturing his enemies to a slow death.

The West Pillar, Steel-face, was two-meter tall and as strong as an ox. He was usually seen wearing a steel mask and looked like a huge, ferocious beast. Steel-face only took orders from Trip Turner.

The South Pillar, Maitreya, was a chubby man. He was an expert at carrying out sneak attacks under the pretense of friendliness.

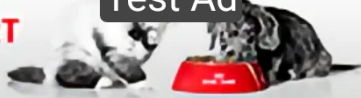
The North Pillar, Akao, was in his forties, but looked like a young lad in his twenties. He was good at maintaining a youthful appearance and often drank the blood of beautiful women as his beauty tonic.

They were one in a million and their abilities were exceptional. Any of these four aces would be able to set off a bloody storm.

Dip Turner was relieved when he heard

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that Trip was intending to take the Fantastic Four along to aid him in getting rid of Nathan Cross.

Given the Fantastic Four's mightiness, even the most formidable forces in Channing would not be a match for them.

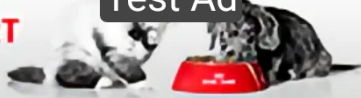
Dip Turner was smiling ear to ear as he said, "Since you are taking the Fantastic Four along with you, there's no need for me to worry anymore. However, keep in mind that those four men are extremely ruthless. You should hold them back, if needed, to avoid unnecessary bloodshed."

Trip Turner sneered, "Dad, I'll try my best to control them. But anyone who's closely related to Nathan Cross, and whoever pits themselves against our Turner family, will have to die."

That very afternoon, Trip Turner mobilized a private jet owned by the Ocean Corporation, and set off for Channing, together with the Fantastic Four—Wraith, Steel-face, Maitreya, Akao—and a team of subordinates.

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

Night fell and the streets of Channing were brightly lit.

As it was around dinner time, Ivory Teahouse, which was situated along the shores of Lake Rose, was brimming with diners.

However, a group of unwanted guests suddenly barged into the restaurant.

The man, who appeared to be the leader of the group, was dressed in a tailor-made suit, and had a princely air of aristocracy.

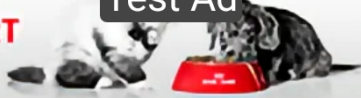
He was none other than Trip Turner, the boss of the Ocean Corporation, who was also the youngest son of the King of the South.

Standing behind the man were his four subordinates—scrawny Wraith, strong-built Steel-face who was wearing a steel mask, chubby and smiling Maitreya, as well as youthful-looking and effeminate Akao.

Bill Zanker, the head of security of Ivory Teahouse, approached the group with a

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

few security guards. With a suspicious look on his face, Bill asked, “What are you guys here for?”

Trip Turner smiled subtly and replied, “I heard that your lady boss, Mary Sharp, is a very attractive woman. Get her here to have a cup of tea with me.”

“Who do you think you are? How dare you treat our lady boss like a hostess. Scram now, or else, we will call the police!” Bill yelled angrily.

Trip Turner’s face darkened and he instructed coldly, “This dog’s barks are getting on my nerves, kill him!”

“Yes, Mr. Turner!”

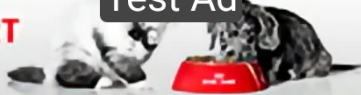
One of the Fantastic Four, Steel-face, who was standing behind Trip Turner, stepped forward and swung his fist towards Bill’s head.

BASH!

Bill’s skull split apart instantly and his

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

brains were splattered all over the floor.

The other diners in the teahouse began to scream in horror.

Among the security guards was Bill's younger brother, Wayne.

Witnessing the tragic death of his brother, Wayne's eyes turned red at once as tears started to form. He sprang towards Trip Turner and his group, and wailed, "You killed my brother! I'll avenge him!"

Swish!

Wraith, who was next to Trip Turner, darted out like a phantom, moving at the speed of lightning. He collided head-on with Wayne.

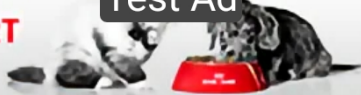
CLASH!

Wayne flew backward from the impact of the collision and crashed onto the floor, with his body littered with bloody holes.

