

Stay At home 2331

Chapter 2331: Shut Up! I'm Not One of Those Shallow Women!

Vicki listened to all of them with a smile.

Only until they stopped talking and focused their attention on her, did she stop smiling and say in a grave voice, "So, you guys don't intend to rest?"

"Maestro, it's fine that we don't rest. As long as the customers are happy, it's completely fine to act one more day."

"Yes, Maestro. We've finally gotten famous and there are so many people waiting to watch our performance. We can't wait to get on stage, so we don't need a rest."

"We have discussed and felt that there is no problem."

Everyone nodded and said in unison.

Old Man Mi opened his mouth and eventually chose to keep quiet.

Bam!

Vicki suddenly banged the table.

The meeting room was deadly silent immediately.

Everyone stopped smiling and looked at Vicki in shock and befuddlement.

"Do you all think there is no problem?" Vicki looked at all of them coldly. Her eyebrows were already raised as she coldly said, "I think that there is a huge problem!"

"Maestro..." Old Man Mi said softly.

Vicki ignored him and continued on speaking, "Have you guys forgotten what I have told you in the beginning? An excellent opera actor doesn't have to butter up the audience. You only have to focus on your acting on stage and whether the audience likes it or not is up to them. Are you guys going to lose your original intention because of this little attention?"

Everyone looked serious. Some of them wanted to speak, but no one was the first to do so.

Vicki disappointedly said, "Ever since I brought you into this trade, I have been telling you that the voice is the actor's life. If you don't let your throat rest as it deserves because you are chasing after the temporary cheers and applause, you will cause the shortening of your vocal chords' life. Frankly speaking, I am very disappointed."

All of them lowered their heads with shame.

Even though they were different ages and most of them were older than Vicki, Vicki was the one who guided them into being an opera actor and was their master. She turned them from the dreamless

bottomfeeders of society to opera actors who could use their voice and performance to express themselves.

Just as Vicki said, she had been warning them about how to protect their throats to prolong their performing lives as soon as they joined the profession.

"I set the rule of resting one day every week to let you guys come back in a better shape to give back to the audience after a day's rest, so that they can get to appreciate a real, full, and outstanding performance.

"I get what you guys are thinking, but you should clearly know that the audience likes our excellent performance on stage and not the fact that our performances are daily," Vicki said gravely.

Every one of them had a thoughtful expression.

Old Man Mi stepped forward and solemnly promised her. "Maestro, we will rest as we planned before and will try our best to give the best opera performance to our audience."

"Yes. We won't disappoint you."

"We know that we are wrong."

Everyone agreed and didn't dwell on their mistake.

Vicki finally smiled and nodded. "Alright, let's go back to sleep. We still have a performance tomorrow morning."

After saying that, she turned and left first.

Standing on the tower of the Black Cat Opera House, Vicki looked at the moon that was half concealed by the clouds with a smile.

"Why are you smiling so duffly? Is this all you are capable of?"

"I am getting closer to my dream now, so what's wrong with smiling? I am not only smiling, I am going to laugh too... Hahaha..."

"Alright... Stop laughing, it's embarrassing."

"I simply want to laugh. Don't over my mouth... Mmm..."

"This is my mouth too and if I say no laughing, it means no laughing!"

A weird one-man-show took place on top of the tower for a while.

"Do you think Mag is a little weird?"

"Why so? I think Mr. Mag is a very outstanding person."

"He's far too outstanding to the point that it's weird."

“Grandfather said a chosen one will appear in every world every once in a while and he or she will receive extremely great fortune from the universe. Mr. Mag might be such a being.”

“The fortunate one means being extremely lucky, but his weirdness is in his almost perfect skills.

“A god of swordsmanship who has become a demi-god in a god-forsaken place like the Norland Continent, and he actually cooks so well that no chef in this world is his match. Not only that, he can even appreciate opera and is great at being an angel investor and a businessman.

“His copyright awareness is also way ahead of his time and his ability of copyright operation is extremely powerful. His ability to drive consumption is even more astonishing and his methods are as good as a great business operator.”

“Erm... In this case, Mr. Mag is indeed a perfect man.”

“Don’t be a love-struck idiot! That is some other woman’s man!”

“What’s the problem? Beauties have loved heroes from the beginning of time. It’s tradition.”

“Shut up! I’m not one of those shallow women!”

“But I am.”

“Shut up, shut up, shut up!”

“Mmm...”

“The tickets for the ‘Miss Black Cat’ morning show are now on sale! 200 copper coins for one ticket. Please line up in an orderly manner for your purchase. Enter the theater immediately after you purchase your ticket and sit according to your ticket number. One ticket per show. No refund or exchange!” Mala stood at the opera house’s entrance and yelled. It was only eight in the morning but the line in front of the opera house had already reached the door of Titan Tavern.

Due to the opera’s extreme popularity, the situation of reselling scalper tickets had occurred in the past few days. The 200 copper coins ticket could be sold for 500 copper coins. The profit was even higher than the ticket’s original price itself.

Hence, Vicki came up with a solution of selling the tickets on the spot and then going into the theater to watch the show immediately to stop the scalpers from reselling the tickets.

Of course, the disadvantage of this approach was that the audience who wanted to watch the performance had to line up for a long time in advance.

However, Vicki could only think of this method currently. At least, it could ensure the audience who wanted to watch the opera could purchase the ticket with less money.

Mala had become the Black Cat Opera’s official part-timer and she was responsible for selling the tickets. She would occasionally go on stage as a small character without any dialogue for fun.

Of course, there was one more reason why Mala was enthusiastic about it. She could go backstage when the show was over to learn opera singing from Vicki and the others.

Although her talent was just mediocre, Mala had great interest and the opera actors enjoyed teaching her, so she was considered as one of them. She sounded even more enthusiastic when she was selling the tickets.

“This lass is getting louder...” Eiffie rubbed her eyes as she opened the window and looked towards the Black Cat Opera’s direction disdainfully. She couldn’t help curving the corners of her lips upwards when she saw Mala, who was smiling like a scrooge. Just as she was about to retract her gaze and close the window, it landed on a few figures in the long line.

Chapter 2332: Black Cat Opera House

“Aren’t they Mr. Hades and his family?”

Eiffie looked at the family of four in the line. Due to the great looks of the mother and the two children, they were still outstanding in the middle of the long line.

“Why did they suddenly come here today? Are they going to watch the opera?” Eiffie thought with shock, but she quickly closed the window and then jumped back into her bed. She stuffed ‘The Plum in the Golden Vase’ which was exposed a little, back into the bed. She tilted her head and thought before getting up from the bed again.

“I’d better go greet them. We are business partners after all,” Eiffie murmured before taking out the most seductive clothes from her wardrobe and started washing up and putting on makeup at the dressing table.

“The front row ticket is 600 copper coins each. Two tickets cost 1200 copper coins.” Mala put away the money proficiently and then casually asked, “Next, please. How many tickets do you want and where would you like to sit?”

“Four seats in the middle of the fourth row,” a voice answered.

Mala halted her hands and looked up suddenly at the man standing in front of her. She immediately had a surprise expression. “Master! What brought you guys here?!”

“Of course, we are here to watch the opera.” Mag smiled. “The opera house has finished its renovation and we haven’t seen it yet. We happened to be free today, so we came to take a look.”

“Yes, yes. The new opera house looks so majestic.” Amy looked up at the black and gray opera house and nodded.

