

“I heard that you disappeared after you were chased away by your family,” Denise laughed coldly. “So this is where you’ve been. Married into a family in Channing as a kept man.”

“That has nothing to do with you. Why are you here?” Nathan asked calmly.

“After I called off the engagement with you, I was married to the Griffins right away. I’m now the young mistress of Damon Griffin,” Denise boasted.

“Congratulations. Still, what are you doing here?”

“The Smiths and Jacksons have known each other for decades,” Benson quickly explained. “Since we hadn’t talked to each other in quite a while, Mrs. Griffin is here to deepen our bonds.”

“Oh? To deepen the bonds between your families?” Nathan frowned.

“That’s right!” Denise smiled with her head held high. “The Jacksons and Smiths have



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Chapter 541 The Daughter Of A Tiger Would Never Marry A...

always been friends. The only difference is that we have become a family with important standing in the East, while the Smiths have returned to Channing. I'm here today to arrange a marriage between our families."

"Marriage? What marriage?" Both Nathan and Penny widened their eyes.

Denise took out a small mirror and began to fix her makeup while explaining, "I have a little brother and he's 18 years old now. The problem is that he has polio, so his mind and body aren't as good as that of a normal 18-year-old boy. I heard that there's a pretty young girl here called Queenie? She'll be a good bride to my brother."

What? You are telling me to marry off my 5-year-old to your brother?

Before Nathan could reject the idea, Penny spoke, "Mrs. Griffin, even though our families have been friends for decades, my daughter is still too young to be married."

"Not a problem. We'll let her live with my



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Chapter 541 The Daughter Of A Tiger Would Never Marry A...

brother and raise her until she's of a suitable age."

"But..." Penny still wanted to refuse.

"No buts!" Denise scolded. "Who do you think we are? We're the Jacksons! It would be an honor for your daughter to marry into our family!"

Nathan couldn't help but laugh at the statement as the Jacksons once used to beg the Cross family to let Denise marry him.

Now that the Jacksons had made a bit of achievement in society, they began to think highly of themselves. Now, they were even trying to force Nathan to give them his beloved daughter.

Denise was enraged by Nathan's laugh. "What are you laughing at? You're nothing more than a dog to me, now that you're no longer a Cross! Even though my brother is stupid, it's still an honor for a member of your family to bear the Jackson name!"



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Chapter 541 The Daughter Of A Tiger Would Never Marry A...

“The daughter of a tiger would never marry a stupid dog,” Nathan said coldly. “No one from the Jacksons will ever be good enough to deserve my daughter. Now, get lost.”

Ever since the Jacksons became rich in the East, they began to look down on the Smiths. That was the reason why the two families did not get in touch as of late.

But lately, given the Schulzs had left their position open, the Griffins had since set their eyes on the void and wanted to become the new lords of the South.

In order to conquer the South, Damon Griffin chose the easiest possible way to make a small family in the South his puppet.

With that, the Griffins would be able to establish their position in the South without any resistance.

That was why Denise had come to Channing to propose a union with the Smiths.



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Chapter 541 The Daughter Of A Tiger Would Never Marry A...

In Denise's eyes, the Jacksons were thriving while the Smiths were falling behind. Being able to marry into the Jacksons should be an honor for the Smiths.

She thought that the honor was enough to overcome the age-gap between her brother and the Smiths' youngest daughter, as it represented a rare chance for the Smiths to become successful.

Yet, Denise did not expect that Benson and Leah would have no authority over the decision.

She also did not expect Penny to reject the proposal.

The thing that Denise expected least was Nathan humiliating the Jacksons.

Absurd! Does he think he's still the young master of the Cross family?



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Chapter 542 What Do You Have In Mind

Denise was angry as she stared at Nathan coldly. “Don’t pretend like you can do anything about it. Do you think you are still a Cross?”

Nathan simply ignored Denise and called a number on his phone. “Security? Someone is making a scene in our house. Please take care of it.”

It didn’t take more than a minute for Ben Mason, the head of security of Riverside Garden, to arrive along with thirty security guards, each carrying a riot shield and baton.

Ben used to be a security team leader and was on the verge of being fired.

Fortunately, Nathan stepped in to help him and made him the head of security at the development.

After greeting Nathan and the Smiths politely, Ben turned to Denise and her companions. “Miss, I’m afraid we have to ask you to leave for harassing our VIPs. We’re allowed to use force if you refuse to



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Chapter 542 What Do You Have In Mind

comply. Also, because of your actions towards our VIPs, you have been blacklisted and are now forbidden from entering Riverside Garden.”

Denise’s eyes widened as she stared at Nathan angrily and shockingly. “How dare you call security! Good, you’re all dead! Prepare to face the wrath of the Jacksons!”

After threatening the Smiths, Denise left with her bodyguards; Ben and his team sure they left.

After the commotion, Benson smiled bitterly. “We should’ve just rejected her proposal respectfully. Our families used to be close, after all.”

“The Jacksons are a greedy bunch. They will never repay your kindness.” Nathan put on a faint smile. “It’s okay to cut ties with them.”

Penny agreed with Nathan. “He’s right. We don’t have to rely on anyone else but ourselves.”



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Chapter 542 What Do You Have In Mind

However, Benson and Leah were still worried as their relationship with the Jacksons had completely broken down after the confrontation just now.

With the Jacksons rising in popularity in the East, and the fact that Denise was married to the Griffins, the Smiths would have no means to defend themselves if those two families were to gang up on them.

The more Denise Jackson thought about what had happened, the more furious she became.

She even promised her husband and the Jacksons that she would get the Smiths to agree to the marriage.

If Denise were to return to the East right away, she wouldn't be able to face her family and her husband.

It was then that her head bodyguard, Anthony Nelson, asked, "Ma'am, what should we do? Are we returning to the East?"



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Chapter 542 What Do You Have In Mind

“If I return like this, my family and my husband would definitely laugh at me,” Denise scorned.

“So what do you have in mind?”

“Since Nathan isn’t going to give us his daughter, we’ll just take her away from him,” Denise said with a vicious smile.

“When that happens, he’ll have no choice but to agree to the marriage.”

“That’s a great idea! As long as we can bring Queenie to the East, there’ll be nothing he can do!” Anthony exclaimed.

“The East is our territory and they’ll have to listen to everything we say!”



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Chapter 543 Kidnapped Daughter

Denise then headed towards Golden Apple Kindergarten with a smug on her face.

Since school was finishing soon for the day, Denise and her bodyguards had to rush over to the kindergarten. They managed to arrive just in time as Kylie walked out of the kindergarten with Queenie in her hand.

A Maybach and a couple of black Mercedes suddenly stopped in front of Kylie and Queenie.

Denise walked out of her car with a smile.

Kylie knew that the Smiths and Jacksons were acquainted and had met Denise once in the past. She could instantly recognize the sudden visitor.

“Ms. Jackson? Why are you here? Did Penny ask you to come to fetch us?” Kylie asked in surprise.

Since it had been a week since Queenie last met her parents, her eyes lit up instantly. “Hi! Did Mama ask you to come



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Chapter 543 Kidnapped Daughter

and take me home? Where's Papa and Mama?"

As soon as Denise laid eyes on Queenie, she couldn't help but fall in love with the little girl's cuteness. "Yes. Your mama told me to come to get you since I'm on my way to meet them at a restaurant. Come on now, hop in."

Since Kylie still had no idea that the Smiths were now on bad terms with Denise, she thought Denise was genuinely there to fetch them. With that, Kylie carried Queenie and went into the Maybach.

Quinten and Achaeus, both members of the Elite Eight, were hiding not far from Queenie. When they saw that Kylie was talking excitedly with Denise and that she had gone into Denise's car on her own, they didn't suspect a thing.

It didn't take long for Denise to bring Queenie and Kylie to Channing International Airport.

"Ms. Jackson, I thought you were bringing



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Chapter 543 Kidnapped Daughter

us to a restaurant? Why are we at the airport?” Kylie’s eyes widened.

As soon as Kylie had posed her question, Anthony Nelson grabbed her from behind and covered her mouth with a napkin.

Kylie reacted to the faint smell of chloroform and passed out instantly.

“Aunt Kylie!” Queenie screamed.

Anthony then quickly turned to grab Queenie and did the same thing to the little girl.

Denise smiled cunningly and carried Queenie out of the car. With her bodyguards behind her, they walked straight towards the check-in counter.

As they were checking in, the flight attendant asked what happened to the little girl in Denise’s arms.

“My daughter caught a cold, so she’s resting,” Denise whispered quietly.



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Chapter 543 Kidnapped Daughter

The flight attendant didn't suspect a thing and even asked her colleague to fetch Queenie a blanket.

Not long after boarding the plane, Denise and Queenie were high up in the air flying towards the East.

At the same time, Quinten and Achaeus managed to rescue Kylie, who was still in the Maybach. They asked her what happened.

"Queenie! Where's Queenie!" Kylie yelled as soon as she woke up. "Denise Jackson just kidnapped Queenie! We have to tell Nathan right away!"

When Nathan and the Smiths learned about Queenie's abduction, the little girl was already miles away from them.