On the other hand, the small and scrawny Wraith was standing firmly on his spot,

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

with a menacing sneer on his face. He was holding a human's heart in his hands, which was still dripping blood.

Wraith lifted his head and opened his mouth before stuffing the heart into it. He seemed no different from a snake swallowing its prey.

How could such a tiny mouth stuff down a whole, raw heart just like that?

The crowd could feel their scalps tingle and their blood ran cold.

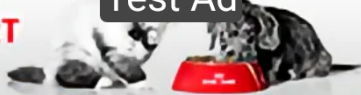
A few, who were unable to withstand the gore, had turned their heads away and started throwing up.

Trip Turner remained composed and smiled gently at the crowd. "As you could see for yourselves, today is not really a good day to have tea here. I'll give all of you one minute to leave this place," he said.

Upon hearing Trip Turner's words, without a moment of hesitation, the diners took off

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

like a bullet.

Duh. Even the stupidest person could tell that Trip Turner was a monster who killed without batting an eyelid. No sane person would dare to stay on!

In a matter of seconds, there were only ten over beautiful tea mistresses left in the spacious Ivory Teahouse.

Even the teahouse's waiters and security guards had run away, together with the rest of the diners.

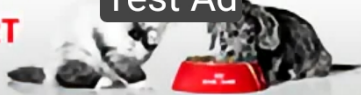
Meanwhile, Trip Turner sat down at a table. He waved at the most gorgeous tea mistress and instructed, "You, come over here and brew some tea for me."

That tea mistress who Trip Turner had his eyes on was Mary's eldest disciple, Samantha Young.

Samantha walked over cautiously and said with a slight tremble in her voice, "What tea would you like to have, sir?"

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

“Give me some Biluochun tea!” Trip Turner replied with a grin.

Samantha started brewing the tea immediately, not allowing a second of delay.

However, when she finished brewing the tea and was about to pour a cup for Trip Turner, one of the Fantastic Four, Akao, suddenly inched near her. Then, he extended his fingers, and brushed against her cheeks with his long fingernails.

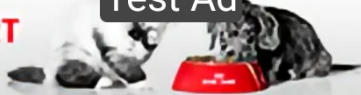
Samantha’s face turned ashen with fright, and she wanted to dodge Akao’s touch by moving backward.

But before she could move a step, Trip Turner said, “Stay where you are, if you dare to move away, your life would be over.”

Samantha was scared out of her wits and was about to burst into tears. With her voice shaking, she said, “Then... w-what shall I do?”

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

Trip Turner replied with a faint smile, “Just pretend that he’s not there and continue pouring my tea.”

Samantha had no choice but to carry on with pouring the tea. Akao took a deep inhale of the smell of Samantha’s hair, and traced his sharp fingernail across her delicate face. Instantly, a wound appeared on the woman’s face, where blood starting seeping out.

Akao stuck out his long tongue and licked on Samantha’s face greedily, cleaning up the drops of blood on her face. When he was satisfied, he closed his eyes and said in a frigid tone, “A pretty lady’s blood is delicious indeed.”

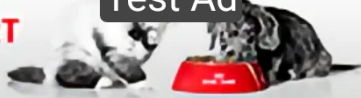
Samantha was so terrified that she was shaking uncontrollably. She was already on the verge of losing her sanity!

Trip Turner asked with a smile, “Where’s Mary Sharp?”

“S-she’s upstairs...” Samantha replied gingerly.

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Chapter 435 Where Is Mary Sharp

Pleased with the reply he received, Trip Turner demanded, “Go get her here. If I don’t see her standing in front of me within one minute, something unfortunate is going to happen to all of her disciples—you girls.”

Just then, a female voice could be heard from the staircase, saying in a cold tone, “There’s no need for that, I’m already here.”

Mary Sharp, who was dressed in a green embroidered Chinese dress, walked down the stairs with a grim expression on her face.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



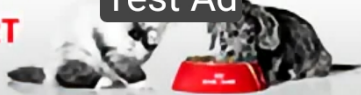
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Chapter 436 Get Nathan Cross Here To Die

Trip Turner and the Fantastic Four were all mesmerized by Mary's beauty.

Absolute stunner! The men thought in unison.

With a lecherous smile on his face, Maitreya even expressed boldly, "Mr. Turner, this woman is gorgeous; she's totally my type!"

