

Stay At home 2081

Chapter 2081: How Am I Less Than Him?

“That woman and three-headed snake might be from underground. The Elder Things set up an order there, and limited the Cthulhu’s servants from coming to Norland Continent.”

Mag reached over to the shirt on the bedside table, and fumbled around in the pocket in vain. He suddenly recalled that he had not been smoking for a very long time, and could not help but find it a pity.

“There’s another world underground?” Irina asked curiously, even though she was blushing and a little short of breath.

“That might be the case. Perhaps this world is not quite the same as what we know it to be.” Mag nodded slightly. He looked up at the ceiling with a smile, and said, “There might even be a world up in the sky. Otherwise, why can’t powerhouses fly to even higher places? It’s as though there’s an upper limit to the sky.”

Irina’s eyes widened gradually. It was rather unbelievable and difficult to accept. Mag could understand what she was feeling. After all, the people on the Norland Continent probably thought that their world was the core, and the sky and earth revolved around them. However, when they found out that the Norland Continent was just a filling sandwiched between two continents one day, they would not feel good at all.

Irina fell silent for a while. She looked at Mag, and asked, “If the god’s will came from the sky, would the gods be living in the world up there?”

“That’s what I think too.” Mag looked at Irina. She was his wife indeed. They even had the same ideas.

“What is the world outside like?” Irina asked curiously.

This was the essence of all intelligent life. They were curious about the unknown.

“Perhaps it’s endless space. Babla mentioned that the world outside the Moon was a vast sea of stars,” Mag said.

“What is that ring you gave Annie just now?”

“I got it from that woman. It can block off the aura on Annie so those things would not look for her,” Mag explained.

“That woman treats you rather well.” Irina looked up at him with a smile.

“She is just an emotionless robot. I handed the three-headed snake to her, and promised that I would hand all those strange underground organisms to her in exchange for the ring,” Mag said.

“Is that so?” Irina was not convinced. Her thin hands were already around his neck.

“Again?!”

The next morning, Mag woke up energetically. However, when he put on his slippers to go out of the room, he could feel that his legs were rather weak.

“It seems like even gods have to practice restraint.” Mag sighed to himself.

Today was the liquor-tasting event competition day. As a hot favorite for the champion, Mag had to be there to take a look.

More than half of a month had passed, and Saipan Tavern was still an unknown little tavern. This was still very far from his goal of making a name for himself in Rodu.

The liquor-tasting event was a shortcut. If Eiffie could still smoke her way through for so long with her subpar alcohol standard by relying on her father, then it seemed that the liquor-tasting event’s first prize was indeed a golden signboard.

Irina had nothing on today, so after everyone had breakfast together as a family, she went out with Mag to hail a horse-drawn carriage to go over to the liquor-tasting event.

“Mtr, Hades, are you going to the liquor-tasting event as a family?” Eiffie greeted with a smile as she walked out of the tavern.

“Yes.” Mag nodded.

“See you later, then,” Eiffie replied with a smile as she boarded a petite horse-drawn carriage with Mala.

Mag glanced at Irina. When he saw her calm expression, he felt slightly relieved. Mag went to the roadside to hail a horse-drawn carriage, and went straight to the liquor-tasting event.

The previous liquor-tasting events were organized by the Wine and Liquor Association, and were located in a manor provided by a noble in the southern part of Rodu.

The horse-drawn carriage pulled to a stop at the manor. Mag and family alighted, and saw that the road outside the manor was almost filled with parked horse-drawn carriages.

“So many horse-drawn carriages.” Amy tiptoed, but could not see the end to the countless horse-drawn carriages.

“Yes. It seems that this liquor-tasting event is rather influential.” Mag nodded with a smile. This was a good thing.

Manor took out the invitation Eiffie had passed him, and showed it to the staff checking at the entrance before going in.

It was said that the owner of this manor was a baron. The area of the manor was huge, and other than the owners of taverns who had registered to compete in the liquor-tasting event, there were also other wine-lovers who attended.

Mag was about to ask someone where the competition ground was.

“Mtr. Hades, we’re over here!” Eiffie and Mala came up with a smile.

“What a coincidence, we’ve just arrived too,” Eiffie said with a smile.

“Mm-hm. Yes.” Mag nodded reservedly. His wife was around, so he had to appear distant.

Irina sized Eiffie up with a smile. She did not speak, but her aura was enough to win.

“Big Sister Eiffie, you’re very pretty today,” Amy said as her eyes sparkled, looking at Eiffie in her long red dress.

Eiffie’s smile blossomed like a flower. She reached out to Amy with a smile, and said, “Ay!, you’re so cute. Let me bring you to somewhere with goodies.”

“Sure!” Amy’s eyes lit up upon hearing that there were goodies. She quickly grabbed onto Eiffie’s hand.

“The grading ground is in the chapel right in front. I think it’s starting. Let me bring you over,” Eiffie told Mag.

“Alright. Thank you.” Mag nodded.

Irina reached her left arm out, and wrapped it around Mag’s arm.

Eiffie spaced out for a while, and smiled courteously as she walked ahead while holding Amy’s hand.

‘Mag looked down at Irina’s arm wrapped around his in shock. This little move of proclamation was rather cute.

Irina smiled. Are you fit to even seduce my man in front of me?

With beauties around him, Mag was in the limelight the moment he entered the place.

In front of him was Eiffie in a long red dress and cute little Amy.

Beside him and holding his arm was Irina, as beautiful as a goddess, poised and elegant. Walking beside Irina was sweet Annie with her youthfulness blossoming.

Everyone turned to look at Mag immediately.

“This must be Baron Baraca, right?”

“Probably only the baron has such an awe-inspiring retinue.”

“The baron is so lucky... I’m jealous.”

Everyone looked at Mag with envy, jealousy, and lemons”.

‘Mag was rather fond of these gazes. It was so real.

After that, he went to take his seat in the audience.

“Hm?”

Everyone was stunned. They realized that Mag sat on the seat for Saipan Tavern.

“So he’s one of us.”

While everyone suddenly knew they were mistaken, they were even more jealous.

“I just want to know, how am I less than him?”

Chapter 2082: Liquor-Tasting Event

“Isn’t that Lady Boss Eiffie from Titan Tavern? Titan Liquor was once a famous liquor back then. It’s a pity.

“Yes. I used to frequent it back then. It’s a pity that it was lost. Only the name is left now.”

“I can see her every year, but the Titan Liquor she brewed really can’t compare to her father’s. However, her courage and perseverance are still admirable.”

Some people recognized Eiffie, and began to softly discuss her in a lamentable tone of voice.

To the older liquor-lovers and tavern operators, the Titan Liquor of the past was really impressive.

The gold award’s winner of the very first liquor-tasting event 30 years ago was Titan Liquor. It became a much-told tale back then.

The Titan Tavern from that time was one of Rodu’s most famous taverns.

However, that legendary brewer died in a burglary 15 years ago, leaving behind a daughter who was not even 15 years old, and Titan Liquor was lost ever since.

Although Titan Tavern reopened five years later, the Titan Liquor that Eiffie released wasn’t comparable to the real Titan Liquor. It became the regret of many liquor lovers.

Of course, some of the regular customers would still patronize Titan Tavern every now and then. They deemed it taking care of an old friend’s daughter, and giving her some business.

Eiffie greeted a few regular customers, and took her seat with a smile.

Mag flicked a glance at Eiffie. He had a better understanding of this woman’s difficulties.

Making a living was only a part of it. Her real pressure was withstanding the others’ expectations and her father’s glory.

“However, what kind of tavern is that Saipan Tavern? I have never heard of this tavern before.”

“Yes. It sounds like a newly opened tavern. Otherwise, I would have known.”

“That’s because you’re ignorant. This is the latest upstart in Rodu. Not many people know it, but apparently its liquor is not bad. Even Duke Abraham frequents it.”

“There’s something like that?”

“Theard about it too. He must have come with his liquor. We’ll naturally know when the liquor is served later.”

The conversation’s topic changed to Mag, who was sitting next to Eiffie. They began to pay more attention to him.

The chapel that could accommodate a few thousand people was quickly filled up. There were even many people standing at the back.

“Baron Kurt has arrived!” someone announced.

Everyone got up.

A sprightly elderly man with white hair came in. A few equally old men followed after him.

“The one in the center is Baron Kurt. He is the vice president of the Wine and Liquor Association. He’s also one of the founders of the liquor-tasting event.

“The one with the mustache is Fergus, the president of the Wine and Liquor Association. A fair and professional elder...” Eiffie introduced the elders’ identities to Mag.

The Wine and Liquor Association was a fairly independent organization, and those elders who had their own identities and status ensured relative fairness.

Kurt, as the sponsor of the venue, gave a short speech on this year’s event on behalf of the association.