Penny felt she was struck by lightning as her face turned pale. "No... They took my daughter! What should we do?"

Both Benson and Leah were anxious as well.



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Chapter 543 Kidnapped Daughter

Nathan frowned, but only for a second.
“Don’t worry, they won’t be able to leave Channing’s airspace. Our daughter will be back in no time.”

“What nonsense are you talking about? They’re already on the plane! They’ll reach the East in two hours!” Penny wailed.

“Trust me. When I say our daughter will be back soon, I mean it,” Nathan comforted.



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Chapter 544 You Owe Us An Explanation

Nathan walked to the balcony and called Colin Dunne. “Order the plane that had just taken off to the East to return to Channing Airport!”

“Yes, General!”

“And get two jets to escort that plane! My daughter must return safely!”

“I understand,” Colin replied.

A few minutes later, the plane that was heading for the East received an order at the highest level: *Do not notify the passengers, and head back to Channing International Airport.*

Simultaneously, two fighter jets of the latest model took off from the Air Force base.

Denise looked at Queenie who was still sleeping in her arms and smiled. The plane would reach the East in a couple of hours and her mission would be a success.

Since the East belonged to the Griffins and



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Chapter 544 You Owe Us An Explanation

Jacksons, there was no way Nathan nor the Smiths could refuse the marriage proposal.

With Queenie promised to the Jacksons, they could use the chance to turn the Smiths into their puppet.

That would be the stepping stone for the Jacksons to spread their influence into the South.

The thought of the Griffins replacing the Schulz excited Denise.

The more she thought of how she had called off the engagement after finding out Nathan was banished from his family, the more she believed she'd made the right choice.

Without the Crosses supporting him, Nathan was a nobody. After years of not being in contact with him, he was now married to the Smiths, a small family in Channing.

Just as Denise was satisfied with her life



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Chapter 544 You Owe Us An Explanation

choices, she faintly heard something roaring.

What followed were the screams of excitement from other passengers.

Many of them were by now looking out the window as one of them shouted, "Oh, my! It's a fighter jet, and the newest one at that, too! It's flying next to us!"

"There's one over here as well!" another passenger shouted from the other side of the plane. "They're escorting us!"

The passengers were in awe. Not only could they see the newest jets close up in action, but they also even had the honor of being escorted by the said jets.

It was a story that could be told for generations.

Denise and her henchmen were shocked as well.

Anthony Nelson soon realized something was amiss and exclaimed, "I can see the



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Chapter 544 You Owe Us An Explanation

airstrip. We're descending!"

"Didn't we just take off not long ago? Are we already at East International Airport?" Denise exclaimed but her eyes quickly widened. "No! This is Channing International Airport! We've just turned back!"

Anthony and his mates looked at each other in confusion, unable to understand why they were returning to Channing as the pilot and flight attendants didn't notify them.

The two jets flew away as soon as the plane touched down.

As soon as the plane came to a stop, the cabin erupted in chaos.

"What's going on? Why are we back at Channing?" one asked.

Denise and her bodyguards were also curious. Everyone had their focus on the pilot who just walked out of the cockpit.



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Chapter 544 You Owe Us An Explanation

The pilot smiled at everyone apologetically. “We apologize for the inconvenience, but this is an order from the highest level. We had to return to Channing.”

“What kind of order is that? Who can call back a flying plane? You’d better give us a good explanation or we’ll sue the airline!” Denise roared.

“That’s right! Your staff had better give a good reason.” Anthony also agreed.



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

“All I can tell everyone is that this is an order from the army at the highest level. I believe everyone also noticed the two fighter jets escorting us,” the pilot explained. “As for why the army issued such an order, none of us have any idea, either. We were told that it’s a top military secret. I’d suggest everyone here keep their noses out of this. As for the tickets, the airline will issue a refund three times the original ticket price.”

Since it was a top military secret, everyone kept their mouths shut. They didn’t argue with the captain any longer and left the plane obediently. Some even began to gossip quietly.

“Could it be that a senior officer was on the plane as well, and that he had to return to Channing for an urgent matter?”

“You’re right. Not only can he redirect the plane to Channing, but he was also even escorted by two fighter jets. He must be influential in the army.”

As for Denise, she exited the plane with



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

Queenie still in her arms.

Just like everyone else, she was looking around trying to spot that important military official.

The only thing Denise did not expect was that the person being escorted by the jets was actually the sleeping little girl with her.

A dozen black cars were parked at the airport.

Nathan held Penny's hand tightly under the setting sun with Kylie, Bennie, and Leah next to them.

Thomas Dunn and tens of bodyguards stood sternly behind the family.

When Denise got off the plane and saw that scene, her jaw dropped.

"Queenie!" Penny gasped and ran over to take her daughter away from Denise.

The little girl slowly opened her eyes and rubbed them. When she noticed she was



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

in Penny's arms, she exclaimed, "Mama!"

"Oh! My daughter!" Penny cried in joy as she hugged Queenie tightly.

Nathan walked to his wife and wrapped his arm around her waist as he smiled at Queenie. "Baby, are you okay?"

Since the little girl hadn't met her parents for a week, she was also excited to see Nathan. "Papa! I'm okay. Did I fall asleep?"

Queenie had just woken up and she had no idea she had been drugged in the car on the way to the airport.

But Kylie remembered it.

When Kylie realized that Queenie was kidnapped by Denise, she was both surprised and angry. Not only that, but she was also scared and blamed herself for the incident. When she told Nathan and the Smiths about the incident, tears kept rolling down her cheeks.

The moment Kylie noticed Denise, she



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

walked straight up and slapped Denise in the cheek.

The loud slap rang across the airport building as Denise took it full-blown.

Her well-tidied hair was now disheveled.

Denise covered her cheek and stared at Kylie angrily. "B*tch! How dare you hit me? Anthony, kill her!"

Obedying Denise's order, Anthony and the other bodyguards walked up to Kylie with the intention to kill her.

Nathan looked at the situation and gave out a cold order. "Take them down."

"Yes, Sir!"

Thomas roared and charged at Anthony like a rampaging tiger.

Before Anthony could even react, Thomas landed his punch on Anthony's face.

Anthony was thrown back and his face



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

was instantly covered in his own blood. He passed out before he could even cry out in pain.

Thomas's subordinates also charged at Denise's other bodyguards. In just an instance, all eight of her guards were lying in blood.

Denise widened her eyes because she couldn't believe what she was seeing. "D-do you know who I am? I'm Damon Griffin's wife! I'm one of the Jacksons! How dare you..."

"The Jacksons were nothing to me in the past, and they're even worse than trash to me now," Nathan replied coldly and was about to order Thomas to punish Denise.

Penny stopped him, however. With her daughter back safely, she believed Denise deserved a chance to live because of the relationship between their families.

"Nathan, let's leave it as it is. Just make sure she doesn't try anything like this again." Penny whispered to Nathan.



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Chapter 545 I Am Letting You Go This Time

Nathan nodded and gave Denise a frosty stare. "You're lucky that my wife's a kind person. I'm going to overlook this incident just this one time. The Jacksons and Griffins are now forbidden from entering the South from this point onwards. If I see any one of you here, you'll have to bear all responsibilities yourselves. Now, get the hell out of my sight!"



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Chapter 546 Inferno Firm

Nathan's order turned Denise's face pale instantly from fear and anger.

She quickly ordered her bodyguards to help each other up and fled the scene.

Denise did not forget to stare at Nathan and the Smiths as she left.

Do you think you're still the same young master of the Cross? Just you wait! The Jacksons and Griffins will definitely avenge me!

This was Denise's first time being so humiliated. She was first chased out of Riverside Garden by the security, and now, she was forced to leave Channing with Thomas monitoring their actions until they left.

Denise returned to the Jacksons' mansion first and told her family about how the Smiths rejected the marriage and how Nathan humiliated her twice. She even told them about her injured bodyguards.

Saul Jackson, Denise's father, was enraged



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Chapter 546 Inferno Firm

when he heard her daughter was humiliated.

“How dare they do this to my daughter!” Saul cursed.

“Dad’s right! For a small family like the Smiths to refuse our proposal! And that Nathan, how dare he humiliate my little sister!” Barry scolded. “Dad, I’ll head over to Channing myself and make Nathan beg us on his knees to forgive them! I’ll make sure the Smiths to agree to the marriage!”

“Good,” Saul smiled. “Go. Make sure you get everything done right. The Griffins are still waiting for this marriage to happen so they could make their next move. The South will be theirs when they take control of the Smiths!”

Denise suddenly spoke, “Barry, I’m coming with you, but you need to be alert. Nathan has some influence in Channing. He has Thomas Dunn working for him, and Thoman controls the mafia in Channing. I believe Nathan can act all high and mighty because he has Thomas backing him up.”



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Chapter 546 Inferno Firm

“So what?” Barry scorned. “I’ll gather a hundred elites from the Inferno Firm and take down Thomas as well. How dare he hit my little sister!”

The Inferno Firm is a famous security company in the East. To be more precise, it was a mercenary company.