“Let’s buy the tickets first. The people behind us are waiting to get into the theater.” Mag reminded her smilingly. There would be plenty of time after the opera was over to talk. They couldn’t affect the viewing experience of the customers behind them.

“Alright. Four tickets. Please hold onto them.” Mala tore off the corners of the four tickets and gave them to Mag.

“This is the money for the tickets.” Mag gave her two gold coins and four silver coins before bringing the children into the theater.

The renovated theater became a huge three storey building. Accurately speaking, it should be two and a half storeys.

They entered through a passageway that had bright lights on both sides.

The hall on the first floor was about 10 meters tall and looked more majestic than the previous circus building.

The giant stage had its curtains drawn and its lights were dimmed.

And, the auditorium that rises in steps and the single row seats gave Mag a sense of familiarity.

He wasn't involved in the opera house's design. It should be led by Vicki. He was rather surprised that the five million budget could attain such a standard.

There were obvious numbers on the seats and there were even staff members guiding the audience to their seats according to their numbers. At the same time, they prevented some unnecessary conflicts.

“It's here.” Mag found their seats and sat down. He looked around and discovered that the majority of the audience had already taken their seats and most of them chose to sit in the front rows.

Amy leaned against the soft fabric chair and smilingly said, “The chair has become even more comfortable. It should be even better for sleeping.”

“It's indeed not bad.” Mag also leaned back against the soft chair as he sized up the details in the opera house.

Two large windows were open at the back of the audience seating. They looked like they could be closed with two metal plates and they provided ample lighting for the theater when they were open. Together with the lighting on both sides of the stage, they gave the audience a comfortable seating experience before the show started.

It was very comfortable to look at the stage from the fourth row, but Mag could see that this opera house's design was very professional. Vicki might have gotten external help in designing it, so the viewing experience at the back row wouldn't be too bad either.

After sweeping his gaze across the whole audience once, Mag saw a familiar figure at the side when he was about to retract his gaze.

“What is he doing here again?” Mag looked at the man wearing a cape with an amused smile.

Although he was nicely camouflaged, Mag still recognized him as the maestro of Maca Opera, Pascal, at the first glance.

This fellow was tossed out by Vicki previously. He didn't expect him to sneak back in again today. Did he come to make trouble? Or, was he here to make peace?

Pascal looked around him and pressed the cape's hood on his head even lower. Only his eyes were revealed as he sized up his surroundings warily.

He didn't want to come here either. Who would want to come here and be humiliated if it wasn't for the pressures of life?!

After Young Master Bobby's heart was broken by Vicki that day, he couldn't eat or sleep after he went back and he soon fell ill...

And somehow, his family found out about the incident and blamed it on him. They wanted him to return all the money that he got from Bobby earlier.

Due to their difference in statuses, he had no way to resist at all. Not only did he lose the money that Vicki used to buy back the actors, he even mortgaged the theater. They would be chased out if they couldn't raise the money within two weeks.

He already had enough of wandering around when Maca Opera was still the Maca Circus. Now that he finally had his own opera house, he wasn't going to give it up so easily.

However, he had only ever met one rich friend, which was Bobby, all these years. The rest were not even close to him, so no one would lend him hundreds of thousands of copper coins.

He could only think of Vicki now.

He looked down on the Black Cat Opera back then, but now he was no longer good enough for them.

This opulent theater was way better than Maca Opera. The 200 copper coins and above ticket price made him even more jealous.

What made him even more envious was, the Black Cat Opera still ensured that every performance was sold out even when the ticket price was so high.

At least, it was the case right now.

This meant that the Black Cat Opera could earn over 300,000 in ticket prices alone for every show.

There were three shows per day, which meant they could earn almost 1,000,000 copper coins.

Pascal's Adam's apple moved. How wealthy was that?!

He only managed to get 1,000,000 copper coins from Bobby after buttering up to him for so long.

Meanwhile, Black Cat Opera could earn over 1,000,000 daily!

His motive today was very simple. He wanted to see if the audience were really rich and let Vicki acquire Maca Opera.

Pascal felt that he had already humbled himself by coming here today. He decided to give Vicki a chance to acquire his opera troupe. As a condition, he wanted half of the Black Cat Opera's proprietary rights.

Of course, as the party being purchased, he would relegate himself to the position of deputy maestro and let Vicki be the maestro.

Pascal couldn't help but laugh out loud when he thought of how he was going to become one of the bosses of the opera troupe that earned over 1,000,000 copper coins daily.

His laughter attracted the attention of the staff members that were guiding the audience to their seats nearby.

A staff member approached him and smilingly said, "Excuse me, Sir. Could you please remove your cape? Your cape is too tall. It will obstruct the view of the audience behind you and affect their viewing experience."

Chapter 2333: "No, I Can't See Light"

Pascal went white when he saw that smiling staff member. Sweat appeared on his forehead.

The audience members who were waiting for the opera to start in boredom, all looked at him.

"I-I have photophobia. I cannot look at bright light," Pascal lowered his voice and replied, applauding himself for his wit.

"I see..." The staff member had a hesitant look as he said in a low voice, "Please hold on for a while. Let me ask the maestro how we should handle this."

Then, he turned and left quickly.

"Aiyaya..." Pascal panicked instantly. He almost jumped up as he watched the staff member walk away quickly.

It's over now!

The staff member should be a new recruit and didn't know him, but if Vicki came over, she would see through his camouflage at the very first glance.

The wound that was caused by Vicky previously had just recovered. He didn't want to antagonize that woman again.

However, when he looked around the 80% full theater, the audience were mainly the rich and famous in Rodu. Even if Vicki was annoyed with him, she most probably wouldn't hit him in this situation.

Moreover, he came to negotiate with Vicki today. It was fine to meet her now.

Mag watched this scene with great interest. He was also curious about why this fellow came to the Black Cat Opera House today.

Soon after, Vicki, who had already changed into the black Lolita dress, walked out from backstage and walked to Pascal's seat under admiring gazes.

"That is the maestro of Black Cat Opera?"

“Mommy, is she Miss Black Cat? She’s so pretty! She looks exactly like the picture book!”

“Her dress is so pretty. Hubby, I want one too.”

“Sure, sure. I’ll custom make one for you when we go back.”

The audience were talking among themselves. They didn’t expect to see the main lead before the show started.

Even though she didn’t appear on stage, her presence still managed to wow them.

Looking at the audience member that was huddling in a corner under a black cape, Vicki frowned slightly. However, she gently said, “Sir, if you have photophobia, could you change into a shorter cape? In that case, it won’t affect the audience behind you.”

Pascal looked at the cape that Vicki was holding and pondered for a while before saying in a low voice, “No, I can’t see bright light. I can only wear my own cape. I can’t wear others’ capes.”

Vicki’s eyebrow jerked up as soon as that person spoke. Her gaze became razor-sharp as she coldly said, “You indeed can’t see the light. I think you have forgotten about your pain after your wound healed. You came here for a beating again.”

The audience members around them all had a curious expression when they heard Vicki say that. It seemed like the maestro of Black Cat Opera knew this audience member.

However, the way she spoke was really very ‘Miss Black Cat’!

Pascal broke into a cold sweat under the cape, but he still said in a shrill voice, “I-is this how you Black Cat Opera members treat your audience?! I’ve bought a ticket! Y-you guys are bullying me!”