“Let’s make it short and sweet. I know you guys don’t really want to listen to an old man talking here. You only want to know if there is any new liquor that appeared in Rodu in the past year,” Kurt smilingly said. “That’s right. I want to know too. Hence, let’s start the liquor-tasting officially now. I already can’t wait.”

Everyone smiled. This baron was indeed an interesting person.

There was a one-meter-tall platform in front of the chapel with five tables spread out in a row. The five judges took their respective seats. There was a big glass of warm water on every table.

As the name implied, a liquor-tasting event was to judge liquor and then rank it.

As for the judging criteria, every judge had 10 points to give, and they were based on the subjective opinions of the five wine aficionado judges.

Although it didn’t sound stringent enough, as long as the five judges were professional and just enough, this would already be the most just and effective method.

There were over 300 taverns taking part in this liquor-tasting event. Due to the huge number, they were split into groups of five by drawing lots, and tasting would be done in groups of five.

Furthermore, in order to reduce the other factors from affecting the judges’ discernment, the liquor would not be introduced during group presentation. Instead, the names would only be revealed after judgment.

The staff members carried a bottle and five tiny glasses out. They opened the bottle right on the spot, poured the liquor into the five glasses in front of everyone, and placed them in front of the five judges.

A faint liquor’s aroma spread out.

Mag closed his eyes and took a sniff. It was a typical sweet ratafia. It smelled alright, but there was nothing special about it. It was simply slightly better than the homemade ratafia.

All the judges lifted the glasses and sniffed it first. Some of them shook their heads, while others nodded, but they all looked very calm.

Then, they all took a small sip and put down the glass.

"This ratafia's texture is still alright. It's a little too sweet. It still has room for improvement." Kurt gave a short review before raising the scorecard in front of him.

Kurt gave six points, while Fergus gave six points. The other judges awarded it five to seven points.

"The first group, the first bottle. It's the Karoo Ratafia from the Karoo Tavern. 31 points," the host quickly announced.

The total was 50 points, so it was a barely passable score.

Mag nodded slightly. He was rather convinced by this panel of judges' professionalism.

A fatty seemed rather ecstatic not too far away. Although it was a normal score, it was better than the score he had gotten last year. Moreover, it was the first alcohol to go on stage, so more people were going to remember it.

The other four bottles in the first group received 30-40 points, and a judge would make a short review as advice.

The judges only took small sips when they were sampling, They would also rinse their mouth with warm water later and munch on some cakes occasionally. Although there were a lot of alcoholic drinks, their speed wasn't slow.

"Father, when will it be our turn? And... when can we eat?" Amy asked Mag softly. Such an event was really too boring for the little one. She had already gulped a few times while staring at the cakes on the stage.

"Why don't you go out and play for a while first, Ay and An? Mala is just outside. She can bring you to go eat nice food," Eeffie smilingly said to Amy.

"Alright, alright." Amy lit up her eyes, and she immediately nodded her little head.

Mag turned to look at Irina.

"Go ahead." Irina nodded. Her spiritual power could cover this entire manor. Nothing would happen even if the children went out to play for a while.

Annie held Amy's hand, and quietly snuck out of the chapel.

"This is Reese Tavern's Explosive Liquor. The texture is just as the name describes, explosive. It surprises one instantly when it enters the mouth, and makes a strong impression. Furthermore, there is some improvement to the taste this year. It became smoother after going down the throat. It's rather surprising," Fergus put his glass as he commented with a smile.

"Yes. It's a liquor that one can't pretend not to know. It has indeed improved greatly compared to last year." Kurt also nodded with a smile.

All the judges showed their scorecards.

"The 32nd group, the third bottle. It's the Explosive Liquor from Reese Tavern. 48 points! The highest score now!" The emcee couldn't help raising his voice a little..

Chapter 2083: Genius Brewer

“48 points! It’s almost a perfect score!”

“That’s so impressive! Is Reese Tavern’s Explosive Liquor going to win the gold award this year?”

The crowd erupted in a commotion too. There was barely liquor that was above 40 points in the previous 30-odd groups, and that above 45 points was even rarer. The Explosive Liquor was just two points away from the perfect score. Based on the past years’ experience, it had a very high chance to win the gold award.

Reese Tavern was very famous in Rodu. It was one of the top-ranked high-end taverns in the capital. Even though it had never won the gold award before, many of its alcoholic drinks had received the silver award.

The Explosive Liquor was Reese Tavern’s signature liquor. One could easily see the Reese Tavern’s boss’ ambition since he used the Explosive Liquor to take part in the competition and receive all the judges’ recognition.

Everyone subconsciously looked at the middle-aged man in a golden, luxurious robe with neatly combed and shiny hair who was sitting in the front row.

“Congratulations, Mr. Boris. Looks like you have a high chance of winning this year.”

The people around already started to congratulate him.

The rather respectable-looking middle-aged man cupped his hands smilingly. He didn’t come off as too excited.

The liquor’s smell is only above average. Seems like this liquor has something unique in its texture, Mag thought. 48 points was indeed a high score. At least judging from the previous scores, these five judges were professional and stringent.

“The boss of Reese Tavern is very formidable. He has many taverns, and each tavern has many signature drinks. Apparently, he has recruited many formidable brewers, and has been trying to come up with even better alcoholic drinks.” Effie introduced Boris while looking at the man with an admiring gaze.

Mag nodded. He also stole a few glances at Boris.

Anyone who dared to invest energy and money into innovation was admirable because their existence propelled the industry forward.

Meanwhile, a tavern with many drink options had a very strong core competitiveness. Perhaps this was why Reese Tavern was one of the top taverns in Rodu despite not having a gold award.

After the Explosive Liquor received a high score, there were a few more liquor entries that received around 45 points.

Most of them were liquor that had gotten the gold award before, but according to the liquor-tasting event's rules, extra three points would be taken off if the previous gold award winner didn't have any obvious improvements.

"This rule is very smart." Mag couldn't help praising after hearing Eiffie's explanation.

This was a rule that encouraged outstanding brewers to continue to improve and innovate; at the same time, it also gave the younger brewers a chance.

"The Wine and Liquor Association is an organization founded by alcoholic drinks lovers. In essence, it's a consumer association," Eiffie said smilingly.

Irina, who had been quiet, looked at the judges on the stage, and said, "Won't they get drunk?"

It was already the 45th group now. Although they were sampling the liquor with small glasses and taking small sips, they had already mixed over 200 alcoholic drinks together. Even drinking one small sip per liquor would require them to have a high alcohol tolerance.

Eiffie smilingly explained, "The judges' alcohol tolerance is quite good, so there's usually no problem. Even if the judges became tipsy, there are a few reserve judges that could go up and take their place, making sure that the liquor-tasting event could go on."

"Their alcohol tolerance is indeed shocking." Mag nodded. His alcohol tolerance was okay, but he wasn't confident that he could still stay sober after drinking over 200 kinds of liquor.

However, the five judges did look tired after drinking 200-odd liquor types and making reviews, so they weren't as enthusiastic as when they had first started.

"Next, it's the 50th group," the emcee announced, and a staff member quickly carried a black and narrow bottle up.

"It's Titan Liquor!" Eiffie couldn't help sitting straight up, and her gaze closely followed that liquor carried by the staff member.

There was also a hint of interest on Mag's face. With Titan Liquor's quality and 30 years' age in the cellar, it would unquestionably vanquish that so-called Explosive Liquor.

The audience was also a little tired. The more anticipated liquor names had already been presented in the liquor-tasting event, so the suspense was already gone. This year's gold award would most likely be given to Explosive Liquor.

The staff member showed the intact seal on the bottle to the audience before removing the cork in front of everyone, and pouring it into the glasses.

The rich liquor's aroma slowly spread out. It was a graceful marriage of the grapefruit's fragrance and aged wood's fragrance. It invigorated the initially dull venue immediately.

"This aroma!" Baron Kurt instantly stood up, and stared at the glass brought over by the staff member with disbelief.

The golden liquid swirled in the glass, sparkling like a gem.

"Isn't this... Titan Liquor? Marcus' personal brew!" Fergus also stood up with an incredulous expression.

Kurt and Fergus's reaction and words caused a small commotion in the crowd.

Titan Liquor was the gold-award liquor at the very first liquor-tasting event 30-odd years ago. It was created by Brewer Marcus. With its unique fragrance and incredible power, it left a legendary shadow on Rodu's liquor scene.

However, ever since Marcus died in a burglary, the authentic Titan Liquor died along with him.

Even though Titan Tavern was still in operation, the Titan Liquor that his daughter Eiffie made was far inferior to the original Titan Liquor, so Titan Tavern slowly became a third-rate tavern.

Titan Tavern had taken part in the liquor-tasting event every year, but its score was never above 30. It couldn't even make it past the passing mark.

They didn't expect the Titan Liquor from Titan Tavern this year made the previous liquor pale in comparison just with its fragrance alone. This made all the judges and audience excited.

"It's indeed the gold-award liquor of the very first liquor-tasting event. Just its smell alone is enough to intoxicate a person."