Barry Jackson used to be the Chief Military Instructor of the East’s thirty thousand special forces. He was later dismissed because of bad behavior.

After leaving the military, he founded Inferno Firm and trained a group of mercenaries as powerful as the special forces.

Their services included protection, assassination, revenge, intimidation, and tracking.

Denise knew that each of the employees in the firm was strong as they had gone through the same tough routines as the special forces.



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Chapter 546 Inferno Firm

With Barry leading his men to Channing, Nathan and Thomas would definitely fall, and the marriage would be sealed.

With Denise's revenge in mind, the Jacksons moved swiftly like they always did.

Barry, Denise, and a hundred mercenaries arrived in Channing the next day and went straight to the Smiths' mansion.

The Smiths had hired a few bodyguards to protect them. Just now, these bodyguards saw more than twenty black cars stopping in front of the mansion. Stepping down from the cars were a man and a woman, together with over a hundred of their men.

The guards were stunned. Lewis Cunningham, the leader of the guards, stepped forward and asked, "Who are you? What are you doing here?"

Barry smiled mysteriously and Lewis immediately noticed something was off. Before the head of the guards could react, he was already kicked away by Barry.



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Chapter 546 Inferno Firm

Lewis flew towards the gate and knocked it wide open before crashing to the floor.

The kick was powerful enough to crack Lewis's ribcage. After spitting out blood, he passed out.

The sudden attack by Barry scared all of the other guards.

"Sir! Someone is making a scene outside, and Lewis is dead!"



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Chapter 547 Take Revenge On Nathan Cross

Barry and Denise smiled at each other in satisfaction before pacing into the mansion.

Sean Smith, the head of the Smiths, was having lunch with his family at the time.

When the guards rushed into the dining room to report what had happened, Sean cursed, "Which b*stard is it? How dare he kill one of ours?"

"Who am I?" a person sounded outside of the dining room, "The name's Barry Jackson!"

The Smiths all turned towards the door in surprise as Barry and Denise walked in with a hundred men.

Sean quickly got up and whimpered, "I-it's you, Mr. Jackson. Why didn't you inform us you were coming? We could've picked you up at the airport."

"Oh? Didn't you Smiths just warn the Jacksons and Griffins to never step foot in Channing ever again?" Barry snorted.



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Chapter 547 Take Revenge On Nathan Cross

The statement made Sean even more surprised. “W-we didn’t say anything like that...”

Barry pulled a chair and sat down with one leg resting on the table. “My sister was here yesterday to propose a marriage between our families. However, you have the guts to reject us and even humiliated my sister. Heck, you even warned us to never step foot in the South ever again. So here I am today to settle this matter.”

It was only then the Smiths learned that Denise had been in Channing the day before and that the Jacksons had intended to force Queenie to marry into their family.

Sean quickly apologized to the Jacksons. He then dialed Benson’s number and yelled into the phone at his son.

“The Jacksons are one of the biggest families in the East! How dare you reject their marriage proposal? It would be an honor for Queenie to marry them!” Sean shouted on the phone. “I don’t care what you do, you’ll have Queenie marry one of



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Chapter 547 Take Revenge On Nathan Cross

the Jacksons!”

Unexpectedly, it was Nathan on the other side of the phone. “If you want a marriage between the Smiths and Jacksons, be my guest. But you’ll have to find a bride on your own. Don’t even think of using my daughter!”

Nathan gave his warning and abruptly hung up the phone.

As Sean put his phone down, he looked at the Jackson siblings awkwardly. “Mr. and Ms. Jackson, you can’t blame us if we don’t honor your request. You heard what that arrogant Nathan said. He didn’t even show any respect towards me or your family.”

“Looks like we have to punish Nathan for that,” Barry smiled.

It didn’t take long for Barry’s men to locate Nathan and his family. They were having lunch at Cloud Palace, a restaurant owned by Thomas Dunn.



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Chapter 547 Take Revenge On Nathan Cross

“Let’s go. It’s time to settle our score with Nathan, Penny, and Thomas,” Barry instructed coldly.

Denise grinned. *It’s time for my revenge!* “Barry, I want Nathan to beg me on all fours. I want Thomas dead as well.”

“Of course, as you wish.”

Sean was both shocked and angered that Nathan had enraged the Jacksons, but he was equally worried that the relationship between the two families would deteriorate.

That was why Sean then smiled and suggested, “Why don’t you let us accompany you? We’ll make sure they apologize to you.”



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Chapter 548 Dream On

Barry and Denise arrived in front of Cloud Palace in the Axis of Channing with their mercenaries as well as the Smiths. Before they could enter the restaurant, however, their path was blocked by Thomas.

Barry did indeed have a hundred people with him, but so did Thomas.

“A good dog knows how to stay out of the way! Get Nathan out here,” Barry smiled coldly.

“Mr. Cross is having lunch with his family. No one is allowed to disturb them. Please leave,” Thomas snorted.

Barry was one of the most influential people in the East. Not a single soul in the East’s underworld would ignore his order.

And yet, his words were brushed aside in Channing, as if they meant nothing.

It sparked fury in Barry’s heart.

“Death it is, then,” Barry sneered and ordered his men, “kill him.”



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Chapter 548 Dream On

“Yes, Sir!” one of the mercenaries, Landon, replied.

Landon was one of Barry’s most trusted subordinates. He was a Goliath of a man that even his large suit appeared small on him.

Landon paced forward and threw a punch toward Thomas’s head.

Thomas grunted and nimbly moved sideways to avoid the punch. At the same time, he swiped his leg up high.

With a loud *bang*, Thomas landed his kick precisely on Landon’s head, causing Landon to spit out blood and collapse.

Barry and his gang had never expected Thomas to be so good a fighter, to the point where he could knock down a professionally-trained mercenary with one hit.

Of course, along with surprise, what Barry felt more of was anger.



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Chapter 548 Dream On

“Not bad. That’s why you dare to act all high and mighty, but you’re still nothing to me.” Barry said disdainfully.

As soon as Barry closed his mouth, he charged at Thomas. Barry’s movement was so fast that the others could only catch the afterimage of Barry.

Barry’s group was excited; they started to watch the ensuing fight with eagerness.

Thomas’s eyes widened because he was surprised for the first time.

Barry’s strength was beyond Thomas’s expectation. The former was far stronger than the latter.

Just as Barry’s punch was about to land on Thomas, a huge body stopped Barry’s path and threw out a punch of his own.

That person was none other than Colin Dunne.

Colin’s and Barry’s punches clashed with a loud thud. Colin’s expression remained



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Chapter 548 Dream On

unchanged while Barry's face was filled with surprise as his hand felt numb.

"You!" Barry gasped as he stared at Colin with uncertainty. Even after exchanging a punch with Colin, Barry still could not assess Colin's strength.

"Mr. Cross wishes to see you," Colin said blandly.

"And here I thought he's going to hide until everything settles down!" Barry snorted. "At least he has the balls to face me. If he were to continue being such a chicken, I wouldn't mind taking down all of you and tearing this place apart just to find him."

Thomas stared at Barry furiously while Colin calmly jeered, "You? Dream on!"

"You are the first person ever to be so rude to me. I'll remember you!" Barry scolded.

Colin only smiled, clearly suggesting that Barry posed no threat to him, and this angered Barry even more.



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Chapter 548 Dream On

After hearing that Nathan wanted to meet the Jacksons, Thomas finally allowed the latter into the restaurant.

As Barry entered the restaurant, they realized that there were no other customers.

Apparently, Thomas had quickly chased all other customers away when he learned that Nathan and the Smiths would head over to his restaurant for lunch.

Nathan, Penny, Queenie, and the rest were enjoying their meal at the centermost table of the restaurant.



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

Nathan put down his cutlery politely and used a napkin to clean his hands when he saw Barry and the others walking in.

The Jackson siblings, Barry and Denise, both stared at the tall and charismatic Nathan, whose eyes shone like stars.

For a moment, it felt like Nathan had become even more graceful than his former self when he was still the heir of a wealthy family.

Colin Dunne, the Elite Eight, as well as Thomas Dunn and his bunch of brutal and muscular men stood respectfully behind the prominent Nathan Cross.

Nathan didn't stand up to greet Barry, Sean, or anyone else. Instead, he stared with a skin-deep grin and said, "Barry, it's been so long since we last saw one another."

Back in the days, the Jackson family wanted a piece of the wealth to which Nathan was heir, so they spared no effort to appease members of the Cross family.



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

Even when Denise was already engaged to Nathan, Barry was still extremely ingratiating and served tea every time Nathan was around.

However, when Nathan was later disowned and lost his privilege as a member of his wealthy family, the Jackson family immediately renounced Nathan's engagement to Denise.

The Jackson family's business had since grown exponentially, and Barry thought that Nathan was no longer worthy of the Jackson family.

Barry scoffed at Nathan. "My, my. The powerful man from the Cross family has since turned into a kept man of the Smith family. Nathan Cross, you have truly fallen far."

Nathan remained calm as he asked, "You came all the way here just to say that?"

Barry replied, "I have a ton of debt to collect from you."