Competing against Maitreya, Akao said, "Mr. Turner, she's breathtakingly exquisite, I need her blood to maintain my youthful appearance."

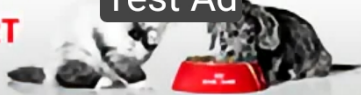
Maitreya turned around and looked at Akao. "Akao, there are better uses for a babe like this. Must you drink her blood? I think you are going mad from your pursuit of youthfulness."

Akao sneered and retorted, "Ha, Maitreya, how can you say that of me? Aren't you intending to taint her body as well?"

Trip Turner tapped on the table and exclaimed in displeasure, "Stop arguing!"

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Upon hearing that, Maitreya, Akao, Wraith and Steel-face quietened down and returned to their original positions behind Trip Turner, while awaiting further instructions from their leader.

Trip Turner fixed his gaze on Mary, who was looking a little pale, and smiled politely, "Ms. Sharp, it seems like my subordinates are all very fond of you! If you give Nathan Cross a call now, and get him to come here and offer his life, I might consider sparing yours!"

Mary bit her lips and replied, "What if I refuse to?"

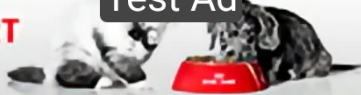
Trip Turner answered placidly, "Then you and your pretty disciples shall be at the mercy of my subordinates tonight. Whoever lives to see the daylight would be considered very lucky."

The faces of Mary, Samantha, and the rest of the tea mistresses immediately turned as pale as a sheet!

Especially Samantha, who was

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traumatized after being wounded by Akao just now. The man had even drank her blood!

Her first-hand experience had convinced her that this group of people in front of them were monsters.

The group consisted of people who were lecherous, slaughterous, violent, and there was even one who enjoyed drinking human blood! It was too terrifying.

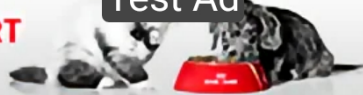
Mary gritted her teeth and said, "Mr. Turner, this has nothing to do with the girls, please let them off and come at me alone."

Samantha and the rest panicked when they heard their teacher's words. "Ms. Sharp, no!" They blurted out in unison.

Trip Turner lifted his tea cup and took a sip of his tea before he sneered, "Theodore, my right-hand man, is dead, and all of you are responsible for it. I am not a patient man. If you are still not going to make the call, I guess I'll have to indulge my subordinates in doing whatever they want

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to do to you ladies.”

Mary bit the bullet and replied, “It’s useless forcing me, because I don’t even have Mr. Cross’s number!”

Trip Turner merely smiled and said, “Doesn’t matter, since you are not willing to summon Nathan Cross here to meet his death, I guess I’ll just have to go to him personally. As for you and your disciples, remove your clothes and join my subordinates in a naked party tonight.”

Mary was startled and her face immediately took on a ghastly expression.

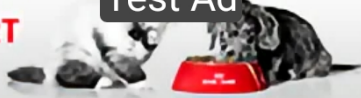
One of her disciples, Wendy, was no longer able to bear with the mental torture, and ran off shrieking.

Mary was shocked and yelled, “Don’t run! They will kill you if you do that!”

But it was too late. The tea cup, which was in Trip Turner’s hands just a moment ago, was already flying towards Wendy.

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*BAM!*The cup slammed into Wendy's back.

Blood spurted forth from Wendy's mouth at once. She got thrown off the ground due to the force of the blow and landed with a loud thud. Sprawling on the floor motionless, the woman appeared to be dead.

It was an unbearable sight for Mary, who screamed, "Wendy!"

Samantha and her fellow tea mistresses also cried out in fear.

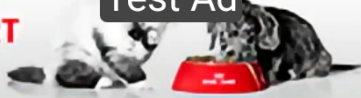
Trip Turner rose from his seat with a sneer. He said to the Fantastic Four and his other subordinates who were behind him, "What are you guys waiting for? There are so many pretty ladies at your disposal. Go have some fun!"

Maitreya grinned wickedly and said, "Hehe, Mr. Turner, should we leave the fairest of them all—Mary Sharp—for you?"