“Ha, if you were a real audience member, we would naturally welcome you. However, we always have our sticks ready for those bastards who come to make trouble.” Vicki said to the staff member coldly, “Throw him out! Our Black Cat Opera doesn’t welcome him!”

Two staff members picked Pascal up on both sides and dragged him out as soon as Vicky finished talking.

“Wait a sec! Wait a sec!” Pascal kicked his stubby legs around in the air as he shouted, “Maestro Vicki, I didn’t come to make trouble! I really came to see the performance and to discuss a business deal with you!”

Vicki looked at him coldly with ill-concealed disgust in her eyes. “I’m not interested in discussing any business deals with you. I don’t wish to say one more word to you either!”

“This is an one-in-a-lifetime chance! You will never get this chance again if you miss it!” Pascal grabbed onto a seatback. His face flushed bright red because he was using all his strength. He said in a hoarse voice, “I’m willing to merge my Maca Opera with your Black Cat Opera! You’ll be the maestro while I’ll be the deputy maestro. We will be called Black Ma Opera in the future and we will be so famous! We have the best opera actors in Rodu who could make your performance even fuller. You can’t find that anywhere else!”

“Maca Opera? Is there another opera troupe in Rodu?”

“I thought opera was a very new thing. Seems like I’m being ignorant.”

“I know about that Maca Opera. Their performance is so boring, but it’s great at putting people to sleep. I’ll go watch them whenever I have insomnia. I’ll fall asleep very quickly.”

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“Then speaking from the point of functionality, it’s not bad.”

The audience members discussed among themselves. They were very interested in their argument.

Mag felt like laughing when he heard that. This Pascal was really daydreaming. He actually dared to ask Black Cat Opera for a merger and wanted to be the deputy maestro shamelessly.

There were no professional opera actors in Maca Opera at all. They were all fooling around. They learnt some songs somewhere and just murmured them on stage. They could put the audience to sleep very quickly, so the audience didn’t know what they saw in the end.

However, his courage was admirable. He would most probably be thrown out by Vicki.

Vicki was so furious that she laughed when she saw Pascal holding onto the seat tightly.

“You said you want us to merge with your Maca Opera? And, let you be the deputy maestro?” Vicki asked Pascal.

“Yes, yes, yes. I have already compromised a lot. It’s enough to show my sincerity.” Pascal quickly nodded and smilingly said, “Think about it, I have been in Rodu for over 20 years. I know many people, from the rich and powerful to the ordinary folks. Why do you think people accept opera so readily? It’s all due to my Maca Opera’s hard work that your Black Cat Opera has success today. Now, our Black Ma Opera is just starting out. It will go even further if you let me operate it!”

Now, even the audience members were astonished by his thick skin.

Obviously, they came after reading the famous ‘Miss Black Cat’ picture book. What has it got to do with that Maca Opera?

It seemed like that fatty under the cape was indeed here to make trouble.

“Throw him out. If he is still grabbing onto the seat, break whichever finger is grabbing onto the seat,” Vicki said coldly before heading to the backstage without a backwards glance.

The two staff members, who were initially helpless towards Pascal, reached out for him.

Chapter 2334: Don’t You Feel Cold?

“What a scary woman!”

Pascal retracted his fingers from the seatback immediately and let the two staff members drag him out and toss him on to the street.

Pascal rolled around on the ground and shouted, "They're beating up people! Black Cat Opera is beating up people!"

The audience lining up to go in were all looking at him perplexedly.

"This is a thief who got caught in the act. Please be careful, everyone." The staff member explained seriously.

The people in the line all started to cover their money bags and began to look at Pascal with a wary and disdainful gaze.

Pascal: "...?"

Even a staff member who was responsible for the tickets in Black Cat Opera was so natural in acting?

After he said that, Pascal was already labeled as a thief. Rather than staying here and embarrassing himself, he could only stand up and sneak away.

"Cool! Is this an easter egg? Miss Black Cat is so suave"

"Yes. If this is acting, it's so natural. If it's real, then I love her character!"

"I already began to look forward to this opera performance. I heard that the story 'Miss Black Cat' is created by the maestro of Black Cat Opera. Seems like she's a person with more stories too."

Vicki's swift handling not only didn't antagonize the audience, instead she gained the audience's liking and raised everyone's anticipation.

"This girl is smart," Irina said laughingly.

"Her brain indeed spins very fast. I suspect it's driven by a dual core," Mag also answered with a smile.

"Dual core?" Irina looked at him perplexedly.

"That is..." Mag thought about how to answer this question.

"Mr. Hades, are you guys here to watch the opera too? What a coincidence. We happen to be sitting next to each other too," a sultry voice said at that moment and Eiffie, who was wearing a long red dress, sashayed over.

Eiffie had a great figure and she was wearing a fitting long dress. Her wavy hair was let loose and she looked sultry when she walked over. She instantly attracted many men's attention.

"Who is this beauty?"

"She seems to be the lady boss of that Titan Tavern across the street."

"This woman is so pretty. Let me check her features out."

Many men were already tempted.

However, Eiffie didn't care about those heated gazes at all. She walked over to Mag and his family smilingly and sat on the empty seat next to him.

"I happen to be free today, so I came to watch a performance at the new theater." Mag nodded slightly. "You haven't watched a show here yet either?"

Of course, there was no such coincidence. It must be Mala that gave Eiffie the ticket next to them.

Irina looked at her with a mysterious smile, as though she had already seen through her tricks.

"I have watched it before, but I was feeling bored in the morning, so I came over to take a look." Eiffie smoothed her hair and greeted Irina and the two children.

Amy curiously asked Eiffie, who wasn't wearing a jacket, "Big Sister Eiffie, don't you feel cold?"

Eiffie didn't feel cold initially, but after Amy asked that, she couldn't help shivering.

"I-I'm not cold. I feel rather warm today." Eiffie shook her head with a smile. She wasn't going to lose her pride.

"How's the tavern's business recently?" Mag asked Eiffie.

"Ever since getting the rum's dealership, Titan Tavern's number of customers is still increasing. I'm already planning to expand the tavern's space." Eiffie didn't know which tavern Mag was asking about, so she continued on, "Saipan Tavern's number of customers is very stable. It's fully packed from the start to the end of operation."

"Thank you for your hard work during this time." Mag nodded slightly. Eiffie must have been very busy trying to increase the number of customers in her own tavern while managing Saipan Tavern at the same time.

"I don't feel tired as I'm working for myself," Eiffie answered nonchalantly.

"However, the 'Miss Black Cat' picture book is really selling very well. The 10,000 copies that have just arrived will be sold out very soon. Many audience members buy the picture book after watching the opera," Eiffie said.

Compared to the tavern's business, selling the picture books let her see what was a real windfall.

She was very envious of the 2,000,000 daily earnings.

"This is the charm of linkage." Mag smiled.

The opera's market, opened up by the picture book, finally gave back to the picture book with its great quality.

As the influence of 'Miss Black Cat' expanded beyond Rodu, it would be expected to create more growth for the picture book.

"You are such a genius at promotion," Eiffie said to Mag with admiration.

Be it getting the gold award and instantly turning Saipan Tavern into a famous tavern in Rodu when it was first set up, or using the picture book to expand Black Cat Opera's sales, he had demonstrated amazing tactics.

“All these are just tricks. If we don’t have great quality, promotion will be useless too.” Mag shook his head slightly. He didn’t feel very proud.