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

“Let’s talk about the incident from a moment ago. That subordinate of yours attacked and injured my subordinate, Landon. What do you plan on doing about that?”

Nathan turned to Thomas Dunn.

Thomas had his head up high as he reported loudly, “Mr. Cross, they tried to barge in and attempted to murder me, so I kicked and injured that a**hole.”

Nathan then turned to Colin and asked, “What is the punishment for that?”

“Repentance for three days and a month’s worth of torturous training,” replied Colin grimly.

Nathan nodded. “I agree. Carry out that punishment.”

Barry smiled smugly upon hearing that.

Repentance for three days and a month of torturous training.



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

It wasn't a harsh punishment, but Barry thought that it was Nathan's way of appeasing him.

It seemed that even Nathan knew the Jackson family was someone to be reckoned with.

Thus, Barry narrowed his eyes and claimed proudly, "Nathan, I see the sincerity of your apology to the Jacksons. However, there are two more..."

Barry hadn't even finished speaking when Nathan interrupted.

Nathan remained calm as he clarified, "You've misunderstood, Barry. Thomas is not being punished because he injured your subordinate. He is being punished because he embarrassed me. I've already said that I do not allow the Jackson family to enter or cause trouble in the South, but you guys came anyway. Moreover, you were rude and tried to threaten us. The fact that Thomas only kicked and injured your subordinate was too mild—he did not properly carry out the orders I issued.



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

He should've crippled every single one of you and dragged you guys out like the dogs that you are."

Barry's proud expression turned stiff when he heard Nathan's insult.

The other Jacksons, the Smiths, and even Penny's family started staring at one another when they heard that.

Barry was so angry that his face was distorted. He roared, "Nathan Cross, I was going to let you live, but it looks like you are suicidal. Listen up. Everyone who is not a part of this had better leave right now, or you might be unwittingly killed."

Barry's words got all the managers and servers of the restaurant to turn pale.

Penny Smith's family also looked terrible at that moment.

Sean Smith and his family, however, were delighted. They were more than happy to see Nathan getting hurt.



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Chapter 549 | Give You One Chance

Nathan had a skin-deep grin on. He stared at Barry and teased, “How mighty of you. If I remember correctly, you used to be a training officer for the country’s army, right?”

“I will give you one chance since you are a veteran.”

“Here are nine of my subordinates. You may choose to fight any one of them. If you win the battle, I will allow you guys to leave Channing.”

“And what if I prefer to fight in groups?” scoffed Barry.

Colin Dunne narrowed his eyes as he led the Elite Eight. “My eight subordinates and I will be more than enough to destroy all of you!”



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Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

Barry never thought that a renowned military trainer like him would ever be underestimated in this manner.

He was livid, and his tone was murderous when he ordered his subordinates, "Attack! Cripple every single one of them."

The moment Barry issued the order, the hundred men he led attacked instantly.

However, the Elite Eight were much faster and crueler.

In the blink of an eye, the enormous Cloud Palace Restaurant turned into a war zone, and the stench of blood filled the air.

Barry's subordinates weren't weak; however they were nothing compared to the eight strongest men in Nathan's team of National Guards.

All Barry saw was the Elite Eight acting as fierce as tigers as they tore through his subordinates. The eight of them were fast and attacked mercilessly, defeating whoever that had come in their way.



Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

However, no one went after Colin, even though a fierce battle had broken out between Barry's Military Mercenaries and Nathan's Elite Eight.

They knew Barry had his eyes on Colin.

Similarly, the Elite Eight left Barry alone.

They were also aware that Colin wanted Barry as his opponent.

When Barry saw his subordinates being slaughtered by the Elite Eight, his eyes flickered with surprise.

However, he quickly regained his composure.

After all, he used to be a trainer for the army and was used to bloodshed.

He could stay calm even when he was on the battlefield.

It didn't matter that his subordinates were not a match against the Elite Eight. All he had to do was kill Colin quickly and



Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

mercilessly, and that would definitely force Nathan and his team to surrender.

Colin and Barry stood there and ignored the intense battle breaking out around them. Their gazes met; it felt like lightning had struck.

“Come at me!”

“You’re dead!”

Colin and Barry roared at the same time.

The two attacked simultaneously and directly at each other.

Boom!

The men’s fists landed on one another, and a battle of brute strength commenced.

Colin remained steady, whereas Barry took about five or six steps back.

Denise, Sean, and the other spectators looked surprised when they saw that.



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Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

Barry Jackson, who used to command and train over thirty thousand men in the army, lost a battle of brute strength?

Thomas and his subordinates couldn't help but exclaim aloud for Colin.
"Awesome!"

Penny was covering her daughter's eyes at that moment. Benson, Leah, and Penny all looked worried.

Nathan, however, remained calm and relaxed.

Kylie's round eyes moved around as she observed the battle with amusement.

Both Colin and Barry were from the military, and they both used techniques they had learned during their time in the army. Their moves were quick, to the point, and fatal.

Both of them fought in a similar style, and sometimes they even made the same moves.



Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

However, despite the similar techniques, Colin was faster and more aggressive.

It didn't take Colin long to break through Barry's defenses. The former elbowed the latter right in the chest after that.

Crack!

A few of Barry's ribs broke, making his face pale in an instant. He fell back several steps before he vomited blood.

Denise Jackson and Sean Smith's families were flabbergasted. They couldn't believe that Barry had lost a fight.

Barry swayed as he applied pressure on his injured chest. His face was eerily pale as he stared at Colin and asked with great difficulty, "Y-you are strong. W-who are you?"

Colin sneered and replied, "I am the subordinate of Mr. Cross!"

The battle in the restaurant ended at that moment.



Chapter 550 Colin Dunne Vs Barry Jackson

All hundreds of Barry's Military Mercenaries had fallen and were lying in pools of blood.

On the other hand, the Elite Eight stood strong and looked murderous.

Barry looked horrible at that moment. He was utterly defeated today.

He had lost the battle against Nathan's subordinate, Colin Dunne, while his one hundred-strong Military Mercenaries were crushed by just eight of Nathan's men.

Barry's eyes shone with a complex emotion as he stared at Nathan. The former's voice quivered as he said, "You have been disowned. How are you still...?"

Nathan was expressionless and he spoke as if he was talking about the weather. He even smiled when he pointed out, "Back then, the Jackson family was nothing to me. Now, the Jackson family is still nothing to me."



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Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

Every single person present looked flabbergasted.

That was especially true for the Jackson siblings as well as Sean Smith's family, who had always viewed the Jackson family as elites.

If anyone else were to boast that they viewed the Jackson family as nothing, everyone would assume that the person in question was lying.

However, when everyone saw how relaxed Nathan was, they suddenly felt that Nathan was not putting on an act. He was simply stating a fact.

Barry suppressed the pain in his chest and muttered through gritted teeth, "I've lost. Kill me, skin me alive... do whatever you want."

Nathan spoke nonchalantly, "I've already told you that I see the Jackson family as nothing. I will give you one last chance since you have served our country before."



Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

“Get your a** back to where you came from, and never return.”

“Also, you guys will have to compensate for the damages done to the restaurant. A hundred million should do the trick.”

“Oh, and your family had caused a ruckus in Channing, so you must pay for that, too. How about you donate nine hundred million? That would make it an even billion.”

Barry was furious and stumped to hear that. His family had always been the bully, and he never thought that he would be bullied so harshly in Channing.

Still, he had to bow down because he was in the enemy’s territory.

Barry reluctantly called his family, and they soon transferred a billion over.

Nathan grinned. “Fund received. Good. You guys are more than welcome to further contribute to Channing in the future!”



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Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

Barry was enraged beyond words. He ordered his subordinates to support one another, and they all left grimly.

Denise looked even more distressed than Barry.

She helped Barry take a few steps before she paused and turned around to face Nathan. She sounded angry when she threatened, "Don't gloat, Nathan Cross."

"My husband, Damon Griffin, will come here eventually, and you all will regret what you did today!"

The Griffins!

They were the most powerful family in the East and were regarded as royalty.

Everyone turned fearful and polite when they heard that the Griffins would be there soon.

After spewing her threat, Denise Jackson left with the rest.



Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

Sean and his family hurriedly snuck away from the scene after they saw the terrible shape the Jackson family was in.

Nathan instructed Thomas and the others to step back. He then asked Colin to take nine hundred million to the mayor, Russell Crow, for him to use the money to develop Channing.

Finally, Nathan went home with Penny and the others.

When they got home, Nathan noticed that Penny and her family were itching to ask him tons of questions.

He grinned. "Just ask whatever you want."

Penny couldn't hold it in anymore and asked the question that everyone had been dying to voice out. "Nathan, the Jacksons claimed you come from a wealthy family. What is up with that?"

Nathan chuckled bitterly and answered, "It's true that I used to be a member of the wealthy Cross family in the North.



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Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

However, my dad insisted on marrying a gold-digger and chased my mom and me out of the family, so I am no longer the master of that family.”

“My mom later fell into depression and passed away while I joined the army. After I was discharged, I ended up here.”

Nathan made everything sound simple, but Penny’s entire family and Kylie still teared up.