"It didn't just win the first year's gold award. It won the gold award three times within 10 years back then. Its continual strive for excellence was what made it a real legend."

"The Titan Liquor back then was the best liquor in Rodu. That scent. I can't forget it even after 10-odd years. I didn't expect to smell it again today."

"Yes. It's a pity that a genius brewer like Marcus died so young."

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Eiffie's eyes shimmered with tears as she listened to their conversations.

So, there were people who still remembered her father after so many years. They remembered the Titan Liquor's original smell.

The glasses were sent to the five judges, who all had a complicated expression.

Kurt and Fergus were the founders of the liquor-tasting event back then. They had taken part in awarding the first gold award given to Marcus. They had even witnessed the experiments and innovation Marcus did to Titan Liquor and how Marcus had created the legend of winning three gold awards within 10 years.

They didn't expect to be served a glass of Titan Liquor brewed by Marcus again after 15 years.

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"Miss Eiffie, I respect and like Master Marcus very much. He was a genius brewer and one who was dedicated and persistent. The legend of him and his Titan Liquor is still entrenched in our hearts even after 15 years." Kurt stood and emotionally spoke to Eiffie, who was sitting under the stage. "Thank you very much for letting us feel his unparalleled charm again, but according to the liquor-tasting event's

rules, a liquor that is no longer being brewed cannot take part in the competition, because this means that your customers are not able to buy it in your tavern.”

Chapter 2084 50 Points!

Pity, that was what many felt about Master Marcus.

He left too suddenly, too quickly. There wasn't even a suitable person who could inherit the Titan Liquor's brewing techniques, and that made this liquor that could have been passed down for generations end up as regret in everyone's hearts.

Back then, Titan Liquor was sold in small bottles at a sky-high price in Rodu, yet it was still hard to come by.

Smelling the authentic fragrance of Titan Liquor again here today made many old customers of Titan Liquor reminisce about its taste.

However, just as Kurt had said, this bottle that Eiffie brought out could be the only bottle left that she had been keeping, and this was against the rules of the competition.

This was because the goal of the liquor-tasting event was to judge and choose alcohol worth buying in Rodu.

The most important prerequisite for purchasing alcohol was a sufficient stock.

Everyone looked at Eiffie, who was standing, with a little pity and mockery.

Even the owner of Reese Tavern, who obtained a high mark previously, could not help but turn back to look at Eiffie.

“Thank you, Lord Kurt, for acknowledging my father's achievement, and thank you, everyone, for remembering my father.” Eiffie bowed to Kurt to thank him before standing up straight, and saying out in a loud and

clear voice, “This is the last bottle of wine. This was the wine that my father kept in the cellar 30 years ago, and he said that it could only be opened 30 years later.

“I went to the cellar a few days ago to open the cellar, and this was the first bottle of Titan Liquor that I bottled. From now on, Titan Tavern will be relaunching the Titan Liquor that my father had brewed, and there will be a supply of about 50 bottles a day.”

It was silent. Then, the crowd erupted into an uproar all of a sudden.

“Titan Liquor that has been kept for 30 years, and there will be a supply of 50 bottles every day! Master Marcus actually hid so much good wine back then!”

“It seems Titan Tavern will be a good place to hang out again!”

“Although Master Marcus is gone, his legacy is just about to begin!”

The drinkers there were all very excited, especially those who were still longing for the Titan Liquor. There were already people asking friends out to Titan Tavern for a gathering tomorrow. The tavern owners all wore different expressions on their faces. If what Effie said was true, Titan Liquor would be eligible for the competition. However, that was a strong contender for the gold award. Many started to look at Boris and Effie. Back then, Marcus also won the gold award twice from Reese Tavern, and was known to be Boris’s one and only rival.

No one expected that years later, Marcus’s daughter would bring the Titan Liquor over again to compete with Boris’s Explosive Liquor.

Boris did not have much change in expression. He nodded to Effie and turned to leave.

“Marcus actually left so much wine behind?” Kurt was shocked to hear that too. However, he quickly nodded, and said, “In that case, this wine is eligible to join this year’s liquor-tasting event.”

“Thank you.” Effie nodded. She sat back down, and waited for the judges to give their scores.

“Alright, please remain quiet. Right now, the judges will start to taste the wine. Let us look forward to the next bottle, the Titan Liquor that was kept for 30 years. How will the judges judge it?” the emcee said in a loud voice.

The audience fell quiet quickly.

Everyone was watching the judges with anticipation.

Kurt raised his glass, and put it near his nose. He used his hand to fan the opening of the glass gently, and took a good sniff.

The rich fragrance was intoxicating. It was a unique fragrance that was created through the fermentation of grapes in a wooden barrel. It was this unique and elegant, making the wines that came before it lose their colors.

He took a sip. The wine slid into his mouth. It was gentle, and its fragrance filled his mouth. It was rich and enchanting, graceful and mellow.

He seemed to have seen an elegant goddess that one would admire, but did not dare to go close to!

Kurt opened his eyes after a very long time. He looked at the wine in his hand, and exclaimed, “The 30 years have changed the fragrance and taste of this wine in a remarkable way. It’s as though it has been upgraded

once again. It’s way better in terms of texture and taste compared to the Titan Liquor years ago.

“These 30 years were probably Kurt’s last improvement to the Titan Liquor to make it better.

“It’s a pity he wasn’t able to see the change for himself.”

Fergus just placed his glass down too, and he exclaimed in the same way. “I thought that Titan Liquor had reached its peak back in the days. I only found out today that that was just a half-done product.”

“Aging the wine has made the fragrance of the oak barrel and the fragrance of the wine combine perfectly, bringing a whole new style to the Titan Liquor. This is the most unique and most delicious

wine I've ever tasted."

"This was Marcus's work from 30 years ago. Back then, we were also stunned by his Titan Liquor. Now, 30 years later, we are once again stunned by him."

"This is indeed a stunning wine. It was better than the Titan Liquor back then. Time has become Marcus's best assistant, and has also completed the remaining work for him to make the real Titan Liquor," another judge exclaimed as well.

The five judges all gave very good reviews.

The audience was quiet. Everyone was waiting for the judges to score this wine with good reviews.

Eiffie clenched her fists tightly as she waited for the results nervously.

Kurt picked up the sign in front of him, and said loudly, "I will give it 10 points! It's a pity I can only give it up to 10 points."

"10 points from me too! Titan Liquor and Marcus are worth it." Fergus lifted his sign.

The other three judges also raised their signs, giving the full marks of 10 points.

"50 points!"

"There probably hasn't been a wine that had received full marks at the liquor-tasting event for three years, right?"

"After 16 years, Titan Liquor is about to take down the gold award for the fourth time!"

The audience could not stay still.

Full marks, that was akin to announcing that Titan Liquor had clinched the gold award once again.

Titan Liquor had already received such honor three times.

Eiffie could not hold her tears back anymore. She bit her lips and tried her best to control her expression.

"Congratulations. I believe your father would be glad to know this," Mag told her gently.

"Thank you, thank you, Mr. Hades." Eiffie wiped her tears away, and quickly calmed herself down. After that, she smiled and thanked everyone for their well-wishes.

Titan Liquor had returned with full marks, just like Marcus's legendary life.

When the audience had quieted down, Kurt looked at Eiffie and said, "Miss Eiffie, can I have the honor to buy this bottle of Titan Liquor? I think this is a very meaningful bottle of wine, and it is worth careful tasting."

"When my father was still alive, he always said that you were an admirable and respectable elder. Please allow me to gift this bottle of wine to you," Eiffie said with a smile.

“In that case, I’ll help myself. I’ll be visiting the Titan Tavern often in the future.” Kurt stood up and took the wine and cork on the staff’s tray. After putting the cork back, he placed it beside him.

“You’re really fast. Why don’t we have dinner together tonight?” Fergus said with a smile as he eyed the wine on the table.

“Sure. I have a few bottles of good wine that I can take out. Not this.” Kurt nodded with a smile..

Chapter 2085 Will There Be Two Gold Awards?

Eiffie’s Titan Liquor sent the liquor-tasting event into a climax.

A bottle of liquor that was brewed 30 years ago sparkled brightly at the liquor-tasting event again after crossing the long river of time.

The perfect score meant that the gold award of this liquor-tasting event was already decided.

No one believed that there would be any liquor that could compare to Titan Liquor in the remaining 10 groups.

Including the five judges.

However, Eiffie didn’t think so. She knew what kind of unique existence Maotai was and what a talented brewer Mag was.

She even wondered: if two types of liquor with a perfect score appeared at the liquor-tasting event, who should be awarded the gold award?

Such a situation had never happened in the 30 years long history of the liquor-tasting event.

Groups after groups of liquor were sent onto the stage. Perhaps, it was because Titan Liquor was too awesome, and the judges couldn’t snap out of it quickly, or perhaps the subsequent liquor’s quality was bad, but

none of the subsequent four groups of liquor that came after it received more than 30 points.