Many people were envious of Mag as he chatted with Eiffie. After all, Eiffie, the great beauty, was giving him a lot of attention, while another lady, who looked like his wife, sat next to him and was equally ravishing. In fact, she was even more beautiful than Eiffie.

They were really envious of his luck with the ladies.

Mag sensed some jealous gazes, but he was already used to it. There was always some pressure whenever Irina was next to him.

Fortunately, even though Eiffie was wearing tight-fitting clothes, she was still behaving properly, so it prevented the occurrence of unhappy scenes.

Soon, the theater was fully packed.

After the two staff members confirmed all the audience members had taken their seats, they signaled to everyone that the performance was going to start. The metal plates for the two windows behind slowly lowered and the theater turned dark gradually.

The lights on the stage came on and together with a loud chorus, the curtains on the stage were slowly pulled up and the performance began.

Mag watched this opera performance seriously. The stage backdrop had become more exquisite and their costumes were the ones that he custom-made for them. Together with the actors’ great acting and beautiful singing, this opera was rather professional.

The actors’ great acting and the story of Miss Black Cat fighting against her fate and the restraints of her identity, breaking out of the cage and gaining a new life, got the audience immersed in the story. Some could be even seen wiping away their tears.

No one left during the two hour performance.

When the bell at the end of the performance rang, everyone stood up and clapped for a long time.

Mag clapped as he looked at Vicki, who was leading the actors in a bow, smilingly. “This is the real opera performance.”

Chapter 2335: Do You Need To Be That Hardcore?!

Mag remained on his seat for a while after the audience left. Then, he brought Irina and the girls backstage.

“Sir, the exit is over there.” A staff member approached them smilingly. He was about to lead them away with a wary gaze.

“We’re...” Mag was about to explain.

“They’re my friends.” A voice spoke up behind them. Vicki walked over to them with a smile. She said to Mag, “Mr. Hades, long time no see.”

“Maestro.” The staff member nodded at Vicki before leaving.

Mag remembered that they had just met a few days ago, but he still praised her with a smile, “The theater is great and the performance is great. You guys are indeed worthy of the title of the best opera troupe on the Norland Continent.”

“It’s pointless to fight for the number one position with an opera troupe like Maca Opera.” Vicki shrugged. With a brighter smile, she said, “Let’s go to my office.”

“Alright.” Mag nodded and they followed Vicki to her office.

Vicki gave the two little ones some snacks and let them play at the side as they ate. Then, she greeted Irina formally before sitting across from Mag.

“I didn’t expect you guys to have a full house so soon. You’re indeed wise to choose taking the money to renovate the theater first,” Mag said with a smile.

“Is that so? I’m feeling very regretful now. If I chose to keep part of the picture books’ sale, my earnings would have been much higher than the one-time price, right?” Vicki said smilingly, but there was no sign of regret on her face.

“That’s true. ‘Miss Black Cat’ picture book will most likely become a classic. Let’s set a small target of selling 1,000,000 copies first.” Mag nodded seriously.

Vicki’s expression froze. Now, she was really feeling her heart ache.

Mag continued speaking, “Oh yes. I’m here today to talk to you about the copyright of the ‘Miss Black Cat’ magvie.”

“Magvie?” Vicki looked puzzled.

“I’ll be using the photostones to make ‘Miss Black Cat’ into a moving picture later and I’ll charge a fee to play it. This is your story after all, so I intend to get your permission first.” Mag explained.

“T-hat! Isn’t that a movie?!” Vicki exclaimed.

“So, *Underground City* is also calling it a movie,” Mag was thoughtful. It seemed like the development of technology had a commonality.

“What’s a movie?” Mag asked instead.

“Erm...” Vicki murmured. She was shocked by Mag’s advanced thinking.

After all, this world didn’t even have electricity and the steam engine was still at its initial stage of development and not commonly used yet, but Mag actually wanted to make movies.

Moreover, most importantly, he had found the winning point: watching movies for a fee.

Wasn’t that equivalent to building cinemas?

Cinemas still existed in the Underground City's fifth-tier cities, while the common holographic capsules had already taken over in the first-tier and second-tier cities. Furthermore, some holographic glasses could even provide a better viewing experience than normal cinemas.

However, if they were talking about building cinemas on the Norland Continent, that was simply... ridiculous!

"Even though we could use the photostones to record and store some content, the content isn't clear enough and the shooting methods and angles are limited. We could only shoot from one angle from the start to the end, and there's no room for mistakes in the process..." Vicki said and suddenly realized it was very suitable to record the opera's live performances.

They only had to position the photostone at the best spot in the audience seats and record the opera from the start to the end. There was no need for editing or worried about the camera angle.

However, this was an opera, not a movie.

"I have got professionals to modify a set of equipment. This is the shooting equipment. The photostone's recording effect is enhanced and we can control the recording and pausing precisely. This is the playback device. Place the photostone into the slot and it can read the recorded content. It can also do simple editing. It can cut the sections you need and paste them together..."

Vicki was already in a daze when she saw Mag take out the equipment and start explaining.

"D-do you need to be that hardcore?!"

"Never mind about getting a set of shooting equipment, but do you need to get the playing device and the editing software too?"

"Moreover... this is magic? Magic!"

She felt that she needed to speak out these words.

"The current equipment is still very primitive, but it's enough for simple recording." Mag looked at Vicki, who couldn't close her mouth for a long time, with a smile and tapped on the player.

The screen on the player was showing a simple skit of Ugly Duckling and Black Coal, the parrot in the magic potion shop. The content was negligible, but Mag had deonstrated the practical functions and techniques of scene switch, camerawork and editing.

Vicki was quiet for a long time after watching it. Then, she seriously asked Mag, "I have two thoughts right now."

"What are they?"

"You are a super genius, or... you have escaped from Underground City too." Vicki stared into Mag's eyes, as though she wanted to see through him.

"Which one do you think I am?" Mag looked into her eyes smilingly.

After pondering seriously for a while, she said, "The former."

“Why are you so sure about that?”

“If you came from Underground City, you would have even more and better replacement plans. Secondly, if you were from Underground City you would only avoid me and not bring these things to me,” Vicki said, “You are a genius in many areas.”

“Would I look hypocritical if I am too polite?”

“Yes.”

“Then, do you think this set of equipment could transfer ‘Miss Black Cat’ from the opera stage into the magvie?” Mag asked smilingly.

“Do you intend to shoot an opera magvie, or turn the opera into a drama form?”

“I think a dramatized performance would be more popular than an opera,” Mag said.

Vicki thought seriously before nodding. “If you really want to shoot ‘Miss Black Cat’, I have three requests.”

“Please speak.”

“First of all, I get to choose the actors. Secondly, I will be the scriptwriter. Finally, I’ll be the director too,” Vicki said.

Good fellow. She wanted to be the scriptwriter, director and actor at the same time!

“Alright.” Mag agreed without even thinking.

“It’s so easy?” Vicki was stunned.

“Actually, I don’t understand these aspects very well. It definitely would be better if I hand this to the professionals,” Mag smilingly said, “Furthermore, I can guarantee that I will only provide the money and not interfere with the process of filming.”

This was indeed an excellent investor!

Vicki looked at Mag with a brighter gaze.

“Then, can we begin to talk about the division of profits now? Or, would you like to sell the rights this time as well?” Mag continued to ask.