Trip Turner smirked and replied, "She's not good enough for me. I heard that Nathan

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Cross's wife, Penny Smith, is a beauty in a class of her own. She was even given the nickname, 'Goddess of Channing'. I'm more interested in Penny Smith."

Wraith cackled, "Then let's go to Nathan Cross's house after having our fill here. We'll continue to have more fun with Nathan Cross's wife after getting rid of him!"

Trip Turner and the rest of the men broke into laughter at Wraith's words.

However, right at that instant, a whooshing sound was heard as a red glow cut across the room.

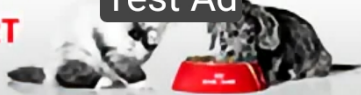
Wraith, who was unable to dodge in time, got struck on the mouth by the red glow, which seemed like a bullet. *Thwack!* A firework of sparks was produced on impact.

"Ouch!" Wraith let out an agonizing cry, as a huge blister appeared on his mouth.

Trip Turner and his men were both

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shocked and furious. When they looked towards the floor where the weapon which had just hit Wraith laid, they realized that it was just an ordinary cigarette butt!

Who was it who ambushed Wraith?

Who was it who was able to land Wraith, one of the Fantastic Four, in such a miserable state?

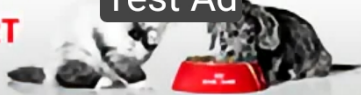
Trip Turner and his subordinates had serious expressions on their faces as they shouted in unison, "Who is here?"

Just then, a tall and muscular man with twinkling eyes was seen strolling towards the group from the entrance of the teahouse.

It was Nathan Cross!

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Following behind Nathan was Thomas, Jack and a few other of his subordinates.

It turned out that Nathan remembered that he had left his jacket at Ivory Teahouse, and had arrived at the teahouse to get his jacket back from Mary.

After all, that jacket was a gift from Penny. As such, he had to get it back no matter what.

Trip Turner squinted his eyes as he sized Nathan up. "So, you are Nathan Cross?"

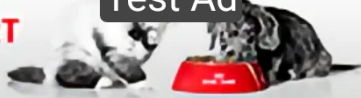
Nathan remained silent while he scanned the surroundings.

As his gaze landed on the dead bodies on the floor, including Wendy's and a few security guards', the man's expression darkened and a fiery glint appeared in his eyes.

Nathan stared at Trip Turner and said, "The Turner family really has a death wish. It seems like you have not taken my warning seriously."

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Trip Turner sneered and raised his voice, “Warning? You mean your advice for us to quit our businesses completely and disappear within one month, and that my dad has to beg for your forgiveness personally? Haha, Nathan Cross, you think really highly of yourself huh? Tonight, I shall show you who calls the shots in the South!”

After taking a glance at Trip Turner and his men, Nathan chuckled aloud and said, “You guys?”

Trip Turner let out a cold harrumph, “Just my men alone is enough to kill you a hundred times over. Wraith!”

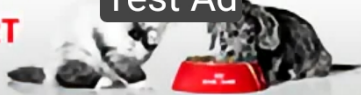
“At your service!” Wraith answered immediately after his name was called.

He proceeded to step forward. With a wicked smile on his face and a vicious glare in his eyes, Wraith walked towards Nathan Cross.

Wraith sneered menacingly, “B**tard, I’m going to dig your heart out for ambushing

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me!”

When he finished speaking, Wraith picked up his pace and dashed toward Nathan like a phantom.

His sharp fingers, which were like claws, were already extended and aiming towards Nathan’s heart.

Mary, Samantha, and the rest couldn’t help but gasp loudly. Some of them had even covered their eyes as they could not bear to look at the impending agonizing sight.

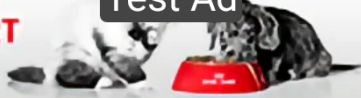
They were terrified of seeing Nathan’s heart being dug out and swallowed by Wraith, suffering the same fate as Wayne.

Just before Wraith’s right hand touched Nathan’s chest, Nathan lifted one hand and grabbed Wraith’s wrist.

Even though Wraith’s right hand was only one inch away from Nathan’s chest, no matter how hard he struggled, he was still not able to move his hand any further, as Nathan had a dead grip on his wrist.

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Wraith glared at Nathan with shock and rage, “You!”