Leah held Nathan’s hand and said with a broken heart, “Your dad is such an a**hole. You and your mom had it tough, but don’t worry, Nathan. You are our son-in-law, and this is your home now.”

Benson nodded in agreement and added, “She’s right. This is your home and we are your family, so stay here for as long as you want.”

Penny’s beautiful face flushed red, but she also nodded to show that she agreed with what her parents said.



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Chapter 551 The Identity Of Nathan Cross

Nathan felt their warmth. He had not felt family warmth ever since his mom passed away. At least, that was the case until he met the Smiths.

He grinned and replied, "Honey, Mom, Dad. I already see this as my home, and I already regard everyone here as my family. I will never leave unless you chase me out"

Leah was pleased. She was increasingly fond of this son-in-law of hers.

"Silly kid. We will never kick you out," said Leah with a smile.

As opposed to Penny and her family, who were curious about Nathan's identity, Kylie was actually more curious about what had happened between him and Denise.

She gathered her courage and asked, "Could you tell us how you are connected to Denise?"

Kylie's words got everyone to turn to Nathan at the same time.



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Chapter 552 They Came From The East

Nathan replied calmly, "In a family that wealthy, the most common way to merge resources is to get married, so our marriages are usually arranged."

"I was only a teenager then, but the family arranged a marriage for me, and I was to marry Denise Jackson."

"However, I later got kicked out of the house and lost my status as heir; the Jacksons renounced the engagement immediately after."

Penny instinctively said, "The Jacksons are such snobs."

Nathan, however, remarked with delight, "I actually see that as a fortunate thing. If they hadn't canceled the engagement, I would not have met you, my wonderful wife."

Penny's fair face turned red, and that redness spread all the way down to her neck.

She was both happy and shy.



Chapter 552 They Came From The East

...

The Griffins of the East.

Over ten members of the family sat by the long conference table.

Men, women, the elderly, youngsters... Everyone wore beautiful and luxurious clothes as they dined.

The one who sat at the head of the table was a young man who looked like he was in his thirties.

The man was well-built and was wearing a tailormade black tuxedo. He had thick eyebrows and naturally exuded a powerful aura that made his enemy tremble.

He was the head of the Griffins, Damon Griffin.

The woman sitting next to him was his wife, Denise Jackson.

Damon cut his steak as he announced calmly, "Our family wants to extend our



Chapter 552 They Came From The East

power to the South and we had planned to do that by having the Jacksons marry the Smiths. The idea was that we would then find opportunities to control the Smiths and use them as a stepping stone to extend our influence in the South. I didn't expect the Smiths to disregard us Griffins. In addition to rejecting our request to merge via marriage, they also injured the Jacksons."

When Damon reached that part of the announcement, he looked up and asked, "What are your thoughts on this matter?"

The Griffins started cussing.

"How dare the Smiths disregard the Griffins?"

"Who the hell do they think they are?"

Damon continued calmly, "The Griffins will not sway. We are determined to expand to the South. However, we must now destroy the Smiths. After all, how can we dominate the South if we can't even deal with a family as puny as the Smiths?"



Chapter 552 They Came From The East

The rest of the Griffins were in agreement with Damon's words.

Damon narrowed his eyes and asked, "Well then. Since the Jacksons could not handle the Smiths, who here is willing to travel to the South?"

A tall and handsome man that exuded an evil vibe put his hand up. "I'll deal with the Smiths," volunteered the man.

The handsome man was Damon Griffin's baby brother, Nick Griffin.

Damon's gaze shifted to his brother before he nodded and agreed, "Okay, then I shall hand this task over to you."

"Take the Dual-Bladed Killers and head to Channing right away."

"The Smiths can either be our puppet or they can simply vanish from the surface of the Earth!"

"Understood," replied Nick as his cruel eyes glowed with amusement.



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Chapter 552 They Came From The East

Denise saw that the Griffins sent Nick to Channing, and Nick would be assisted by the ridiculously powerful Dual-Bladed Killers. They were seriously going to go destroy the Smiths...

Denise couldn't help but secretly be happy about it. *Nathan Cross. You are so dead!*

...

On the afternoon of the following day.

A luxurious car showed up at the Smiths' family home.

The devious man who got out of the car was none other than Nick Griffin.

Two elderly men followed Nick. One wore a black robe, while the other donned a white robe. The pair gave off a cold and cruel feeling.

The elderly men were the Griffins' prized possessions—the renowned Dual-Bladed Killers.



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Chapter 552 They Came From The East

Four of the Smiths' security guards came up to the visitors.

One security guard, Lewis Halliwell, stared suspiciously at Nick and the others. Lewis shouted, "Who are you? Our employer has said that he will not be receiving any guests for the time being. Please leave if this is not urgent."

Nick's lips curved up slightly when he heard that, and he had an evil glint in his eye.

Of the Dual-Bladed Killers, the man in black robe stared coolly at Lewis. Soon after, he attacked.

The man in black robe lifted his hand and flicked his finger.

Thump! The air punctured Lewis' skull and left a hole right through his head. Crimson blood oozed.

Lewis never even had a chance to beg for mercy. He swayed before falling with his eyes wide open.



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Chapter 552 They Came From The East

The three other security guards who worked for the Smiths were in shock. Their irises dilated; they were scared.

Nick stared at the three security guards and grinned before asking, "Now then. Are the Smiths still turning guests away?"



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Chapter 553 My Name Is Nick Griffin

Inside the Smiths' living room.

Sean, Samuel, Paul, Miles, Ferlyn, and May were having a family meeting.

They were talking about how Nathan and Penny had offended the Griffins and the Jacksons, and were trying to figure out what the Smiths should do about it.

They suddenly heard a series of footsteps approaching them. A few men walked in soon after.

The head of the Smith family looked up and yelled angrily at the intruders, "Didn't I say that no one is to come in and disturb us?"

Nick Griffin walked in with the Dual-Bladed Killers. Nick had a devil's grin. "Looks like I will have to disturb you guys, after all."

Sean and the others looked surprised when they stared at Nick and the Dual-Bladed Killers. The Smiths did not know who the three men were, nor did they know how the three of them had come into the



Chapter 553 My Name Is Nick Griffin

house.

Paul's youngest son, Leo Smith, pointed a finger at Nick and scolded, "Who the f**k are you? And who let you guys in?"

The boy had just finished speaking when the elderly man in the white coat moved.

The man was so fast that he was already standing in front of Leo before the latter could even register what was going on.

The elderly man's right hand was like a paw with five claws; it moved as fast as lightning when it swept across Leo's face. Five bloody orifices suddenly showed up on Leo's face, and he died before he could even scream.

Sean and the others turned pale instantly, and a few of the Smiths' ladies lost control and screamed.

Nick pulled up a chair and sat down with a polite smile. "My name is Nick Griffin, and I am a member of the Griffins from the East. I came here to chat with you Smiths."



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Chapter 553 My Name Is Nick Griffin

Nick's introduction made the Smiths go pale.

They finally understood why Nick and the others were so terrifying and why they would murder at the slightest inconvenience. They were members of the Griffins, who were regarded as royalty in the East!

Nick Griffin was delighted to see Sean Smith and his family turn pale with fear. He loved how it felt to hold someone's life in his hand, and he especially enjoyed instilling fear upon others.

When his gaze landed on the beautiful Ferlyn, his eyes sparkled. He grinned as he gestured Ferlyn to sit on his lap.

The Smiths were all flabbergasted; fury welled up inside their hearts.

Not only did Nick Griffin kill a member of the Smith family, but he also treated the Smith ladies as call girls! That was too much.



Chapter 553 My Name Is Nick Griffin

However, Nick was no typical man. He was so naturally cruel that he would not hesitate to kill anyone who disobeyed him.

Leo's dead body, which was still lying right in front of them, was a testament to his brutality.

The Smiths were furious, but they were too scared to voice up. Ferlyn had a boyfriend and was no virgin. Seeing her life was being threatened, she obediently complied with Nick's order and quickly sat on his lap.

Nick held Ferlyn in his arms and acted like a man having fun in a strip club. He couldn't care less about the Smiths' feeling or their pride as he stroked Ferlyn all over her body in front of her family.

As he messed with Ferlyn, he grinned at Sean and the others before saying, "I'm sure you know why I am here today."

The Griffins were extremely powerful in the East.



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Chapter 553 My Name Is Nick Griffin

The Smiths, on the other hand, were relatively small and powerless when compared to the Griffins. All Nick had to do was to wave his hand, and all the Smiths would die.

Sean had his head down. He couldn't bear watching his granddaughter being publicly humiliated by that vile man. He swallowed his pride and said softly, "We Smiths will do whatever the Griffins ask of us."

Nick grinned and replied, "Good. I want the Smiths to bow down to the Griffins."

"From today onwards, you must do as we say. You will kneel in front of us and must not stand unless we let you. Got it?"



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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

Sean hopelessly replied, “Understood.”

Nick nodded satisfactorily before he scanned the place and frowned. “Which of you are Nathan Cross and Penny Smith? Step forward right away.”