Chapter 2336: You’re Still Young and Small, You’re Not Suitable for Such Roles.

“No! This time, I want a cut of the profit!” Vicki shook her head resolutely.

She was already disadvantaged once with the picture book. Now, she would not repeat the same mistake with the movie.

“I need to remind you that we currently do not have any venue to show it. The people of the Norland Continent have no concept of what a magvie is either. It would probably take a very long time to build a

magvie theater and to establish the idea of a magvie. The chances of recouping the capital for 'Miss Black Cat' is very small. Are you sure you want a cut?" Mag asked with a smile.

Upon hearing that, Vicki was stunned and she hesitated.

She knew that Mag was not lying. Even in the Underground City where movies were around for thousands of years, there were still many directors making losses with every movie they made.

To make a movie in the Norland Continent, especially when cinemas did not exist, was unthinkable. Only Mag would dare to do something like that.

"I would also like to remind you that I am intending to develop this industry to provide a venue for magvie showings. Therefore, my initial films would be mostly to open up the market. I can't guarantee the box office sales," Mag continued.

Vicki knew that Mag was speaking the truth and he was very sincere and truthful.

"The opera troupe is no longer lacking money. Therefore, I can pump in some money for my dreams too. I don't want a lump sum of money. I just want 30% of the box office sales in the future," Vicki told Mag with a smile.

"Deal." Mag nodded. He did not bargain.

This share ratio was rather similar to that of the film industry in his previous life. However, as the investor, issuer, and advertiser, this ratio was rather disadvantageous to him.

But Mag was not lacking in money and the return on investment was worth it.

"Oh, right, can I have a small request?" Mag asked.

"What is it?"

"I want to add a little character and an actor in 'Miss Black Cat'," Mag said.

Vicki frowned. He just said that he would not interfere with the movie's production. However, she still asked, "What character? Who are you adding?"

"A chef, me," Mag said with a pat on his chest.

"You want to act in the movie?" Vicki was a little shocked. However, she was very soon in a dilemma. "It's difficult to change this story to Miss Black Cat eloping with a chef..."

Mag: "...?"

"I don't want to be the male lead. I just want to be a calefare." Mag shook his head. "I don't need too much screen time. Just give me enough time to make a dish. I want to teach people how to make it."

"I see..." Vicki blushed. She realized she seemed to have misunderstood him. After thinking for a while, she said with a nod, "I can consider that. However, I can only decide if I can add the scene after seeing how you perform in front of the camera."

She was a very strict director who would not give in to the investor of the film. Mag nodded with a smile. "Sure, no problem."

Who is he? Mag Alex, and Hades, the winner of the best actor award who could jump between three characters anytime, anywhere. He would not have to worry about performing in front of the camera.

"This mov... magvie, how much do you intend to invest in it?" Vicki asked.

"This magvie would not require a large set-up or special effects so I doubt it would require a large capital. I intend to invest 10 million copper coins," Mag said.

Vicki thought for a while and nodded in agreement. "That would be enough."

She knew very well that building a cinema in the Norland Continent would be a task that required huge funding.

"Other than this, I actually have another script that I would like you to write for me." Mag pulled out a stack of papers and pushed it to Vicki.

"Phantom of Cookery?" Vicki looked at the tacky name on the cover. She raised her brow. This looked like a popular novel sold at roadside stalls.

She picked up the document and flipped through it. As she read, she slowly looked absorbed and her eyes lit up with excitement, as though she was holding a treasure.

About 20 minutes later, Vicki put the document down. She looked at Mag and asked, "Who wrote this story?"

"Yours truly." Mag smiled.

Vicki looked intensely at Mag as she exclaimed, "Although you don't write very well, the narrative is a mess and the emotional changes in the plot are awkward, this is a very good story!"

The facial muscles on Mag's face twitched. He was not sure whether to be happy hearing this praise.

He was the one who wrote the story, penned the narrative, and even changed the emotions in the plot. Only the story was not his.

This wench is rather spot-on.

Vicki also realized that her words did not sound very pleasant. She explained, "What I mean to say was... this is a very good story. Its flaws could not hide its beauty. Even if it's adapted into an opera, it would be a sell-out."

"I want you to help me to write this story into a magvie script. Of course, as compensation, I can give you the copyright of this story without anything in return," Mag said.

"Really?!" Vicki's eyes lit up.

"All the cooperation that we've discussed today will be written down and signed as a contract." Mag nodded.

"Deal!" Vicki nodded decisively.

She was racking her brains recently over a new story for her opera. Mag's story was a breath of fresh air.

The love-hate relationship between a human chef and a succubus, with a dryad, the Great Old Ones, and other elements interjected into the story was a very dramatic yet trendy plot.

Vicki felt that this story might even be better than 'Miss Black Cat'.

What's more, this story was an absolute fit to be aired on the big screen.

The dryad and the Great Old Ones could be made through magic special effects and they could bring an even greater visual impact to the audience.

"You're not intending to play the chef yourself, are you?" Vicki asked Mag.

"I am." Mag nodded truthfully. This was a movie he made for himself.

"The female lead..." Vicki bit her lower lip. She looked as though she had made a big decision as she said, "I'll..."

"I already have someone in mind for the female lead." Mag interrupted with a smile. He glanced at young Vicki's itty bitties and said, "You're still young and small, you're not suitable for such roles."

1

Vicki: "...?"

She was indeed still young and small but she felt that Mag was referring to something else that was small.

Ough!

She was so mad she wanted to tear the draft in her hands to shreds but she could not bear to do such a thing to such a great story. Her face twisted with rage and she clenched her teeth as she said with a nod, "Alright, I'll take this story!"

"I intend to shoot this story first so I'll leave the script to you. I hope that I can see the initial draft of the script when I'm back at the theater seven days later," Mag said with a smile.

"Seven days?" Vicki almost jumped.

Did this fellow think that everyone is a tentacle monster? When she gets stuck, she could not even churn a single word out!

Chapter 2337: Beauty Fades

"I heard you writers could easily write tens of thousands of words every day, or maybe you aren't meant to do this job." Mag looked at Vicki smilingly.

"Is that so?" Vicki frowned deeply. She felt that Mag seemed to be lying to her.

Mag shook his head and said, "I simply heard about it. After all, I don't know your professional circle very well. You will decide if it is really true or not."

"Alright. I'll give you the script in one week's time." Vicki still forced herself to agree.

To Vicki, altering the script was also something she had to do right now. The opera's script and the movie's script were not very different. Although there would be some changes in the lines and the changing of scenes, it was overall the same.

Although she wasn't a movie scriptwriter, she learned plenty of movie knowledge when she was learning to be an opera scriptwriter. It shouldn't be too difficult to change the story with a complete framework and proper characters.

"Alright. It's decided then." Mag nodded and got up to leave.

"You're not staying for lunch?" Vicki tried to keep him.

"No, thank you very much. I promised Effie to eat lunch at her place. Mala is cooking." Mag shook his head and asked, "Do you want to come too?"

"Sure," Vicki answered very naturally.

Even though Mag wasn't cooking, Mala's culinary skills weren't too bad. At least, it was better than the theater's meals.

Mag and the ladies arrived at Titan Tavern. Mala had already placed a few dishes on the table. They were the pig ears salad, drunkard peanuts and pig tongue salad.

Good fellow. They were all side dishes for drinking.