Just when he was about to use his other hand to attack Nathan, Nathan had already raised his leg.

He struck Wraith’s bony chest forcefully with his kneecap.

BASH!

As Nathan’s kneecap collided with Wraith’s chest, a loud thud was heard.

However, Nathan’s attack was so powerful that the force penetrated Wraith’s chest and shattered his internal organs into pieces.

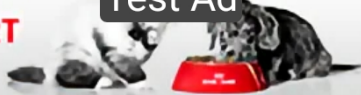
As if being hit by lightning, Wraith trembled violently and let out a blood-curdling cry and retreated.

Everyone widened their eyes as they witnessed the scene.

Mary, Samantha, and the rest of the ladies

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had a hint of surprise on their faces.

On the other hand, Trip Turner frowned and asked, "Wraith, are you alright?"

"I'm fine." Wraith shook his head with much effort and forced the few words out.

The next instant, he uttered a cry and threw up a pool of blood, which even contained fragments of his lungs!

In a second, life slipped away from Wraith's eyes as he slumped and died.

Trip Turner and his men were shocked with rage as they looked towards Nathan.

Nathan had a poker face and was composed. From the moment he heard Wraith insulting his wife when he first walked in, he had already intended for Wraith to pay with his life.

Trip Turner stared at Nathan wide-eyed and let out a ferocious roar, "You killed my man!"

Chapter 438 I Have No Time To Waste

Nathan replied indifferently, "Murderers should be aware that they might face the same fate. When you killed the security guards and tea mistress just now, hasn't it occurred to you that you would have to pay for your actions?"

Trip Turner burst into laughter as rage simmered in him. "Well said! Murderers should have the awareness that they might suffer the same fate. You killed two of my right-hand men, Theodore and Wraith. It's time you pay for your actions!"

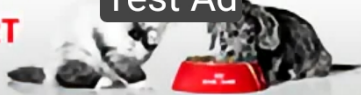
Trip Turner paused for a moment and turned to ask the remaining three members of the Fantastic Four, "Which one of you wants to finish off Nathan Cross and avenge Theodore and Wraith?"

In terms of abilities, Wraith was the weakest among the Fantastic Four.

However, even though Wraith was not as strong as the rest of them, the fact that Nathan had managed to kill him in one blow was enough to instill fear in the other three men.

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For a moment, none of them dared to volunteer to take on Nathan.

Nathan's mouth twitched upwards as he said, "Why don't the three of you come at me together? I have no time to waste!"

Maitreya's smile froze, Steel-face grunted furiously, and Akao's face darkened.

Nathan's audacity shocked Trip Turner, who could hardly believe that Nathan had suggested to take on the three men all at once. He sneered, "Ha! I thought I was crazy enough, but I never expected to meet someone who's even crazier. If that's the case, I shall grant your wish!"

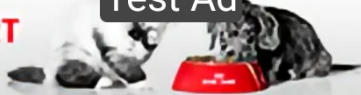
"Maitreya, Steel-face, Akao, go ahead and get rid of him together."

Maitreya took a deep inhale, and at once, his chubby body looked even more swollen.

The podgy man lowered his body slightly and squatted like a gigantic toad.

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Boom! A thunderous thud came from under Maitreya's feet as he propelled himself off the ground, and darted like a cannon towards Nathan. That aura was indeed domineering!

Maitreya's Toad Skill was a powerful defensive technique. It was comparable to the Golden Armor Technique, which rendered his body impenetrable by blades or bullets.

This particular move, Flying Toad, was formidable enough to turn a bull into minced beef on impact.

Mary and her disciples, as well as Thomas and Jack, couldn't help but worry for Nathan.

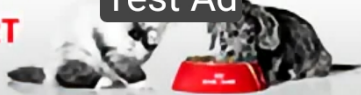
At that split second, Nathan's foot snapped out in a powerful kick.

Bwak!

A deafening and explosive boom was heard at the same time.

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As Nathan's kick landed on the bloated Maitreya, Maitreya's bones and internal organs shattered at once, just like shards from a burst balloon.

Most of his gluey bodily substances were stuck to Nathan's extending right foot.

It turned out that Nathan's kick was extremely potent.

As it happened in one rapid moment, Maitreya took in the full force of the kick. Instead of being flung out, his lifeless body hung on Nathan's outstretched right leg.