Kurt yawned and rubbed his eyes as he turned to whisper to Fergus, “I don’t feel very alert. After this round, get Gerald to take over for me.”

“Alright. You have already drunk a lot today.” Fergus nodded.

“The 55th group. Begin the tasting.” Even the emcee’s voice sounded hoarse.

Mag yawned. He was tired as well. He turned aside, and his gaze landed on the rotund bottle that the staff member was carrying. He became energetic instantly.

He had waited for the whole afternoon for his Maotai to go on stage.

He didn’t expect that he would be so unlucky as to get the last few positions to go to the stage.

“It’s coming.” Eiffie instantly perked up too. Her expression became tense again.

Although she knew that Maotai was a rare good type of liquor, she still expected it to get a good position on the ranking of this liquor-tasting event.

The staff member carried a rotund bottle onto the stage. Everyone lost their interest after taking a brief look at it. The taverns with good liquor already had all their liquor reviewed. The Explosive Liquor was considered the strongest contestant, but it still wasn't Titan Liquor's match.

The staff member fiddled for a while before they removed the red cloth and pulled off the cork.

Pop~

Rich liquor's aroma quickly surged out and spread everywhere rapidly.

"This liquor's aroma!"

The people sitting closer to the stage smelled the aroma first, and they all looked up with surprise.

The eyes of the judges, who were a little tipsy and tired, lit up too as they stared at the rotund bottle in the staff member's hand with shock.

The rich liquor's aroma was much more impactful than the earlier Titan Liquor's.

If one described the Titan Liquor's liquor's aroma as a graceful noble lady, then this liquor's aroma was like an irresistible hurricane.

Compared to the grape's fragrance, its fragrance was deeper and richer. No one could identify how many types of fragrance it had even when they savored it slowly.

"What liquor is this? Why is its liquor's aroma so rich and fragrant?" Kurt, who was about to go down the stage, looked up immediately at the staff member who was pouring the liquor with a shocked expression.

Fergus' eyes lit up too as he said to Kurt, "We already knew that it's good liquor just by smelling it. Seems like a new kind of liquor will emerge in this year's liquor-tasting event."

This was definitely this liquor's debut at the liquor-tasting event. Given their experience, they wouldn't have failed to recognize it otherwise. They were simply curious about the tavern that brewed this and which brewer's masterpiece this was.

The rich aroma spread out quickly, and the crowd began to get excited too.

Even the audience sitting in the last row of the chapel couldn't help stretching their necks to look at it. This was the very first time they smelled a liquor's aroma that day.

Those present were either taverns' bosses or veteran liquor lovers. They were all experts. They could differentiate its quality just by smelling it.

There were people asking which tavern this liquor belonged to. They were guessing if this liquor could hold up to Titan Liquor.

Mag sat quietly with a cold smile on his lips. He was already prepared to act cool.

The staff member began to pour it out. The transparent liquid shone like a bright pearl as it was poured into the crystal glasses.

The glasses were placed in front of the judges.

The five judges all were appraising the liquor in front of them like a treasure.

Ratafia and grain alcohol were usually dark in color. This was inevitable during the brewing process. It was rare to see such clear and transparent liquor.

In contrast to its clear color was the rich liquor's aroma. It was very hard to imagine that a liquid that was as clear as mountain spring water could give out such an enticing liquor's aroma.

Just talking about its aroma, none of the 200-odd types of liquor could compare to it.

"This should be grain alcohol. It's brewed similarly to Titan Liquor. Its aroma is rich, with a hint of sauce and cellar age. There is also a faint sweet scent in it. Its aroma is very unique." Kurt fanned the aroma with his

hand and commented on it before taking a sip.

Kurt closed his eyes, frowned, slowly unfurrowed his knitted brows, and curled his lips, revealing a sated smile. He opened his mouth a little, indicating his relaxed state.

Kurt opened his eyes after a long time, and praised, "This liquor is smooth and refreshing. Its texture is rich and thick. Its aftertaste lingers long after swallowing. It's indeed excellent liquor that one rarely encounters!"

As a real alcoholic beverage aficionado, be it when setting up the Wine and Liquor Association back then, or organizing the liquor-tasting event, Kurt's intention was to discover more great alcoholic beverages and brewers.

However, there hadn't been many alcoholic drinks that could bowl him over in the past few decades. Marcus' Titan Liquor was one. This liquor that he tasted today could be considered as the second one.

However, in actuality, the Titan Liquor that Marcus brought to the event 30 years ago couldn't compare to this liquor at all. The 30 years of aging gave Titan Liquor its soul, which enabled it to be able to compete with this liquor.

This was an extremely perfect kind of liquor, or he should say that it was liquor that had exceeded the upper limit of his guidance arena.

Apart from praising and being curious about its brewer, he actually knew nothing about it. He had nothing to comment about it.

Fergus tilted his head back to finish every single drop in the glass. He smacked his lips and put the glass down, wishing for more. He nodded and continued speaking after Kurt's review. "I guess everyone has smelled its

aroma, and Kurt has already described its taste. I can only say that this is one of the best alcoholic drinks I have ever had in my life. It's even one of the top three I ever had. Now, I am very curious who is the

brewer

here that made this and managed to remain so secretive.”

Kurt and Fergus both gave it an excellent review. They even pushed this liquor to an epic level. Everyone was guessing curiously which tavern had sent this liquor. Perhaps it could really compete with Titan Liquor.

Effie turned to Mag with a sincere smile, and said, “Congratulations. Mr. Hades’ Maotai is indeed exceptional.”

“Now, what I am curious about is this: will the liquor-tasting event give out two gold awards?” Mag said with a frown..

Chapter 2086 Twin Stars On A Street

Mag had never worried about Maotai getting a good review.

However, according to the liquor-tasting event’s rules and regulations, only one gold award would be given out each year.

Titan Liquor had already received the 50 points—the full marks. There was still an upper limit no matter how strong Maotai was.

In that case, the situation had become a little awkward now.

“This...” Effie lamented. The situation of having two gold awards had never appeared in the history of the liquor-tasting event.

“All the judges gave this liquor an excellent review. Then, can the judges please give this liquor its score so that we can reveal which tavern and which brewer does this marvelous liquor come from.” The emcee calmed the slightly chaotic situation down.

“I will follow my heart.” Kurt picked the scorecard in front of him, and awarded 10 points.

Fergus picked up the 10-point card and the glass at the same time as he smilingly said, “I rarely use ‘perfect’ to describe liquor, but this is indeed liquor which one has nothing to pick on. Smell the glass, it’s still so fragrant now. It’s really amazing.”

The other three judges also gave the highest score of 10 points.

The crowd erupted into a commotion.

The second 50 points in the day appeared!

Two kinds of 50-point perfect score liquor actually appeared in one liquor-tasting event.

This had never happened in the history of the liquor-tasting event before.

Titan Liquor was still considered famous, and had once created the miracle of getting three gold awards. However, where did that mysterious liquor come from?

It just suddenly appeared, and then created a miracle at the liquor-tasting event.

“Which tavern came up with this secretly? Boris looks so calm. Could it be Reese Tavern that came up with it?”

“I don’t think so. This isn’t liquor that an opportunistic businessman like Boris can come up with.”

“Two entries with 50 points. Which liquor should this year’s gold award go to?”

Everyone was engaged in a heated discussion. They were all curiously guessing about this liquor’s origins.

“It’s so boring. I’ll go look for the kids first,” Irina informed Mag, and left the boisterous chapel.

Eiffie watched Irina’s retreating back with befuddlement, and asked, “Your wife doesn’t look very happy.”

Perhaps she didn’t know what the honor of the gold award meant to a tavern. What a happy and celebratory event it was.

Furthermore, this honor to a brewer was a great recognition.

However, Irina didn’t encourage or congratulate her husband.

“It’s just a small thing, so she usually wouldn’t care,” Mag smilingly replied. In fact, he also wasn’t very excited.

It would be disgraceful if he failed to conquer the drunkards in the alternate world with the brewers’ masterpiece.

“This liquor that received the full score of 50 points is Maotai from Saipan Tavern!” The emcee’s booming voice reverberated throughout the whole chapel.

“Saipan Tavern?”

The church quieted down, and everyone looked perplexed.

This tavern sounded so unfamiliar. It wasn’t one of the Rodu’s famous taverns.

“This name sounds very familiar.” The boss sitting at the side looked around him, and his gaze landed on Mag. He saw the name of the tavern stuck onto Mag’s chair, and his eyes lit up. He exclaimed, “So it’s him.”

All the gazes swept over, and landed on Eiffie, who was wearing red clothes, before landing on Mag.

They recalled that this man was mistaken for the lord baron earlier because he was surrounded by beautiful ladies.

No one had thought that this young man who looked capable and was surrounded by beautiful women would be the owner of the liquor that received the perfect score of 50 points.