"Master, come and eat. I have already cooked all the dishes," Mala said to Mag expectantly. She had been practicing hard on her culinary skills. She wanted to demonstrate them to Mag.

"I think I'll go cook two more dishes. We can't just drink without proper food." Mag walked to the kitchen reluctantly. It seemed like this lass could only serve these three dishes.

"That's great." Vicki sat by the table. She thought she wouldn't be able to eat Mag's cooking today. She didn't expect him to cook a few dishes.

"Th-then, I'll go take a look too. I can learn more skills at the same time too." Mala went into the kitchen with a blush. She actually knew how to cook a few more simple homely dishes, but she didn't want to embarrass herself, so she only served her best dishes.

Amy discovered a copy of 'Miss Black Cat' on the counter with surprise and said to Annie, "Big Sister Annie, look. It's your pictures!"

Annie noticed the picture book too and she smiled.

Effie came over and placed her hands on Annie's shoulders gently as she said with amazement, "Annie, you're so awesome. Many people loved your picture books. They all said they were fantastic and were collectibles."

"Thank you," Annie said with sign language.

Vicki also came over to say to Annie, "Many people asked me if the picture books are drawn by me. If you decide to hold a signing session, I think many fans will come to support you."

This quiet girl had such amazing power with her pens.

Even though she had created the story of 'Miss Black Cat', Annie re-created it again in another format.

The storyboard, tempo, simplified lines... All these things demonstrated Annie's abilities.

She transported a story that was being sung on stage, into a picture book with squares and found the perfect balance point.

Vicki even thought that if this picture book was being sold in Underground City, it would also be very popular with picture book collectors there.

She had considered discussing with Mag about buying the Underground City's distribution rights from Annie and publishing it in Underground City.

Annie only shook her head gently when she heard that and said with sign language, "I like to draw, but I don't like to interact with too many people."

Vicki nodded smilingly. "It's not wrong to concentrate on just creating. The rest are simply extras."

Irina sat at the side leisurely and watched the whole process quietly. She was only watching Vicki and Eiffie with interest.

Eiffie sensed Irina's gaze and sat across from her smilingly. "What have you been busy with lately, Madam?"

Irina smilingly said, "I've been busy traveling around. He likes to wander around, so sometimes we'll go watch the stars in the mountains, or sometimes we'll go to the beach. It is interesting, but it can be tiring at the same time."

Eiffie's eyelids twitched and she felt hurt.

She had her hands full every day, worrying about the two taverns.

Yet, this couple still felt tired when they only traveled around to see the starry sky and enjoy the sea breeze at the beach?

Irina said to Eiffie with a concerned expression, "There are a few fine lines at the corners of your eyes now. Did you rest properly recently? We women have to worry less and sleep early. That way you can maintain yourself to look as good as me."

"Fine lines? Really? Where are they?" Eiffie instantly panicked when she heard that. She took out a small mirror immediately and looked at the corners of her eyes. The dark corners did indeed have a few fine lines. Even though they were not obvious, they were still there.

Eiffie's expression turned severe instantly. As a confident woman, she always felt that she was still far from using the word 'old'.

However, the fine lines at the corner of her eyes seemed to be reminding her that she was slowly getting older.

Looking at Irina sitting across from her again, her skin was still so fair and smooth. Don't even talk about fine lines, she couldn't even find a mark on her. Who could tell that Irina was already the mother of two, while she was still a virgin!

"It's fine, Big Sister Effie. It's just one tiny fine line. There will be more later and you'll get used to it." Amy consoled her understandingly.

Effie opened her mouth but she was actually at a loss for words at that moment.

However, she still felt a little sad after she put away the mirror.

Time flies and beauty fades. Only women knew how important a beautiful body was.

Irina, who looked amused initially, stopped smiling when she saw Effie being down. After thinking for a short moment, she took out a small bottle and passed it to Effie.

"This is?" Effie received that exquisite bottle and looked at Irina perplexedly.

"This is a small bottle of the Spring of Life. Dab a little at the corners of your eyes before you sleep daily, and your fine lines should improve," Irina answered.

"Is it true?!" Effie's eyes flicked open wide and she grasped the little bottle tightly, as she was afraid to drop it. However, she seemed to quickly realize something and passed the bottle back to Irina with both hands. "Isn't the Spring of Life the holy water of the elves? I can't accept such a precious item..."

Chapter 2338: You Are My Real Big Sister

Effie didn't quite know the price of the Spring of Life, but this didn't affect her knowing that it was a very precious item. At least, it couldn't be bought by normal people easily.

Now, Irina was actually giving a bottle of the Spring of Life just to improve her fine lines at the corner of her eyes.

"Take it. It's just a little thing. I have plenty of it." Irina waved her hand nonchalantly. She drank more than that amount when she woke up every morning. This was indeed nothing.

"But..."

"If you think the fine lines at the corners of your eyes are nothing, then forget it." Irina looked at her calmly.

Effie's hands that were holding onto the bottle, froze in midair and she looked at Irina before looking at the bottle again. Finally, she couldn't accept watching herself turn old, so she accepted the Spring of Life and gratefully said to Irina, "From now on, you are my real big sister."

"What kind of real big sister?" Irina looked at her with a seemingly harmless smile.

"Erm..." Effie murmured. Sworn sisters? Or... her gaze drifted towards the kitchen. It didn't seem bad to have the same husband, right?

"*Shameless!*" Effie spat at herself. Irina had just given her the Spring of Life and yet she was lusting after her husband. She was no different from a vixen.

“Big Sister will make the decision,” Eiffie said with a blush.

Mag heard the conversation outside and flicked a glance at Eiffie. “Why are you blushing?”

“Is this some kind of beauty serum?” Vicki interjected curiously. She stared at the little bottle in Eiffie’s hands curiously.

Even though she was still a maiden and didn’t have to worry about turning old, as a girl, she was naturally curious about things that would make her pretty.

“There are some effects.” Irina nodded. “But I use it to wash my face daily and I don’t feel anything special.”

Eiffie looked at Irina with complicated emotions. This lady was really a humble bragger. She used the Spring of Life to wash her face daily? Even the aristocrats in Rodu didn’t dare to say they did that.

How rich was she?

Eiffie couldn’t help feeling curious about Mag’s net worth.

The tavern he casually opened became the number one restaurant in Rodu and earned hundreds of thousands daily.

The picture book he casually released earned another tens of millions.

Most importantly... he didn’t have to worry about doing all these things himself.

Furthermore, he had bought half of Romo Street at the lowest price. Now, with the two taverns and one opera house, the whole street came back to life. The property prices increased and he easily earned another few hundreds of millions.

The way a genius earned money was always hard to fathom.

Even now, she still couldn’t figure out if Mag had intended to speculate in properties from the very beginning, and opening a tavern and helping the opera house were simply part of the plan.

Then, she was even more envious of Irina’s life. She was a carefree rich lady. She only needed to think about where to spend money when she woke up every day and she used the Spring of Life to wash every day...

This life was simply beyond imagination.

“This is the elves’ holy water. I heard it has very formidable healing effects. It’s something that you can’t even buy with money.” Eiffie explained to Vicki.

“I see...” Vicki was thoughtful. She knew Mag and Irina were a couple, so it wasn’t surprising that this elven princess had plenty of the Spring of Life.

“May I buy some of the Spring of Life from you, Madam?” Vicki asked Irina. She wanted to keep some of this good stuff as a backup.