Everyone else present was stupefied and their eyeballs were almost going to pop out.

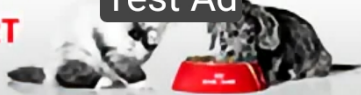
It was indeed frightening and unbelievable that, after killing Wraith instantly with one blow, Nathan had once again finished off Maitreya with one kick.

Swish!

It was Akao's turn to make his move. At

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the speed of lightning, he ran a few steps before leaping up high in the air. When he rose to the highest point, he kicked towards Nathan's chest in a flash.

Nathan lifted his arm and grabbed Akao's leg, before smashing a punch into his opponent's calf.

Crack! Nathan's punch was forceful enough to snap Akao's calf into two.

"AHHH!"

Akao shrieked in pain!

Crack, crack, crack...

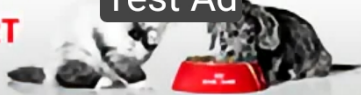
The shattering of bones could be heard continuously. Akao's limbs and neck were all severed by Nathan, and were strewn across the floor, as if they were parts of dismantled soft toys.

"Whaa!"

Steel-face, who was wearing his steel mask, let out a wail as he dashed towards

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Nathan. Like an angered beast, he waved his huge fists and smashed towards Nathan, roaring, "Go to hell!"

As the big man approached, Nathan also raised his fist, which looked small as compared to Steel-face's.

Bam!

When the two fists slammed into one another, Nathan's body remained glued to the spot, whereas, Steel-face, who was much bigger-sized, took a few steps back after letting out a chilling cry.

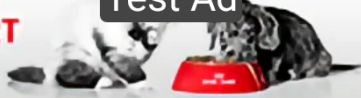
Like a strand of cooked noodles, Steel-face's right arm went limp and he slumped downward.

An X-ray machine would have clearly shown that the bones of Steel-face's right arm were totally crushed and shattered into pieces.

While Steel-face was retreating, Nathan immediately moved forward.

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Nathan kicked the ground with his right foot, propelling himself upward. As he was landing, he elbowed Steel-face on his head.

Bash!

Steel-face's skull was instantly cracked. His neck disappeared as his entire head was forced into his body on impact, making him look a lot shorter than he actually was.

While Nathan landed swiftly and gracefully, Steel-face, who was behind him, was like a tree trunk which was hacked off. His body was tilted towards one side before he finally collapsed onto the ground.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



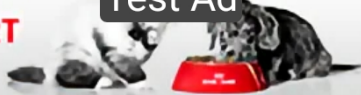
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Chapter 439 You Should Know Who Mr Cross Is

Jack and the other subordinates watched on breathlessly and were filled with excitement. “Strong, too strong, there’s absolutely no match for Mr. Cross!” The men mumbled to themselves.

Thomas was equally stoked. He stared at Nathan with a look of admiration and said proudly, “Of course! You guys should know who Mr. Cross is!”

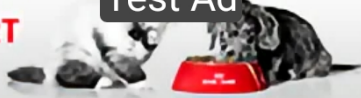
Not only were Mary and her disciples not frightened by the bloodbath, but they were also all looking at Nathan admiringly with twinkling eyes, and had blushes spread across their cheeks.

During the primitive age, warriors who gained favor with women were those who returned to their tribes, covered in blood, bringing forth the corpses of beasts which they had killed.

Even though society was already civilized, it did not change the fact that women were still subconsciously attracted to blood and violence.

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At that very moment, Mary and the rest of the beauties were unable to take their eyes off Nathan. They had heart shapes in their eyes and wanted to give themselves to him so badly.

Trip Turner was more stunned than anyone else present.

He was gob smacked and his eyes looked like they were popping out of their sockets.

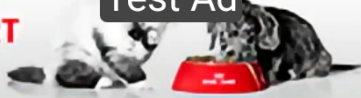
The man was extremely overwhelmed as waves of terror and anxiety swept over him. *Nathan Cross killed all four of the Fantastic Four!*

Trip Turner was unable to accept this reality. Looking at Nathan in horror, he shook his head continuously and muttered under his breath, "That's not possible, it's impossible, how can there exist such a powerful fighter? Those were my Fantastic Four!"