Moreover, the owners of the two kinds of perfect-score liquor today were actually sitting together.

Sensing the gazes, Mag stood up smilingly and nodded in acknowledgement.

Yes, he behaved like how leaders addressed the scene.

“Young man, did you brew this liquor?” Kurt couldn’t help asking in amazement when he saw how young Mag was.

“Yes.” Mag nodded.

“Good, good, good! You’re young and promising.” Kurt kept nodding as he looked at Mag praisingly. Then, he looked at Eiffie, and lamented, “Marcus was about your age when he first brought Titan Liquor here. He, too, wowed the crowd.”

Eiffie, who was seated, looked up at Mag, who seemed to have light shone upon him. She seemed to see some of her father on him, and tears welled up in her eyes uncontrollably.

“Thank you.” Mag nodded, and then sat down again.

The 50 points that Maotai received was more shocking than the 50 points that Titan Liquor received. At the same time, it also triggered everyone’s curiosity. How were the event organizers going to handle these two?

Who was going to get the gold award?

“Hello. Let’s get to know each other. I’m the boss of Casa Tavern, Madison,” the fatty boss sitting next to Mag said to him, smiling.

“Hello.” Mag nodded reservedly.

Madison wasn’t discouraged, and continued to laughingly say, “Congratulations to Boss for the success of your Maotai. However, please forgive me for my ignorance. I don’t know where Saipan Tavern is located? I

would like to go and try this exquisite liquor personally two days later.”

All the tavern owners around them pricked up their ears to listen in. After today, Saipan Tavern was destined to be the one of the most high-profile taverns in Rodu.

Everyone was curious about this unknown tavern. Where was it located, and why had such excellent liquor been unknown before today?

Facing a potential customer, Mag quickly switched to the professional mode. “Boss Madison is being too kind. Our tavern is newly opened. It’s normal not to know it. The tavern is situated at Romo Street, and we operate at night. Please come over whenever you are free.”

“Romo Street...” Madison thought for a while before his eyes widened, and he flicked a glance at Eiffie. Then, he said to Mag, “Isn’t it on the same street as Titan Tavern?”

“Yes. Boss Hades’ tavern is just across from my tavern,” Eiffie smilingly replied.

Eiffie’s words shocked everyone.

Two taverns on one street both received the perfect score of 50 points on the liquor-tasting event.

The strong return of Titan Liquor had already made sure that Titan Tavern would return to its former glory.

Meanwhile, after Maotai got such high praises and perfect scores today, it was already able to hold its own against Titan Liquor. It was destined to become one of the most popular taverns in Rodu. Everyone could already imagine how popular that street would be in the future.

“If I remember correctly, Romo Street is really destitute now. Most of the shops there are closed, and the rest are barely hanging on too.”

“The Titan Tavern alone back then supported the whole of Romo Street. With another Saipan Tavern now, Romo Street is expected to return to its former glory.”

“Why don’t we go get a shop at Romo Street first and open a tavern too? We might catch some of the straying customers. After all, all the high-end liquor is limited in quantity.”

“Your idea is good. Let’s go there and check it out later..”

Chapter 2087 Twin Gold Awards!

It was first Titan Liquor, and then Maotai Liquor followed. The appearance of these two legendary kinds of liquor had pushed this liquor-tasting event to its climax, and rendered all the other liquor types mere supporting roles.

After reviewing all 60 groups, all the scores were given.

What made everyone curious was one question: whom would the Wine and Liquor Association give the gold award to. Both Titan Liquor and Maotai Liquor got full marks.

The five judges on stage had a discussion with the other five reserved judges before tasting both liquors again. They reached a final agreement.

Fergus walked onto the platform again, and gestured for everyone to quiet down.

The crowd quickly quieted down, and everyone was looking at the highly respected president. He was going to declare the winners of this year’s liquor-tasting event.

Fergus looked at the crowd, and said in a booming voice, “This year’s liquor-tasting event has given us a huge surprise. There are many great liquor types this year. The brewers’ hard work and breakthroughs in the past year were all beyond our expectations, but the excellent liquor also made our judging jobs much more complicated and harder.

“For example, the Titan Liquor which has aged for 30 years in the cellar and Maotai which has bowled everyone over on its debut. Asking us to choose which of them to award with the gold award is equivalent to asking us to choose who is more important between our mothers and our wives. It’s making things impossible for all the judges.”

Everyone smiled. The president was still as funny and humorous as ever.

“So, after our serious consideration, we have come to a unanimous decision. This year’s liquor-tasting event will make an exception by adding another gold award. Titan Liquor and Maotai will both receive the gold award!” Fergus said in an even louder voice.

It was silent, the crowd erupted into an uproar all of a sudden.

Double gold award!

This had never happened at the liquor-tasting event before!

The taverns’ owners looked at Mag and Eiffie enviously. This was equivalent to taking down a guarantee for the next year’s sales.

Titan Tavern would return to its former glory, while the newly opened Saipan Tavern would become one of the most popular taverns in Rodu very soon.

“Congratulations to both Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern. Could the owners please come up to the stage to receive your gold award’s trophy,” the emcee announced.

“Marvelous! They actually added another gold award!” Eiffie also jumped up in joy and surprise.

“They are really quite flexible.” Mag also nodded with a smile.

Mag and Eiffie got up and walked onto the stage.

The two 30-year-olds seemed to be in their prime, making everyone in the audience envy them.

Fergus and Kurt each held a big golden wine glass which had the words “The Wine and Liquor Association’s Gold Award” engraved on it.

urt gave one trophy to Eiffie, and encouraged, “I hope you can carry on Marcus’ work and pass on the legacy of Titan Liquor.”

Eiffie accepted the trophy with both her hands and gravely nodded. “Thank you. I will work hard.”

“Young and promising. You will be a force to be reckoned with in the future.” Fergus passed the other trophy to Mag and chuckled. “I have taken next year’s trophy to settle this emergency. I hope to see you bring back

an even better Maotai next year.”

Laughter broke out in the crowd instantly.

“No, thanks. Maotai is already the best.” Mag shook his head.

Everyone stared at Mag with shock. Were the youngsters so arrogant nowadays?

Fergus was also looking at Mag.

“However, I’m still coming next year. I will be bringing other liquor. You may have to prepare another trophy as well then.” Mag raised the trophy in his hand and looked at it against the light. “I guess my girls at home will love it.”

Fergus and the audience laughed.

“Young man, you are funny. I like you.” Fergus slapped Mag’s shoulder. “Then, I will look forward to the surprise that you will bring to us next year.”

Mag and Eiffie came down from the stage, and went back to their seats.

It was the silver awards after gold awards. The Explosive Liquor from Reese Tavern and other four brands of liquor received the silver awards this year.

No one had expected Explosive Liquor, which had been deemed the most likely to receive the gold award, to be overtaken by Titan Liquor and Maotai. Even its high score of 48 points paled in comparison. After announcing the 10 bronze awards, the highlight of this year's liquor-tasting event had a perfect ending.

"Congratulations."

"Same to you."

Mag and Eiffie left the chapel and smiled.

Mag was very gratified. The Titan Liquor regaining its gold award would be a great boost in his property investments, and it would make sure his investments continued to boom.

Eiffie looked at Mag with even more admiration and gratitude in her eyes.

If Mag hadn't torn off the seal on the cellars and let her use the Titan Liquor in the cellar to take part in the competition, she wouldn't have been standing on the stage today and taking back this trophy that belonged to her father.

Meanwhile, Mag calmly accepted his gold award trophy, as if he had anticipated it.

Mag saw Amy, who was holding a ton of goodies, and Annie sitting on the swing in front of the chapel as soon as he walked out. Irina was standing close by, while Mala was guarding the children at the side.

"Miss! Did we get the gold award?!" Mala saw the trophy in Eiffie's hands, and ran over with glowing eyes and shock.

"Yes. Our Titan Liquor got the gold award." Eiffie nodded smilingly.

"That's great. That's great." Mala caressed the gold award's trophy carefully as her tears flowed.

Mag went to the swing with the trophy.

Amy put her plate on the swing and leaped off it. Staring at the trophy in Mag's hands with glowing eyes, she exclaimed, "Wow. Father, is it made of gold?"

"I guess so." Mag passed the trophy to Amy, who had already wiped her cleans clean.

"I'll know once I tasted it." Amy bit the trophy, leaving two neat rows of little teeth marks on the edge of it.

"Mm-hm. It's soft. It's real." Amy nodded with experience.

"Seems like joining this competition was quite worth it." Irina took the trophy, and flicked it with her finger. The trophy made a crisp sound.

"It's a twin gold award. Our neighbor got the gold award too. Seems like the properties I invested in are going to increase in value." Mag chuckled.

“She’s really very popular,” Irina said smilingly.

Mag turned back, and saw Eiffie chatting with a middle-aged man in golden robes.