“I’ll give you a bottle.” Irina gave her a bottle of the Spring of Life generously too.

“Thank you.” Vicki accepted the Spring of Life and opened the cap to sniff it immediately. The rich life aura washed over her and refreshed her. Her tiredness was all washed away.

“What a potent invigorating effect!” Vicki’s eyes lit up. This was a miracle drug for refreshing and clearing the mind after pulling an all nighter!

She was already prepared to pull all nighters this whole week. However, even when she had great health, it was hard to avoid feeling tired in the daytime when pulling all nighters.

If she could have a few bottles of this Spring of Life, then she wouldn’t have to worry at all.

She looked at Irina and realized she wasn’t very familiar with her, so she really couldn’t make herself ask her for it. Hence, she sneaked into the kitchen with the Spring of Life and hinted to Mag. “This Spring of Life’s invigorating effects are really not bad. If I can have a few sips when I write the script every night, I should be able to write for the entire night, right? Pity... this seems to be very little.”

Mag glanced at her and curved his lips. However, he seriously said, “Actually, there is a better physical method to refresh yourself.”

“What is that?” Vicki asked.

“Tie your hair onto the ceiling’s beam, and if you doze off at night, your hair will be pulled. Pain is the best invigorating method,” Mag replied.

“I refuse!” Vicki caressed her hair. She treasured her hair so there’s no way she would tie it to the beam and let it be pulled.

Mag smiled silently.

After receiving Irina’s gift, Vicki and Eiffie’s attitude towards her improved greatly and they became obviously closer. The three ladies sat together and chatted harmoniously.

Mag stir-fried three simple home cooked dishes, which were made from the leftover ingredients in the kitchen. One stir-fried vegetables, one drop egg soup, and one stir-fried pork with spring bamboo shoots.

Mala carried the dishes from the kitchen, following after Mag. She was looking at Mag with admiration.

The simple ingredients blossomed in Mag’s hands.

“Alright. Let’s tuck in.” Mag removed his apron and sat down.

Everyone took their seats too.

“Let me taste Mala’s dishes first.” Mag picked up a drunkard peanut with the chopsticks and popped it into his mouth under Mala’s anticipated gaze.

Crunch, crunch, crunch!

The peanut was crunchy and tasty. There were great improvements compared to the previous time.

Then, he tried the pig ears salad and pig tongue salad.

The pig ears were crunchy and chewy, while the pig tongue was soft and texturized. The red oil was fragrant and spicy. They complemented each other perfectly. They had obviously improved as well.

Mag put down his chopsticks and looked at the nervous Mala. He nodded with a smile. "Not bad. They can be released in Saipan Tavern now."

"Really?!" Mala was so surprised that she wanted to jump up immediately.

"Yes. You have reached my expectation." Mag nodded.

"It's great! The Saipan Tavern's customers finally have side dishes to go with their drinks," Mala said with a smile. She had been blaming herself for that for a long time.

After lunch, Mag went to Saipan Tavern to take a look before bringing the children to shop and eat.

After exiting a food street, Amy and Annie were both carrying all sorts of food. Mag and Irina were following after the two little ones with a smile. Just as they were about to go out of the alley, they were stopped by a priest with white hair and a white beard.

Chapter 2339: The Holy See's Pope

"My four esteemed guests, the pope would like to have a chat with you. Could you please follow me?" The middle-aged missionary was gentle and he spoke respectfully.

Mag sized up that middle-aged missionary. He was a 10th-tier great magic caster. Mag wondered which Holy See's bishop he was.

Mag had always maintained a respectful distance with that mysterious pope. He didn't want Amy to have too much interaction with him.

The Holy See had once led the human race out of the dark ages and built the Roth Empire.

However, the Holy See had always been stuck in the mud. They had plenty of rules internally. Everything would become involuntary once they entered the Holy See.

However, the pope seemed to care greatly for Amy. He not only wanted her to become the Holy See's holy maiden and gave her the wings of light, he even came looking for her again and again.

If it was in the past, Mag would make an excuse not to meet that old man.

However, it was different now. He no longer had to be too respectful of the pope with his current power. Hence, he intended to meet that old man and see what he was up to.

"Let's go. Bring us there," Mag said to the bishop.

"Please follow me." The bishop nodded smilingly and led them into a deserted alley.

A light flashed as soon as they stepped into the alley. Then, they appeared in a splendid palace.

Mag secretly marveled at this teleportation portal's cleverness, but his gaze was attracted by the pope wearing white opulent clothes and a crown.

The bishop who brought Mag and his family to the hall, bowed to the pope before exiting the great hall.

“Father, isn’t that the grandpa who gave me the wings?” Amy asked softly.

“Yes.” Mag nodded slightly.

“You guys come, my young friends,” the pope turned around and said to Mag smilingly. His eyes even glowed when his gaze landed on Amy.

“May I know why you invite us here, Lord Pope?” Mag asked the pope directly.

The pope looked at Mag and answered with a gentle smile, “Don’t be restless, my young friend. We met once many years ago. I just didn’t expect you could come back after going through so many defeats and save the Norland Continent from devastation.”

“You know who I am?”

“There’s nobody else like you in this world.”

Mag laughed. “But only a few people in this world could guess who I am.”

“If it isn’t for the fact that you didn’t care about being found out, I wouldn’t have guessed it either.” The pope smiled and turned to say to Irina, “Princess Irina, how have you been?”

“Old fellow, I didn’t expect you to still be the same after all these years,” Irina said to the pope smilingly.

When she used to travel between the Wind Forest and Rodu, this pope had tried to get her to join the Holy See too. He even said he would let her be the holy maiden.

However, she was careful back then. After hearing that the Holy See had a lot of rules and even the daily wake up time was fixed, she escaped.

She heard Mag mention that the pope wanted to invite Amy to be the Holy See’s holy maiden, but she didn’t expect that they would be shameless to stop them in the middle of their way.

“I have been like this for the past few decades and it’s not easy to change.” The pope shook his head as his gaze landed on Annie. His smile got increasingly gentle as he waved at her. “Child, come here.”

Annie looked at the pope. She felt that he seemed rather friendly, but she still looked at Mag for permission.

“I’m here to tell you to stop targeting Amy and don’t even try to target Annie.” Mag stopped smiling and looked at the pope with a wary gaze.

“I feel this child has an affinity with me, so I want to give her a blessing. I don’t mean any harm.” The pope explained with a smile.

“No thanks. We don’t believe in the Holy See’s ideology.” Mag rejected it on Annie’s behalf.

Annie’s identity was special. Although she didn’t have the Great Old Ones’ presence on her and was a pure and kind soul, the pope’s identity was special and his power was unknown. What if he said he wanted to bless her, but was, in fact, trying to target Annie. He wasn’t 100% confident that he could protect Annie and Amy at the same time.

"You have a good daughter. Since you didn't want me to bless her, then I can only give her a small present. It can ward off evil for the wearer." The pope took out a small simple-looking black jade with many runes on it and tossed it gently. It flew towards Annie and hovered in front of her.

Annie didn't take the jade, instead she looked at Mag.

"Take it. It's the pope's kind wishes." Mag nodded slightly.

Annie grabbed the jade and thanked the pope with sign language.

"This child's voice?" The pope was looking at Annie with surprise.

"She's born this way, but she can already use sign language to communicate." Mag explained.