Nathan walked towards Trip Turner and said indifferently, "I have already warned the Turner family, and you should have

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listened. You shouldn't have come to Channing and mess with me. You even dared to have ideas on my wife!"

Trip Turner looked at Nathan, who had a murderous air around him. He seemed to have suddenly realized something and started to panic. Just when he was about to beg for mercy, Nathan had already lifted his leg.

Shoop!

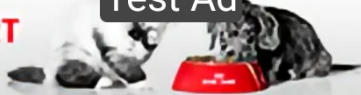
Nathan swiftly sent a flying kick towards the middle of Trip Turner's chest. Like a kite without a string, the man flew backwards and was thrown across the room.

As he crashed against the wall, cracks formed on the wall like spiderwebs. Trip Turner slid down the wall and collapsed on the floor.

Watching this scene unfold before their eyes, Trip Turner's subordinates were all scared out of their wits. Their legs turned wobbly and they could not move even an

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inch.

There were even a few who were frightened to the point that they had wet themselves.

However, no one dared to make a sound. Everyone was covering their mouths with their hands and looking at Nathan fearfully.

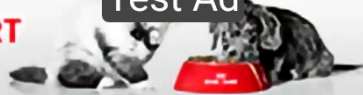
They did not want to risk attracting Nathan's attention by making any sounds, as they were afraid that it might get them killed.

Nathan took a glance at the group of underlings and said coldly, "Take their bodies back to Alberesque and remind Dip Turner that there are only 28 days left to the deadline I gave him to retire!"

The Turner's subordinates did not dare to utter a single word. They hurriedly collected Trip Turner and the Fantastic Four's bodies, and fled away in a miserable state.

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Mary, together with Samantha and her other disciples, approached Nathan to express their gratitude.

Nathan replied nonchalantly, "There's no need to thank me; I'm just here to take my jacket."

Nathan left while Thomas, Mary and the rest were busy clearing up the mess.

When he walked out of the teahouse, there were three black jeeps parked outside. It was Colin and the Elite Eight, who had arrived and were waiting to send him home.

Nathan got into the car and instructed Colin, "Let's go home!"

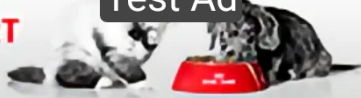
Colin replied solemnly, "Yes, Mr. Cross!"

The three jeeps cruised towards Riverside Garden.

On the way back, Colin said respectfully, "Mr. Cross, I have something to report to you."

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Nathan had his eyes shut and his relaxed body was swaying along with the bumps on the road. "Shoot!" He replied.

"Two days later, a 055 submarine chaser would officially start its service at the Southern Naval Base. Zach Hill, the commander-in-chief in the South, heard that you're in Channing and has specially invited you to attend the service ceremony of the submarine chaser!"



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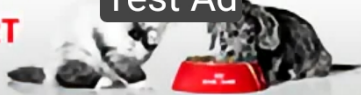
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Zach Hill!

Admiral and commander-in-chief in the South.

Considering military ranks, Nathan, who was the General of the North, was one level higher than Zach.

Considering positions, the two men were on par with each other, as Nathan was the South's commander-in-chief, whereas Zach was the North's commander-in-chief.

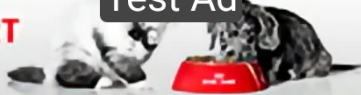
Considering their personal ties with each other, Nathan and Zach had previously participated in an overseas international joint drill together.

While they were there, foreign enemy forces had tried to assassinate Zach, but Nathan had saved him at the most crucial moment.

As such, it could be said that Zach and Nathan had gone through life and death together.

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Zach had always held Nathan in high esteem and treated him with respect. To him, Nathan was just like his own family.

Nathan opened his eyes with a faint smile on his face. “This should be our nation’s third 055 submarine chaser officially in service right?”

Colin nodded his head and replied, “Yup!”

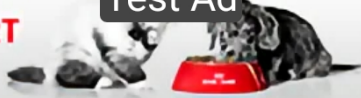
Nathan grinned as he said, “This is great news for our comrades in the North; they’ve gained themselves another powerful armament! Since it’s such a momentous event for Admiral Hill, how could I turn him down, given our brotherly ties! Tell him that I will be attending the service ceremony with my family two days later.”