He had an impression of that man. He was the boss of Reese Tavern. If it weren’t for Titan Liquor and Maotai, this year’s gold award would have gone to his Explosive Liquor.

The lean and smart-looking Boris looked very charming. He was a typical diamond bachelor. However, he didn’t seem like he was flirting with Eiffie; instead, he looked like he was having a discussion with her.

Mag didn’t want to interfere in Eiffie’s life. He turned back, and smilingly told Irina, “The highlight of the liquor-tasting event is already over. There’s a banquet afterwards. Should we go for our meals or return home for our meals?”

“What do the children think?” Irina looked at Amy and Annie.

“We went to the kitchen earlier, and a kind fat uncle already let us eat all their best food.” Amy popped one little fried ball in her mouth and shook her head. “So, we can go home for our meals?”

Chapter 2088 Buy Another Half A Street

Mag respected the children’s choice. Therefore, the entire family left the manor straightaway, and hailed a horse-drawn carriage by the side of the road with the trophy in their arms.

After a while, Mag finally hailed a passing horse-drawn carriage. He carried Amy up the horse-drawn carriage first before helping Annie and Irina up.

“Hi, Mr. Hades, can I take some of your time?” Mag was called back when he was about to board the horse-drawn carriage.

Mag retracted his leg, and turned to look at the person.

He knew the person coming. He was Mr Boris, who had combed his hair up sleekly.

“What is the matter?” Mag asked.

“I am Boris. Congratulations on winning the gold award in the liquor-tasting with your Maotai.” Boris reached his hand out to Mag with a smile.

“Thank you.” Mag touched his hand, and then retracted it. “Congratulations on winning the silver award with your Explosive Liquor.”

The corner of Boris’s lips twitched. If it were not for Mag and Explosive Liquor, the Explosive Liquor would probably have won the gold award.

However, he brought out his best upbringing, and quickly smiled as he replied, “Mr. Hades is a genius brewer just like Master Marcus. Our wine would naturally pale in comparison.”

“You flatter me. Is anything the matter, Mr Boris? If there’s nothing on, we’ll be heading home first.” Mag could not be bothered to stand in the freezing wind to praise each other with the man. His wife and

children

were still waiting for him in the carriage. Wouldn't it be better to sit in the comfort of his warm home?

Boris looked at Mag, and said sincerely, "Mr. Hades, you're a straightforward person. Actually, I would like to invite you to a partnership with me. I have 10 large-scale taverns in Rodu, and you have an exceptional brewing technique. If we can work together, we will definitely be a legend in the world of liquor."

"Apologies. I am not interested in becoming a legend of any sort. If anything, I am the legend." Mag smiled and boarded the horse-drawn carriage as he told the coachman to set off.

"Mr. Hades, you can consider it. If you have any ideas, you can always look for me at Reese Tavern." Boris took a step to the side as he spoke toward the horse-drawn carriage.

Mag did not reply as the coachman drove the carriage towards Romo Street.

He could tell that Mr Boris was a very excellent businessman. However, Mag did not need such a friend.

Boris probably told Eiffie the same thing. The thing was that Mag did not know if Eiffie agreed to the man's suggestion.

"That fellow seemed to be in deep thoughts just now. He did not seem like a good person," Irina told Mag.

"Businessmen chase profits. There's nothing good or bad about that. I don't have an intention of forging a deep relationship with him," Mag said with a smile.

"What about you?"

"I am not a businessman. I am a chef. I just invest in some assets that have been heavily underrated," Mag said.

"Will the property prices at Romo Street really go up? They all said that you've made losses," Irina said in disbelief.

"If they could've understood it, they would have long made it big." Mag smiled, and said confidently, "It will not even take a year. Tomorrow there will be more people asking about shops here."

The value of a commercial street was dependent on popularity. Romo Street was considered a low-value area. With the double gold award that Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern brought back, Romo Street would be welcoming a new wave of crowd.

With the increased popularity, Romo Street's commercial value would naturally rise.

If other merchants wanted to ride this wave, they would have to start their commercial activities on Romo Street, and that would continue to bring the crowds in.

This was how things would work out for both sides.

As long as the commercial system in Romo Street could be rebuilt and attract more capable and unique merchants to stay, a whole new commercial system would be formed.

This commercial system's structure would be controlled by Mag.

As the first landlord of Romo Street, Mag, who had a few hundred buildings to his name, had that power.

A commercial street was like an ecosystem. For it to last long and healthily, there had to be a specific plan.

Homogeneity and monopoly would ruin an entire commercial circle. It was not destined to last long.

Mag would of course have to hand such professional things to the System.

If it was something that could be solved perfectly with 10 copper coins, Mag would not rack his brain cells to do it on his own and pull out an unprofessional business proposal.

Back in the restaurant, Mag first made a sumptuous lunch.

After lunch, he left to find the agent whom he went to when he bought his house.

“Sir, a man named Hades is looking for you outside.” A staff member entered the office quickly, and made a report as he looked at Fitch, who was organizing his files.

“Hades?” Fitch looked up. He thought for a while before his eyes widened in shock.

“Sir, is he someone that you should not be meeting?” The staff member saw that Fitch did not wear a very good expression, and asked, “Should I get him to leave?”

“Yes... Just say that I’m not around.” Fitch nodded.

“Alright.” The staff member turned and walked out.

“Hold on!” Fitch called the person back. He took a deep breath, and said, “Forget it. I’ll go on my own.”

“Alright.” The staff member was bewildered, but he still nodded.

Fitch took his sweater, and let out a long sigh before going out.

In just this month, Fitch, who had been a property agent for three years, finally welcomed the turning point in his job, and became a supervisor.

What made him the legend of the property world was the story of hundreds of buildings on Romo Street, wiping out more than 10 property agents’ low-cost assets.

Right now, he had received a promotion and a raise, and had become a supervisor. He had even had his first date with his boss’s daughter.

Now, the person who made him, Mr. Hades, came knocking on his door. Could he have found out that he was duped?

Fitch was rather flustered. Although he had handled the handing over of the buildings very cleanly, as Romo Street continued to decline, the value of those old buildings would only get lower.

“Mr. Hades, please come in.” Fitch went out and saw Hades, who was standing at the door. He quickly went over with a smile to welcome him.

“There’s no need for me to go in for a seat. I am here today to ask if you have services covering shop rentals,” Mag said straightforwardly when he saw Fitch.

This youngster had a rather good attitude when it came to working. His efficiency and work abilities were good too. This was also why Mag decided to choose him again.

Fitch, who thought that Mag would be here to give him a dressing down, was shocked. After a while, he came back to his senses, and looked at Mag as he exclaimed, "Mr. Hades, are you intending to rent out the shops that you've purchased recently?"

"Yes. However, I do not wish to talk to those people myself. Therefore, I wish to find a professional organization to do this for me." Mag nodded.

"I see..." Fitch looked at Mag. He could not help but feel a little guilty. Mr. Hades was a good person, but he bought so many rubbish shops in one go. If Fitch had advised him against it back then, this would not have happened.

It was understandable now that he wanted to rent the shops out to recoup some of his losses. However, there was barely a soul around on Romo Street, which idiot would spend the money to open a shop here?

"Mr. Hades, I'm afraid these shops are—"

"You don't provide this service?" Mag interrupted his nonsense.

"We do provide renting services. If you wish, I can give you a discount. I will only take the annual rental fees of five locations as the agent fees." Fitch nodded.

He really could not bear to watch Mag like that. He could even feel helplessness and regret..

Chapter 2089 The Most Handsome Landlord On The Street

Mag used 30 minutes to convey to Fitch the distribution and composition of businesses that the system designed and the rental that shocked Fitch.

Then Mag bought all the buildings that were recently put up for sale. He bought another 30-odd properties.

"Mr. Hades, you are such an extraordinary person." Fitch watched Mag sign on the subscription documents with complicated emotions.

Even though he was earning another several hundred thousands, he felt guilty watching Mag sink deeper and deeper. As for the business plan that Mr. Hades mentioned earlier, the rental rate that was several times higher than the current Romo Street's rental rate was an absurd idea. "Go to Romo Street in the afternoon, and put up your contact details on my vacant houses. People will be looking for you very soon," Mag said with a smile.

"Alright. That's part of my job. I will bring my people there immediately after I settle the documents." Fitch nodded with a smile.

Perhaps an easy customer like Hades was every salesperson's favorite.

The sales of 33 properties had completed Fitch's first month requirement after he was promoted to a supervisor. He wondered if he could have dinner with the boss' daughter tonight, and perhaps go further with her.

Mag could see through Fitch's thinking, but the man's attitude was good, and his ability was not bad, so Mag was willing to work with him. He didn't care about his other thoughts.

Fitch sent Mag out, and arranged for the shop's horse-drawn carriage to send him home.

Mag sat in the horse-drawn carriage, and stretched out lazily and comfortably.