“I can spare the rest of the Smiths, but Nathan and Penny must be punished.”

Denise had talked to Nick before he departed for Channing. She said that he must not let Nathan and Penny off so easily, even if the Smiths admitted defeat.

That was why Nick demanded to see Nathan and Penny.

Sean looked troubled when he clarified, “I guess you are not aware of it.”

“Penny may be a Smith, but her family had a falling out with us so our relationship is terrible. As such, we rarely communicate with one another.”

“I don’t think they will come even if I, the grandpa, voice up and demand that they



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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

come to apologize to you.”

Nick frowned when he heard that, and he complained, “You Smiths are in such a mess.”

Ferlyn’s eyes started glowing as she sat on Nick’s lap.

Her personal life had always been a mess, and she had been with many men before. Most of her exes were rich and powerful.

Her boyfriend at the time, Chris Perry, was a captain with the navy.

He had to work far away, so the two of them rarely spent time together.

Moreover, Ferlyn didn’t really like Chris and was actually dissatisfied with his rank. She thought that a mere captain was not worthy of her.

Although she was forced to sit on Nick’s lap at that moment and had to let him touch her, she didn’t actually mind. In fact, she was secretly happy about it.



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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

Nick Griffin was too powerful. If she could take advantage of the situation, she might just be able to make it to the top with his help.

Upon thinking about that, she took the initiative to get even closer to Nick.

She then deliberately clarified, "The truth is that most members of the Smith family have always looked up to and respected the Griffins."

"The only exceptions are the traitors of our family, Penny Smith and her husband Nathan. They insist on going against the Griffins."

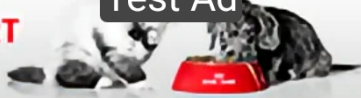
Ferlyn subtly nudged herself closer to Nick so that no one else was aware of her action, but it was not possible for Nick not to have detected her advance.

His lips curved up, and he lifted Ferlyn's chin before asking her deviously, "You are cute. What is your name?"

Ferlyn's beautiful face blushed. She flirted

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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

with her eyes as she replied, “I’m Ferlyn Smith.”

Nick smiled and replied, “Good. I will spare the Smiths this one time since all of you know what’s best for yourselves. I will only go after Nathan Cross and Penny Smith.”

Ferlyn replied in gratitude, “Thank you so much!”

Sean and the others stared as Ferlyn flirted with Nick and did her best to seduce him.

The Smiths were snobs, but they were aware that a member of their family was still lying dead on the floor! And while the way Ferlyn blatantly flirted with Nick was shameful, Nick Griffin was truly too powerful and the Smiths could not do anything about it.

The men behind Nick, the Dual-Bladed Killers, were also very scary, so Sean and the others didn’t dare to protest.

Nick waved his hand dismissively.

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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

“Everyone leave now. I am going to spend some alone time with Ms. Ferlyn.”

Sean and his entire family looked horrified, but no one dared to even squeak. They simply had their heads down and left the living room.

Nick smiled devilishly as he carried Ferlyn and put her on the table before he hovered over her...

The storm of lust ended soon after.

Ferlyn was exhausted; she lay in Nick’s arms and panted. “You are so mean to have deflowered me like that.”

Nick narrowed his eyes and asked, “So what? You got a problem with that?”

Ferlyn quickly replied, “Oh, how could I possibly have a problem with that? It is my honor to serve you, and I am willing to do anything to make you happy.”

Nick laughed aloud. “You really are amazing.”

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Chapter 554 Insulting The Smiths

“By the way, I heard that your sister, Penny Smith, is beautiful. They say that she is ten times hotter than you. Is that true?”

Ferlyn had always been jealous of Penny and had hated Nathan.

At that moment, her eyes flickered. She strategized before nodding and replying, “It’s true. They say that my sister is the Goddess of Channing. However, I don’t think you’ll be able to touch my sister.”

“Really? Why is that?” scoffed Nick.

Ferlyn intentionally teased, “Because my brother-in-law, Nathan Cross, is too powerful. There had been many who tried to go after my sister, but he beat them all up.”

Nick sneered, “You think he can defeat me? I will have him on his knees tonight and watch as I f**k his wife!”



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

At home.

Nathan, Penny, Benson, Leah, and Kylie were sitting together and chatting away. Queenie was sitting quietly at the side and obediently doing her homework.

Benson looked worried as he said, "Dad called me earlier and said that the Griffins had sent someone over to hurt us."

"They killed a security guard and my nephew, Leo."

Penny's beautiful face paled as she turned to Nathan. "Hubby, the Griffins are too scary. Nick killed my cousin and threatened to kill the rest of our family, too, unless you and I go see him at my grandfather's place."

Leah wiped her tears away as she wondered, "Why is our family cursed with such disasters? What do we do now?"

Nathan couldn't believe that the Griffins came after all.



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

Moreover, the Griffins had attacked the Smiths, who then raised the white flag.

Despite all that, the Griffins still weren't satisfied and insisted that both he and Penny head over to be punished.

Nathan comforted Penny and her family. "Don't worry. Just leave it all to me. I will go to Grandpa's place and settle the issue."

Penny was worried that Nathan might get hurt and she refused to let him go on his own. She insisted, "I'm going with you. I am going to prepare an expensive gift for the Griffins and ask them to show mercy."

Nathan was taken aback and blurted, "We're going to give them a gift?"

Penny replied exasperatedly, "Yeah. The only solution I can think of is to get the Griffins an expensive present so that they would let our family off the hook."

Nathan grinned and replied nonchalantly, "Well, they did come all the way here screaming for blood, so we really should



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

get them a “gift”. Don’t worry, I’ll get them that gift.”

Penny didn’t think much and nodded before saying, “Okay, but Nathan, remember that the gift must be expensive or we won’t not get the Griffins’ forgiveness.”

Nathan smiled and promised, “Okay. It’ll definitely be expensive... And shocking too!”

After saying his piece, Nathan went to the balcony to call Colin and make the necessary arrangements.

One hour later.

Nathan and Penny arrived at Penny’s grandfather’s place.

The bodies of the Smiths’ security guard, Lewis Halliwell, and Leo Smith had been sent to the morgue.

While a member of the Smith family had passed away, Nick Griffin was still there,



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

so they didn't even dare host a funeral. They were worried about upsetting Nick.

Nick sat in the master's seat inside the Smiths' living room while Ferlyn remained in his arms.

The Dual-Bladed Killers stood by his side, looking ready to kill.

Sean and the others stood nervously and respectfully on the side as they carefully appeased Nick.

Nick narrowed his eyes. His tone was impatient when he demanded, "Are Nathan Cross and Penny Smith not here yet?"

Someone walked into the room and announced, "Nathan and Penny are here!"

A second later, everyone saw a handsome man and a beautiful woman walking in.

That couple was Nathan and Penny.

Nathan was muscular, and his eyes shone like the stars. He exuded a unique and



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

powerful aura.

Penny, on the other hand, was slender with sexy curves and bright eyes that could attract anyone.

Nick's eyes couldn't help but glow when he saw Penny. He was absolutely stunned.

He thought that Ferlyn's beauty was passable, but Penny was out-of-this-world beautiful. From the alluring contours of her body to her graceful air, everything about Penny was much better than Ferlyn's. Penny was the perfect woman.

Nick stared at Nathan and Penny before he spoke in a cruel voice, "So, you are Nathan Cross and Penny Smith?"

Penny's eyes glowed with complex emotions as she spoke politely, "Yes, we are. We are here to apologize to the Griffins. We even prepared a gift for you to show how sincere our apology is. We wish that you would accept it."

Sean and his family sneered. *So even you two are afraid of dying? You*



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Chapter 555 An Expensive Gift

finally realize how powerful the Griffins are to come bearing gifts.

Nick was amused and asked in delight, "And what is that gift?"

Penny turned to Nathan upon hearing that.

Nathan took out his phone and called Colin's number. "Have the gift I prepared for Nick Griffin delivered."

Colin and the Elite Eight showed up soon after.

The Elite Eight came carrying a heavy and expensive coffin. They walked in amid everyone's stare.

Bang!

The heavy coffin landed on the floor, and dust flew everywhere.

Colin announced loudly, "Here is the gift Mr. Cross got for Mr. Griffin. A coffin!"



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Chapter 556 Last Words

As it turned out, the so-called gift was an expensive coffin.

Inside the living room, everyone had a different look on their faces as they stared at the rather eye-catching coffin.

Nick's irises dilated as he looked at his present in disbelief.

Lying in his arms, Ferlyn had her hand over her lips, but the shock in her eyes could not be concealed.

The Dual-Bladed Killers, who were in standby mode to kill, turned even grimmer.

Sean Smith and his family were flabbergasted, too. Their eyes would have popped out of their sockets if such an action were physically possible.

Penny was surprised. She became nervous and scared.

They had agreed to get the Griffins an expensive gift in order to make an apology and ask them to show mercy. Nathan,



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Chapter 556 Last Words

however, got them an expensive coffin.

It's over. We're dead.

Penny's heart slumped immediately, and she felt hopeless.