“Yes, sir!” Colin replied loudly.

When Nathan reached home at 9 p.m., Penny, Queenie, Benson, Leah and Kylie were gathered in the living room, discussing plans for their next vacation.

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It turned out that two days later was Queenie's birthday.

As Penny was having a lull period at work, she planned to take the opportunity to bring the family on a vacation, also as a way of celebrating their daughter's fifth birthday.

When Penny spotted Nathan at the door, she immediately told him about the plan and asked for his opinion, hoping that he might come up with some wonderful holiday ideas.

Two days later?

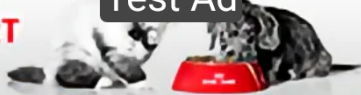
Isn't two days later the official commencement day of service for the 055 submarine chaser at the East Bay Naval Base in the South?

Nathan responded at once, "Our daughter is still young, it's not a good idea to travel too far. Why don't we just go to the East Bay?"

Penny and the rest agreed with Nathan's

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suggestion. Kylie was rather overjoyed and exclaimed, “I like East Bay! It’s a coastal city. We can visit the beach.”

When Queenie heard that, she clapped happily and cheered, “We’re going to play at the sea! We’re going to play at the sea! My teacher told us that there are navy ships on the sea. Papa, can I take a look inside a navy ship while we’re at the beach?”

Nathan was smiling ear to ear as he replied, “Sure, we’ll visit a navy ship together.”

Queenie was ecstatic at her dad’s reply. “Are you serious?”

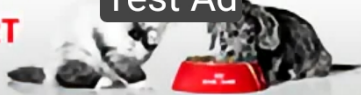
“Of course!” Nathan replied with a smile.

Queenie could barely contain her excitement and exclaimed, “Yay! Papa is the best! Papa is bringing me to visit a navy ship, I can’t wait!”

Benson and Leah did not take Nathan’s words seriously, but they still laughed

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along.

Penny shot a glance at her husband and said in a hushed voice, “Don’t you know of the story *The Boy Who Cried “Wolf!”*”? As parents, all the more we cannot lie to our child. It is important that we keep our promises.”

Nathan chuckled and replied, “I’m not lying to our daughter, I’m really taking her on a navy ship.”

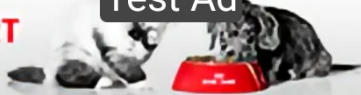
Penny dismissed Nathan with a wave and said, “Fine, fine, that’s enough. It’s bad enough that you boasted to our girl, but it’s even worse not to admit your mistake. Do you think those navy ships are accessible to commoners like us?”

Nathan did not know whether to laugh or cry at his wife’s response, but did not bother to explain himself.

Meanwhile, at the Turner Mansion in Alberesque, Dip Turner was having a chess match with his eldest son, Philip.

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Philip had always been extremely meticulous, incisive and wise beyond his years. As such, he was rather skilled at chess.

However, after battling for around half an hour, Philip still ended up losing to his dad by a small margin.

In a flattering tone, Philip said, “Dad, you’re such an expert at chess. Looks like I still have many years to go before I can catch up with you!”

Dip Turner laughed heartily at his son’s compliment, “You are not bad yourself! Dad’s getting old. Soon, it’ll be you and your brother calling the tune.”

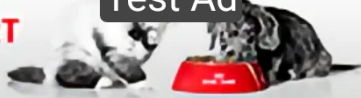
Just as Dip Turner mentioned his younger son, Alfred suddenly came rushing in.

Alfred dropped to his knees the moment he entered the room. He stuttered as he said, “Sir, Mr. Trip, he... “

Dip Turner said smilingly, “Is Trip back? Judging by the state you are in, did Trip

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come back with Nathan Cross's head? I already warned that boy that the Fantastic Four were extremely ruthless and that they should try to avoid any unnecessary attention. He just won't listen."

With a trembling voice, Alfred replied, "Sir, it's Mr. Trip who... "

Dip Turner's smile froze instantly as he realized something was amiss. He bolted up and asked anxiously, "What did you just say? What happened to my son?"

Alfred fell to the ground and replied fearfully, "Mr. Trip and the Fantastic Four are all dead. Their bodies have been brought back and are now at the courtyard!"



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