He was so young, and he was going to collect rent until his hands shook and he became the most handsome landlord on the street.

The lifestyle of the rich was just dull and boring

"Supervisor, you are so out of this world. You just sold 33 properties in a blink of an eye." The staff member who had gone to call Fitch earlier looked at him with admiration.

"It's just normal operation." Fitch placed the documents onto the table calmly. "Sort out these documents, and then follow me to Romo Street."

"Alrighty," that person answered. He picked up the documents on the table, and curiously asked, "Why are we going to Romo Street? Didn't you sell all the properties there already?"

"The buyer wants us to help rent out these properties, so we are going to stick to the rent notices there," Fitch answered.

"Would anyone still want to rent a shop there?" That person was perplexed, but he still returned to his seat with the documents.

Soon, Fitch brought his men to Romo Street. The street was still cold and destitute as before. There weren't many pedestrians on the street now, and some shops were on the verge of closing, while many had "for rent" notices stuck on them.

His subordinate flicked a glance at the tavern with its doors half-closed, and whispered, "I think it won't take long before all shops close down on this street."

Fitch sighed inwardly. Romo Street had been glorious once too. However, he quickly retracted his gaze, pushed the glue bucket into his subordinate's hands, and said, "We are paid to do a job. Let's stick to all the notices quickly. We need to stick to over 100 notices."

The subordinate couldn't help asking a question as he worked. "Supervisor, what background that boss comes from? He simply bought up over 100 properties. No matter how cheap they are, he will still need to pay one to two billion copper coins in cash. Is he really that rich?"

"He said he came from a normal family. Do you believe him?" Fitch threw him a look.

"This... We also can't say we don't, right?" The subordinate shrugged his shoulders.

“Then let’s move quickly. The weather is so cold. Won’t it be comfortable to go back and toast ourselves at the fireplace.” Fitch rolled his eyes at him. He was also carrying a bucket of glue and sticking the notices on the doors.

Romo Street wasn’t big, and it was mainly made up of old houses. However, these old houses could all be demolished and rebuilt. This wasn’t hard for the construction teams with cultivators. It would be even cheaper than remodeling the old properties.

However, Fitch didn’t believe there would be idiots coming here to rent properties. It was obviously a money-losing deal. Unless... another Mr. Hades came along.

“Excuse me, is this property for rent?” a voice spoke up behind Fitch.

Fitch turned around, and saw two rather well-dressed middle-aged men behind them.

Fitch showed a professional smile and nodded. “Yes, Sir. This property is for rent. Apart from this property, we have over 100 properties for rent on this street too.”

Shocked, the tall and thin middle-aged man on the left said, “Over 100 properties? All yours?”

“No, we are just the agents responsible for renting out the properties.” Fitch shook his head and sized them up reservedly.

Judging from their clothes, both of them should be rich upper-class people. Perhaps he had really bumped into idiots? Was his luck really that good?! “Agents.” The two of them realized.

“How big is this property? How much is its annual rental?” the short and fat man asked.

Fitch flipped through the documents Mag passed to him that morning, and quickly found this building’s number. He answered, “The single floor area of this building is 200 square meters. There are three floors above ground and one underground cellar. The first year’s rental is 200,000 copper coins.”

“200,000 copper coins? Isn’t it too expensive for such a location and human traffic’s conditions?” The middle-aged man frowned. He was obviously not very satisfied with the price.

“This is the price that the owner asked for. We have no right to change it.” Fitch laughed awkwardly. He had already told Mag that the price was double that of the market price, but Mag insisted on it.

Fitch promoted it enthusiastically. “However, if you look at this building, it’s considered very new on Romo Street, and its interior is still very much intact. It was a tavern previously, and many of the things that were left behind could be used right away. If you weren’t on Romo Street, but on the other streets, it wouldn’t be this price.”

“It’s true that we can’t find such cheap shops if we aren’t on Romo Street, but it’s precisely why it shouldn’t be this price because it’s on Romo Street.” The tall and lean man shook his head with a smile. He pointed at a tavern that had a “for sale” sign hanging on its door. “That old tavern’s stamp duty + one year’s rental is only 200,000 copper coins, and we can start our business as soon as we take over it. Isn’t that better?”

“That’s indeed a better choice.” Fitch nodded in agreement. These two were obviously smart businessmen.

The short and fat middle-aged man looked around him, and then said to Fitch, "You guys are agents, so do you know if there are any other shops for sale on Romo Street?"

"Shops?" Fitch and his subordinate had a surprised expression.

It was already weird enough that these two seemingly weird businessmen came to rent shops on Romo Street, but they even came to ask about shops for sale. Could they really be two dupes?

However, Mr. Hades had bought all the properties for sale on Romo Street. These 33 buildings sold today were the last batch.

The rest were basically occupied by the owners who lived there or already rented for income. There was no inclination for sale.

Fitch shook his head, and said, "I'm sorry. Just today, the last 33 properties were already sold, and there are no shops for sale on Romo Street currently."

Chapter 2090: Spicy Escargots

"What!?"

The two middle-aged men had shock on their faces.

The short and fat middle-aged man stared at Fitch, and said, "Were they all bought out? All of them?!"

"Yes." Fitch nodded. He couldn't understand why the two of them had such a reaction.

The tall and lean middle-aged man slapped his thigh, and regretfully said, "Sigh. We were still too late."

"I didn't expect that there would be people who came earlier than us. We shouldn't have eaten that lunch." That short and fat middle-aged man was also very regretful.

Fitch and his subordinate stood at the side with befuddlement. They looked at each other and shook their heads.

"In this case, the person who entrusts you to rent out the 100-odd properties is that buyer, right? Can you tell us who he is?" the tall and lean middle-aged man asked Fitch.

Fitch shook his head, and apologetically answered, "I'm sorry. This is our client's privacy. We can't share it."

The two middle-aged men looked at each other, and saw a hint of frustration with a wasted opportunity in each other's eyes.

"I'm a little curious. Why are you two gentlemen interested in Romo Street's shops suddenly? After all, as you said, Romo Street doesn't have human traffic." Fitch asked the two of them a question with curiosity.

"Since there are no shops for us to buy anymore, I don't mind telling you the truth. Both Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern on Romo Street won the gold awards at today's liquor-tasting event, and they both got full marks," the short and fat middle-aged man said, and then lamented, "You might look down on the current Romo Street, but you won't be worthy of the Romo Street in the future."

“What! Twin gold awards!” The eyes of Fitch and his subordinate widened at the same time.

As a proper salesperson, Fitch knew very well the rationale behind a street’s popularity.

He hadn’t witnessed the Romo Street’s boom in the past, but he had heard his seniors mention many times how Romo Street had prospered after the Titan Tavern had received the gold award back then and had been popular for over 10 years.

It was just because Titan Tavern lost Marcus and became a normal tavern that Romo Street began to decline and finally became like this.

However, both Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern took back the liquor-tasting event’s gold awards today. One could only imagine the crowd that these two taverns would bring to Romo Street in the future.

Romo Street was going to return to its glory, and it wasn’t impossible for it to go to even higher levels.

Meanwhile, Saipan Tavern... Wasn’t that Mr. Hades’ tavern?!

Fitch gulped, and saw the same thoughts in his subordinate’s eyes.

He suddenly thought of one terrible thing. Mr. Hades had targeted Romo Street from the very beginning when he bought over 100 properties in one go. He had already thought of making Saipan Tavern the anchor point and making Romo Street return to its previous glory.

Moreover, he only prepared to rent the shops after Saipan Tavern got the gold award today, and he set up many restrictive conditions and a rental price that was much higher than the market rate.

That wasn’t a rate that was much higher than the market rate, but a very reasonable rental rate.

Furthermore, Mr. Hades buying the last 33 buildings was equivalent to controlling over half of the good shop fronts on Romo Street.

Perhaps, no one could even vote “no ” if this street was to change its name to Hades Street.

One could only imagine how valuable the over 100 properties in Mr. Hades’ hands would be after Romo Street returned to its full glory!

Mr. Hades is such an extraordinary person! Fitch felt extremely shocked.

Just as he was gloating over 2,000,000 in commission, the other party was already considering a business deal that was worth billions of dollars. Perhaps this was the difference in their outlook in life,

The two middle-aged men walked towards the tavern that was for sale. Fitch’s words made them determined to buy this tavern today. Otherwise, it would be difficult to buy such a lowly priced asset after the news got out.

The subordinate gulped, and asked Fitch, “Supervisor, is all this part of Mr. Hades’ plan?”

“I would’ve thought it could’ve been luck if only Titan Tavern had got the gold waved the proposal in his hands bitterly—”but even Saipan Tavern got the gold award. Furthermore, Mr. Hades even gave me such a detailed

proposal. It already explains everything.”

“He must have earned a lot of money, right?”

“The similar shop fronts on tavern street in the north of the city cost about 5,000,000.” Fitch was trying not to look too jealous.