Nathan, however, looked calm as he stared at Nick, who was still sitting on the master's seat. Nathan sounded nonchalant when he clarified, "As the ancient saying goes, things never happen over three times. This is the third time your group has come to Channing to mess with us, even after I have already given you two chances to leave. I gave you an inch, and you have stretched it into a mile. As such, this coffin is the best gift I can get you."

Nick pushed Ferlyn out of his arms, and he looked even crueler. He grinned evilly at Nathan then cussed, "Even the gods are too scared to take my life, so I think you'd better keep the coffin for yourself because I won't be using it!"

"Kill him!"



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Chapter 556 Last Words

The Dual-Bladed Killers directed their attention to Nathan.

Nathan had his hands behind his back, and his eyes remained shining like the stars.

Colin and eight other powerful men stood respectfully behind Nathan.

The Dual-Bladed Killers saw the serenity of Nathan's gaze and felt his calm but deep eyes resembling the deep ocean trenches. No one could glean any emotion from those eyes of his.

The Dual-Bladed Killers were reckless murderers who would kill anyone who annoyed them even a little.

That day, the duo hesitated for reasons unknown.

Even worse for the two of them, their eyes twitched when they saw Nathan's calm gaze, and a chill ran down their spines. Nervous sweat rolled down their foreheads at the same time.



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Chapter 556 Last Words

The two murderers were vile and cunning hellhounds who had wandered the deserts. Their sixth sense detected something fatal and dangerous coming out of Nathan.

Nick saw how the Dual-Bladed Killers, who had always killed instantly on command, were hesitating and somewhat scared.

He grumbled, “What are you waiting for?”

The Dual-Bladed Killers had instinctively sensed danger from Nathan.

However, as Nick had given his orders, the pair had no choice but to attack while praying that the danger they sensed was just an error.

Zip! Zip!

A black and a white figure zipped over to Nathan at an incredible speed, as fast as lightning.

Nick narrowed his eyes gleefully. *“That is how powerful the Dual-Bladed Killers are, and this is how powerful the Griffi*



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Chapter 556 Last Words

ns are. We can kill anyone we want.

Nathan remained calm. He took a pack of Marlboro out of his pocket and slowly lit the cigarette, completely ignoring the two assassins coming at him.

On the other hand, Colin and the Elite Eight made a move.

Two of the Elite Eight guarded Nathan, and two others stayed by Penny's side.

Colin and the rest attacked the Dual-Bladed Killers.

Violence ensued.

Cusses, punches, screams... Various horrifying tunes played.

Colin punched and killed the black-robed man when the latter was about three meters away from Nathan.

Soon after, the elderly man in the white coat was about one meter away from Nathan when he was also killed.



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Chapter 556 Last Words

Nathan was still enjoying his cigarette. He puffed out some smoke before turning to Nick, who was extremely shocked. Nathan sounded distant when he asked, "Any last words?"



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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

Nick jumped up from the chair and barked fiercely, "How dare you, Nathan Cross? You killed the men hired by the Griffins! We will take down every single one of your family, and..."

Nathan interrupted nonchalantly, "Oh, looks like he doesn't have any last words. You can send him on his way, Colin."

Colin zipped over to Nick and stood in front of the latter as soon as Nathan issued the order.

Nick was surprised. Before he could open his lips and say anything, Colin had already punched the man.

Boom!

Colin's heavy punch landed on Nick's face and distorted it. Blood and brain matter oozed in a gruesome sight, and Nick died instantly.

Sean and the others stared at Nick's body that had fallen back onto the chair.



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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

Everyone was so scared that they covered their lips. It was too frightening to even scream.

Nathan calmly instructed Colin, "Remember to send the bodies back to the Griffins."

Colin replied grimly, "Understood!"

The three dead bodies were taken away soon after.

The bloodstains on the living room floor were cleaned, too, but the Smiths could not settle down.

The worry on Penny's face deepened. They had already offended the Griffins, and Nathan had worsened the situation by killing Nick and the others.

No one pitied Nick Griffin. He had it coming because he murdered Leo Smith, but Nathan's killing of Nick meant that there truly was no turning back. The Smiths and the Griffins will stay enemies.



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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

The Griffins were powerful and were referred to as the royalty of the East.

The Smiths were relatively weak and didn't have the resources to fight against the Griffins.

When Sean and his family later recovered from their shock, they started to blame Nathan.

Samuel Smith scolded, "Nathan, I know that you are close with Thomas Dunn, and I know you have a few capable fighters with you. However, you killed Nick Griffin, and now our entire family is doomed because of you!"

Sean added, "You are nothing but back luck. You have destroyed my entire family!"

The only one who had remained quiet was Paul. Nick had killed Paul's son, Leo, so in a way, Nathan had helped avenge Leo's death by killing Nick.

For that, Paul was rather grateful to Nathan.

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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

Nathan looked at the terrified Smiths who were scolding him while feeling nervous. They insisted that the Smiths were done for.

Nathan then grinned and replied, "Don't worry. I am the one who killed the man, so I will keep you safe if the Griffins come after you guys."

Sean huffed and cussed, "Easy for you to say. Do you think that knowing Thomas Dunn and having a few subordinates will be enough to fight against Griffins?"

"You guys are nothing compared to the Griffins!"

"All the Griffins have to do is lift a finger to annihilate you, Thomas Dunn, and all of us Smiths!"

"Damn it, it's all over. We're all dead because of you."

Nathan had promised that he would take responsibility and would keep the Smiths safe if the Griffins ever come after them.



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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

However, the Smiths still did not believe him. They cursed and insisted that the entire family had been doomed by Nathan.

...

Nick Griffin's body and the Dual-Bladed Killers' corpses were delivered to the East soon after.

Meanwhile, inside the Griffins' palatial living hall that was adorned with gold.

Damon was chatting with a few VIPs from the East, and his wife, Denise Jackson, was keeping him company at the side.

A subordinate suddenly barged in.

Damon was upset to see that, and he scolded in a distant voice, "Can't you see we have guests here? Why are you so nervous and impolite?"

The subordinate's voice trembled as he reported, "Sir, something terrible has happened."



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Chapter 557 The Promise Of Nathan Cross

“What is it?” asked Damon with a frown.

The subordinate had his head down and replied, “I-I’m too afraid to say. It might be better if you come and take a look at it yourself.”

Damon became even more curious, and he exited the living room with Denise, a few of the important members of the family, and the VIPs. They soon arrived at the front yard.

All they saw was a heavy coffin sitting there.

The coffin had been opened, and the body lying in was Nick’s!

Everyone gasped in shock.



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

Damon stared at his baby brother's body inside the coffin, and the former's face burned with fury. He demanded, "Who did this?"

The butler, George, answered fearfully, "The Smiths did this."

Damon roared, "The Smiths killed my brother? How dare they?"

"Where are the Dual-Bladed Killers? Didn't I tell them to keep my brother safe?"

George's head remained low as he answered, "T-they died, too."

Damon turned quiet upon hearing that.

Denise, the other Griffins, and the VIPs who were there that day all looked utterly stunned.

The Dual-Bladed Killers were the Griffins' subordinates, and they were notoriously strong.

Who would've thought that they would



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

meet their ends in a puny place like Channing?

George noticed that Damon had gone quiet, so the former steeled himself and inquired, “Um, Sir? Should we notify the others and start preparing for the funeral?”

Damon replied grimly but with ferocity, “My brother’s funeral will have to wait. I must avenge him first!”

“Gather eight hundred Griffin fighters and call all four Heavenly Generals to get ready! They will be following my lead, and we will drown the Smiths in their own blood!”

Everyone gasped simultaneously.

Damon is going to take eight hundred subordinates and all four Heavenly Generals?

The Heavenly Generals were four experts that the Griffins had recruited.

They comprised four men by the



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

nicknames of Hook, Mad Bull, Doc, and Ghost.

Hook used to be an assassin in the East. His right hand was cut off, and he replaced it with a sickle. He was later given the nickname Hook.

Mad Bull used to be an underground boxer in the East. He was as muscular as a bull, and just as violent. He enjoyed crushing all of his opponents' bones.

Doc wasn't actually a doctor. He looked like a gentleman and behaved politely, but he was actually an infamous murderer.

He liked to torture his victims with a scalpel and claimed that his enemies' hopeless screams were the best melodies in the world.

Ghost liked to wear a black raincoat and a white mask. He rarely showed his face in public but was the scariest and strongest among the four.

It didn't matter how strong their enemies



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

were, or how many bodyguards they had. It also didn't matter how comprehensive were the security features in their enemies' homes.

Ghost could still slip in and cut the victims' heads off before anyone else noticing him. He had never failed before.

Damon had asked for all four of them; it looked like he was determined to destroy the Smiths.

Meanwhile, at the Smiths' home in Channing.

Sean and his family had not slept well ever since Nathan had killed Nick. They were constantly worried about the Griffins seeking vengeance.

The Smiths decided that they couldn't sit idly, so they spent a fortune to hire two underground mobsters to protect them.

These two mobsters were Gus Jenkins, the Skybreaker, and Cooper Fink, the Earthbender.