"How can such an outstanding person have such a defective voice? She should be using her throat to sing about beautiful things." The pope shook his head. After pondering for a moment, the pope passed a small bottle to Mag.

"What's this?" Mag was befuddled.

"This is a bottle of advanced lozenges. Even though I don't know how much it can improve her condition, it should help a little," the pope said.

"Thank you," Annie replied with sign language.

"Don't mention it." The pope nodded slightly. Then, he turned to Amy and smiled brightly. "My young friend Amy, are you willing to be our Holy See's holy maiden? If you are, you'll be the master of this great hall."

"No way!"

"Dream on!"

"Not willing!"

Three voices spoke up at the same time.

The smile on the pope's face looked ridiculous. There was actually a family in this world that was so against becoming the Holy See's pope.

This was completely unimaginable 100 years ago.

"Grandpa Big Beard, although I appreciate the wings that you gave me, I still cannot be your holy maiden. I want to stay in the restaurant with my parents."

"You can still stay in the restaurant with your parents even if you become the holy maiden. You can return to the Holy See after you come of age," the pope said smilingly.

"Do you think we will hand the child that we painstakingly raised to the Holy See to make use of?" Mag smiled. "Even if we agree to it, you still have to ask if Krassu and Urien would agree to it."

"It doesn't matter if they agree or not. Most importantly is whether Amy agrees to it," the pope said to Mag calmly.

Chapter 2340: Boss Mag, You Scumbag!

"I'll let them know when I get back so that they can give you an answer," Mag said with a smile.

The fat on the Pope's face jiggled. However, he still maintained a polite smile and said, "Actually, the Holy See isn't as bad as you think. At least it's not that weak currently."

"Are you intending to use force?" Irina asked with a smile.

Mag smiled too.

"Violence will not solve any problem. Instead, it will bring more trouble to the issue." The Pope shook his head. "This is a matter between willing parties. I hope as parents, you can put more consideration for her with regard to becoming a holy maiden.

"There has yet to be a female pope in the history of the Norland Continent. As long as she agrees, she can become a pope."

"What is a pope?" Amy asked curiously.

"A pope is a very important status. With this status and power, no one in the Norland Continent would dare to be disrespectful to you, not even the King of the Roth Empire," the Pope explained to Amy.

"As long as you're strong enough, no one would dare to be disrespectful to you even without this status." Mag placed his hand gently on Amy's head and caressed her hair. "On top of that, you do not have to bear responsibilities that you shouldn't be bearing."

Amy nodded thoughtfully.

The Pope sighed. He looked at Mag and said, "You've spent half of your life in the military, protecting the Roth Empire's borders and even fought against the devil for the Norland Continent. Why don't you allow your daughter to be just like you?"

"Do you think I've been leading a happy life?" Mag asked with a smile.

The Pope looked at Mag for a long time without saying a word. After a long time, he nodded. "I understand. However, I will continue to keep this position of the holy maiden for Amy until she grows into an adult and has the ability to make her own decisions and judgment."

"That's your business," Mag said.

The Pope took out a book and cast it over. It flew towards Amy and stopped in front of her.

"What is this?" Amy asked as she received the book.

"This is a series of the most mysterious spells in the Holy See. Little Amy, you can try learning it on your own," the Pope explained.

Mag wanted to let Amy put it down but saw Irina shake her head gently, so he swallowed his words.

"If there's nothing else, we'll leave." Mag did not want to continue staying. He picked Amy up and turned to leave.

"I really admire what you did for the world and would like to express my gratitude to you once again." The Pope lowered his head and bowed to Mag.

"You're too kind." Mag turned to the side slightly. No matter how much he disliked the traditional Holy See and the Pope, he must admit that they had pretty similar tastes.

Mag did not wish to stay further and the Pope did not force them to stay. Therefore, after a wave of his hand, Mag and his family returned to the alley from before.

Annie was still holding on to that bottle of medicine. She looked at Mag, asking him what she should do with it.

"We'll try eating it when we get back. I doubt he has ill intentions." Mag smiled and kept the little bottle for Annie.

"What are your plans for the weekend?" Luna asked Vivian, who was standing at the door, with a smile.

"Of course, I'm going to eat all I want! This is my first time being a teacher and I was so nervous for the past few days. I finally made it to the weekend,

of course I'll have to relax and let loose. That's why I'm here to invite you to have hot pot," Vivian said with a smile.

"To Mamy Restaurant?" Luna blurted out and blushed.

"Mamy Restaurant..." Vivian seemed to be in a difficult spot. Suddenly, her eyes lit up. "Mamy Restaurant is closed today so we can't eat there. We can only go to Mana Hot Pot Restaurant."

They've been to Mana Hot Pot Restaurant several times. Although the taste was a little inferior compared to the one at Mana Hot Pot Restaurant's designated hot pot area, it was not a big difference.

Compared to the other fake copies of other restaurants, Mana Hot Pot Restaurant was the only place in Chaos City where the price was affordable and yet the food was good.

Vivian had not told Luna that Boss Mag's wife was back. Luna had been so busy over Hope School that she had no time to go to Mamy Restaurant. Therefore, she was still unaware of it.

"I see." Luna nodded. Although she was a little disappointed, she did not let it show on her face. Instead, she nodded with a smile and said, "Alright, let's go to Mana Hot Pot Restaurant."

"Pack your stuff quickly, we're setting off right now!" Vivian pushed Luna through the room door and they quickly walked out of the house hand in hand.

"Oh right, is Amy also studying on campus? I don't think I've seen her at all other than during the opening ceremony." Vivian pointed out as she put her arms around Luna's arm.

“Amy had already transferred over to Hope School from Chaos School. She is also currently the only student that is paying school fees.” Luna nodded. “However, she hasn’t been taking classes in Hope School currently. Instead, she’s learning magic at the magic potion shop and the magic classroom in Chaos School.”

“I see.” Vivian nodded thoughtfully. She glanced at Luna and then pretended to ask casually, “Has she mentioned her mother to you?”

“Mother?” Luna looked at her strangely. “Why the sudden question?”

Vivian said with a smile, “I’m just purely curious. I was thinking, Amy is so pretty and doesn’t really look like Boss Mag. Therefore, I think her mother must be a beauty.”

“Amy told me when she was younger that she has no mother and does not know what her mother looks like.” Luna shook her head slightly, her face full of sympathy.

What a pitiful child. She was such an obedient and sensible child but had to go through so much hardship ever since she was young. She did not even know who her mother was or what she looked like.

“I see...” Vivian nodded. She looked at Luna sympathetically too. This silly lass did not even know that Amy’s mother was already hugging the child to sleep at night.

“What do you think of Boss Mag, then?” Vivian asked as she suddenly got serious.

“Boss Mag is a good person.”

“Can’t you say something more practical other than just giving out the ‘Good Person Card’?”

“He is a gentle and kind person. He always puts in extra effort when it comes to things concerning children. He is someone worthy of respect and is willing to give a lot to children. He is, even more, a talented person with exceptional creative abilities...” Luna listed as she smiled unconsciously.

Oh dear, oh dear. This time, things had gone over the line... Why can’t this wench resist the temptation?! Did she really catch feelings because of what I said before?

Vivian felt a little guilty and was in a dilemma. Luna would probably feel terrible if she found out the news, right?

“Boss Mag, you scumbag!” Vivian cursed silently.