“Hissss...” The subordinate sucked in a breath of cold air, and jealously said, “Those owners who sold their properties today are going to cry their hearts out.”

Fitch laughingly said, “They have nothing to complain about. Mr. Hades did this with his own ability. If he hadn’t entered Romo Street, the commercial value of this street would’ve already hit rock bottom. He will be the new creator of this street.”

“That’s true. It’s really admirable.” The subordinate nodded too.

In their hearts, Mag had changed from an idiot to a business magnate.

“Go and stick up the notices quickly. Renting all these shops out alone could hit all our next month’s target.” Fitch hurried his subordinate smilingly.

“Alrighty!” the subordinate answered energetically.

The two of them stopped and gawked around when they passed by Saipan Tavern before leaving with surprise.

Meanwhile, the news of Saipan Tavern and Titan Tavern both winning the gold awards had already spread on Romo Street.

The bosses that stayed behind on Romo Street didn’t believe it at first, but after confirming it, many of them wept with joy.

They still remembered the glory of Romo Street in the past. Just as they thought they couldn’t hold on any longer, these twin gold awards appeared like rain after a long drought, giving these bosses who thought of quitting a boost.

The Titan Tavern supported the entire street alone back then. With another Saipan Tavern, anyone could see the future of Romo Street.

A waiter ran into a tavern, and whispered to the owner, who was enthusiastically bargaining with the two middle-aged men about the sales of the tavern for 100 or 200 copper coins of price difference.

The tavern’s boss was taken aback, and asked the waiter, “Are you sure?!”

“They are talking about this out there. The news has already spread throughout Rodu, so it has to be true.” The waiter nodded with conviction.

The two middle-aged men looked at each other, and said “Oh no” inwardly.

“Then let’s go with the price you decided and sign the documents.” The short and fat man hurried him.

The tavern’s boss shook his head smilingly. “Wait a sec. I’m sorry, gentlemen. I’m not selling this tavern anymore.”

“We have already reached this stage of negotiation. Isn’t it inappropriate to change your mind now?” the tall and lean middle-aged said with a frown.

‘You two gentlemen hid the news, and tried to buy my tavern at a low price. Isn’t it inappropriate too?’ The tavern’s boss stopped smiling and sneered. “I didn’t know about Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern getting the gold awards, because I didn’t go to the liquor-tasting event today, but the two of you shouldn’t take me as an idiot, either.”

“Forget it. Let’s go look for other shops.” The short and fat middle-aged man sighed and walked out of the shop.

The tall and lean middle-aged man also resignedly left.

After the two of them left, the tavern’s boss told the waiter, “Quick! Go remove the sign on the door, and then contact a construction team. Close the shop for three days, and then refurbish the entire tavern!”

“Such a rush?”

The waiter was a little taken aback. The boss, who was having a headache over the tavern being unsaleable, actually rejected the other party’s offer, and was even prepared to refurbish the tavern.

“Of course. We will lose money if we are late!” Boss pushed the waiter out of the tavern, and removed the sign on the door himself. He didn’t forget to remind the waiter, “Go get the construction team here today, and we will start the work tonight. The earlier we can finish, the better. It’s even fine to pay more!”

“A-alright.” The waiter left with befuddlement.

Similar situations were happening all over Romo Street.

The shops that had “for sale” signs on their doors quickly removed them.

Meanwhile, those dirty and rundown shops began to start cleaning up or closing down to refurbish or upgrade right away.

Those shops that had converged because of Titan Tavern back then were indeed a little outdated.

The low popularity caused the inertia to refurbish. With the popularity of the twin gold awards, all the bosses had the thought of upgrading their shops.

“Miss, everyone knows that we got the gold award now. Many people came to congratulate us.” Mala dashed into the workshop excitedly, and reported to Eiffie, who was operating the machine seriously, Eiffie closed the machine, and said to Mala, “Don’t run around if you have nothing to do. Go watch after the construction team. We must make sure the refurbishment and expansion are done properly, The Titan Tavern in the future will be different from the one in the past.”

‘Yes.’ Mala nodded, turned around, and walked a few steps away before she turned to ask Eiffie perplexedly, “But Miss, why don’t you accept Mr. Boris’ offer? Not only will you have many taverns, you

can also call them 'Titan Taverns.' You don't even have to work hard and brew liquor here every day. You can also sleep in every day."

"All that little head of yours is sleep, sleep, and sleep, and nothing else." Eiffie flicked Mala's forehead with exasperation. She looked at the brewery and shook her head with a smile. "I don't need so many taverns. I only want this tavern that Father and Mother left to me. Furthermore, I like to brew liquor. I like to truly inherit Father's career and brew the authentic Titan Liquor. This is what makes me happy."

"Oh." Mala nodded as if she understood Eiffie's words.

"Go and work now." Eiffie waved her hand, and chased Mala out of the brewery.

Boris indeed gave her a very sincere price when he talked to her today. Partner of Reese Tavern with 30% shares. She could earn hundreds of millions of dividends every year while keeping Titan Tavern to herself.

However, he also made a condition that she couldn't accept—sharing the aged Titan Liquor and the brewing methods.

Hence, Eiffie rejected Boris' invitation, even though he said he was her father's good friend.

She only wanted to run Titan Tavern properly, and let it become one of Rodu's best taverns like it had been before.

She could only supply 50 bottles of aged Titan Liquor every day, so she had to brew even more Titan Liquor, and sell bottles according to their year to provide to more customers and not depending on her father's old stash.

Mag had also received many congratulations from their neighbors, and he also thanked them for their friendliness.

Neighbors should take care of one another.

As for these bosses' plans to refurbish their shops, Mag was very supportive too.

One big reason that Romo Street lost its competitiveness was because all the shops on the street looked too old.

The customers all favored new things. Apart from those old shops whose core competitiveness was their flavor, people liked to go after the new shops, even if those shops only looked new,

"Father, these neighbors are so nice." The table in front of Amy was filled with food. It was given by the neighbors who came to congratulate them.

Everyone knew that the tavern's boss had a pair of adorable daughters, so they gave them little snacks and little toys.

"Yes. They are the rare good neighbors." Mag nodded smilingly.

Saipan Tavern brought back a gold award, and these neighbors were going to benefit from it directly. It was normal that they were so friendly

What made him happy was that Saipan Tavern's fame had already broken through 1000 after the liquor-tasting event in the morning. It had reached 2122.

Moreover, this number was still climbing steadily.

With the power of the word of mouth and the recognition of the liquor-tasting event, even customers who hadn't been to Saipan Tavern to taste it for themselves had become Saipan Tavern's fans too.

It was indeed right to take part in this liquor-tasting event. Mag nodded with satisfaction.

"Ding! Congratulations on completing the mission: the tavern's popularity has broken through 1000! Reward received: a recipe for spicy escargot!"

The system's voice appeared in Mag's mind.

"Sucking escargots..." Mag raised his brows slightly. This was no doubt a challenge to the people of the alternate world.

Many chowhounds who came from flower-planting families couldn't even grasp that skill; they could only depend on toothpicks for help.

Furthermore, it was rumored that a man who knew how to suck out an escargot had more choices when it came to selecting a mate.

Of course, Mag didn't understand what that meant. It was just a rumor.

The spicy escargots were a traditional side dish that went well with drinks. It was considered a little surprise as a reward.

Mag knew how to suck out an escargot, and he was very popular with the ladies. That was quite true.

Because the Saipan Tavern's Maotai received the liquor-tasting event's gold award, Mag decided to give himself a day off to celebrate.

A sign was hanging on the door. Mag flicked a glance at Titan Tavern that was under renovation.

Those liquor lovers who came after hearing the news would most probably weep after seeing this scene.

"Little Amy, Annie, we are going out for an errand, and will only return later. You two stay at home by yourself, and don't leave the house, alright?"

Mag locked the door from the inside, and spoke to Annie and Amy, who had just returned from the wishing well with the snack gift package.

"Are you guys going to beat up the bad eggs?" Amy asked.

"Yes. We are going to maintain the world's peace." Mag nodded with a smile.

Amy's eyes lit up, and she looked at him expectantly. "Can you bring me along too?"

I can fight very well too."

Mag caressed her head, and said, "Not this time. This bad egg is very dangerous. You can go when you are older and stronger, Amy." "Alright." Amy nodded obediently. She didn't insist.

“Remember. Do not open the door no matter who comes along. The door is locked from within. No one can enter,” Mag reminded them again, and watched the children go upstairs before stepping into the teleportation portal together with Irina.

The tavern had the system’s enhanced 9th-tier defense and Irina’s spell formations. As long as it wasn’t attacked by many 10th-tier powerhouses, it could hold until they returned home.

Mag had just received Merante’s letter. They had discovered an unusual spot in the north, and asked Mag to check it out.

As the matter concerned the Great Old Ones, Mag naturally didn’t dare to delay it.

And Irina asked to go with him..