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

Damon Griffin hated traveling by ship ever since he was a kid.

Yet, he asked Denise, the four Heavenly Generals, and eight hundred subordinates to go to Channing by ship.

Their fleet had just reached Channing's border when Damon received news that the Smiths had hired Gus and Cooper as security guards. It looked like the Smiths were trying to prevent the Griffins from killing them.

Damon scoffed and ordered, "Hook, Mad Bull!"

Hook, tall with a sickle on his right hand, and Mad Bull, one of the most muscular men one could meet, came forward immediately.

The two of them stepped up and said together, "Here, Sir."

Damon announced coolly, "I heard that the Smiths have gotten Gus Jenkins and Cooper Fink to protect them. The two of



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Chapter 558 The Furious Dragon Arrived

you will take a hundred men each and behead both Gus Jenkins and Cooper Fink.”

“Leave the Smiths alone. I want to kill them with my own hands.”

“Understood,” claimed Hook and Mad Bull together.

After that, the two subordinates each took a hundred men, transferred to a different ship, and sped towards Channing.



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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

Damon's fleet arrived at Channing's port the next morning.

Damon and Denise had Doc, Ghost, and the remaining six hundred subordinates with them when they disembarked the ship.

They immediately saw Hook and Mad Bull waiting there with two hundred men.

"Welcome to Channing, Sir."

Hook, Mad Bull, and all two hundred subordinates greeted their master simultaneously.

Damon had been grouchy over the past two days, but he looked much better when he asked, "Hook, Mad Bull. How did the mission go?"

Hook grinned and reported, "It went smoothly, Sir."

Mad Bull chimed in, "That's right. Hook and I went after Gus and Cooper separately and killed those men and their people. We



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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

also beheaded them both. Please check.”

Mad Bull had just finished speaking when two men stepped up with two trays.

The two bloody heads were on those trays.

Damon’s eyes narrowed as he laughed cruelly, “Good. That is what should happen to anyone who tried to protect the Smiths.”

Denise, however, asked Hook and Mad Bull, “By the way, how did the Smiths react to this?”

“They learned that we are traveling over to kill their entire family, and that prompted them to spend a fortune to hire Gus and Cooper. Now that we have taken care of those two men, I’m guessing that the Smiths are utterly terrified,” reported Hook.

“Sir, Madam, I took the initiative and sent some men to the Smiths to inform them that they would keep their necks clean for when we cut it off,” reported Mad Bull.

Damon laughed aloud. “Good! I want the

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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

Smiths to suffer in fear before I kill them.”

“Darling, are we going to head over to the Smiths’ place right now to avenge your brother?” asked Denise.

Damon shook his head and replied, “There’s no need to hurry. We’ve been traveling for a while and everyone is tired, so let’s settle down in a nice hotel, have some warm food, and rest up. We’ll destroy the Smiths tonight.”

Denise grinned and replied, “That is perfect. We get to rest and let the Smiths simmer in hopeless torture for a little longer.”

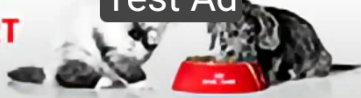
Damon and the others then went to the hotel near the pier.

They planned on filling up and resting before destroying the Smiths that same night.

As predicted, Sean and his family were anxious and were jumping around like they had stepped on a hot frying pan.

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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

The Smiths had learned that the head of the Griffins, Damon Griffin, had led all four Heavenly Generals and eight hundred men over. He was determined to destroy the Smiths and avenge Nick's death.

To make matters worse, Gus and Cooper, who had been hired by the Smiths to protect them, had been murdered.

They were beheaded while their subordinates had either died or fled.

The next one to face extinction was the Smiths.

Sean was so nervous that he sweated profusely. "I heard that Damon has reached Channing. He and his people had already checked into the hotel by the pier. They even sent someone to inform us that we will be dying soon. What do we do?"

Paul looked grim and replied hopelessly, "The Griffins are too powerful. Before Damon Griffin even came here, he called and talked to the powerful figures in Channing. Even the police are too scared

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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

to do anything. There's no one to save us now."

Ferlyn cursed angrily, "This is all Nathan's and Penny's fault! If Nathan hadn't killed Nick, our family wouldn't be facing destruction!"

Sean immediately instructed, "Nathan said that he will bear all the consequences of his actions and will keep us safe. Call Nathan and Penny over right away and have them deal with the situation!"

Samuel replied in disdain, "Dad, that Nathan was just bullshitting! Do you really think that he can get the Griffins to back away? All the Griffins had to do is lift a finger, and Nathan will be dead."

Sean explained, "Nathan is close to Thomas Dunn, and Thomas is the head of the underground world here in Channing. If Nathan is here, he might actually be able to buy us some time. Otherwise, we will definitely be dead when Damon comes."

Samuel nodded in agreement and added,

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Chapter 599 Get Nathan Cross Here

“You’re right. Let’s get Nathan here.”

“He is the culprit, the one who caused this mess. If the Griffins want to get even, they should start with him.”

“He’s right! After Damon kills Nathan and becomes less angry, we can all get on our knees and beg for forgiveness. We’ll also say that we are willing to be their subordinates. The Griffins might just let us live after that.”



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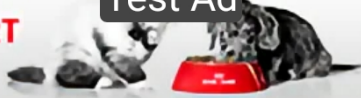
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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

The Smiths thought that sacrificing Nathan's life to calm Damon down and begging for forgiveness was their only way to survive.

As such, Sean called Nathan on the phone, "Nathan, you said that if the Griffins come after us, you will protect us and keep us safe."

"Well, the Griffins are bringing an army to destroy us, so get your butt over right away and make good on your promise!"

Nathan chuckled and replied, "Don't worry. I promised I'll keep the Smiths safe if the Griffins ever show up. I am a man of my word."

Sean scolded him angrily, "Don't speak so freely now. You'd better not run when the time comes!"

Nathan was exasperated as he said, "Why would I?"

Sean scoffed, "Damon got all four Heavenly Generals over and has eight

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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

hundred men with him. They have already arrived and even sent someone to tell us to keep our necks clean for the beheading!”

“I know that you are close to Thomas Dunn, so go ask for his help as well as any other help you can get!”

Nathan refuted, “We’re only dealing with the Griffins. Do we really need that much help?”

Sean exhaled angrily as his eyes bulged, “What do you mean ‘only’? The Griffins are like royalty in the East, and they have invested vast resources and gathered a powerful army to come at us!”

“If you don’t get a few more helping hands, then you won’t be the only one getting murdered! The Smiths will die, too!”

Nathan seemed to be convinced, and he agreed, “Okay, then I’ll get a few more helping hands.”

After that, they hung up the phone.

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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

Samuel and the other Smiths gathered around Sean and asked, “What did Nathan say?”

Sean replied, “He said that he would keep us Smiths safe. He even promised to he would get more help.”

Samuel and the others shook their heads in disagreement. They claimed that Nathan was too quick to agree to those terms, so it was likely that Nathan would flee without letting anyone else know.

Ferlyn then suggested vilely, “Grandpa, how about we con Penny and the others over? That way, we can prevent Nathan from fleeing because we’d have Penny as a hostage!”

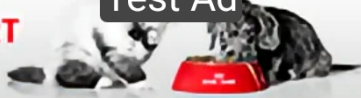
Sean’s eyes glowed and he said gleefully, “Ferlyn, you are so smart. Hurry. Let’s go get Penny and her family over!”

Nathan had just left when Sean and the others showed up at Penny’s place.

Penny, Queenie, Benson, Leah, and Kylie

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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

were the only ones home.

Sean lied by asking Penny and the others to go with them to help with preparing Leo's funeral.

Penny and her family didn't suspect anything, so they went with Sean.

When they walked into the house, Penny noticed that there were no altars or monks around for the ritual. She asked suspiciously, "Grandpa, didn't you say that we're having a funeral for Leo?"

Sean's cunning eyes circled around before he lied again, "We've already had someone to invite the monks from the temple to come over. Let's wait until the monks are here before we do anything else."

The sun started to set soon after, and the sky looked like it was tainted with blood.

Penny and her family didn't see the monks that Sean talked about, but they soon saw a number of unwelcomed guests barging in.

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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

Boom!

The gate was knocked down.

Sean, Penny, and everyone else came out of the house in surprise when they heard the commotion. They wondered what could've happened.

When they walked out of the house, they were shocked by what they saw in front of them.

Someone had knocked down the gate, and over ten bulldozers had toppled the tall wall.

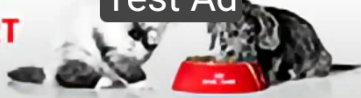
The Smiths hadn't even regained their composure when the bulldozers moved away after crushing the walls.

A man with thick eyebrows wearing a black tuxedo showed up soon after with an army behind him.

The man in the tuxedo was the head of the Griffins, Damon Griffin.

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Chapter 560 Unwelcomed Guest

Denise wore a tight-fitting traditional dress and had slutty make-up on as she hugged Damon's arm.

Standing behind Damon were the four messengers of death—the Heavenly Generals.

Behind them were all eight hundred of the Griffins' subordinates.



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