

Stay At home 941

Chapter 941 How Much Does He Have To Pay?

“Oh, nothing,” answered the system. “I just spread some fertilizer and sprayed some non-toxic and pollution-free pesticides.”

“You said your ingredients were organic. Did you lie to me?”

The system bristled up. “I saved your wife while I was making my plants grow well, and you call me a liar? Do not question my professionalism in farming. No one is more professional than me, not even Yuan Longping, the Father of Hybrid Rice!”

“I thought you were a cuisine system.”

“I am! But I’m also very professional in other things. Do you want me to tell you how to farm?”

“No, thanks. Not interested. By the way, can you tell me what I can do to level up quickly? Maybe killing magical beasts?”

“I’m not interested in killing magical beasts.”

Mag: “...”

“Then can I level up through farming?”

“Farming has nothing to do with levelling up,” the system said calmly.

“F*ck!”

“Watch your language!”

“Get lost!” By then, Amy had fallen asleep. Mag kissed her on her head, and crept up the stairs to practice his swordplay.

The fights in Rodu and the Wind Forest had made him realize the importance of him getting stronger.

Ah Zi was very powerful, to be sure, but he couldn’t rely on it alone. Besides, there were enemies that even Ah Zi couldn’t handle.

In order to survive the chaos that might come, he needed to get Alex’s full power back as soon as possible, but that was not enough. He needed to make sure that what had happened to Alex would never happen to him again.

A plan was coming together in his head, but he didn’t know if it would work.

The claymore danced in the night. He was flexible as a snake and swift as lightning.

Nobody could see or hear him now that Mag had had the system add a cover around the balcony.

An hour later, Mag went downstairs, soaked with sweat. He took a quick shower and went to bed to sleep.

“Just a quick reminder, the food competition will start tomorrow,” reminded the system just as Mag was about to fall asleep.

Mag’s eyes snapped open. He frowned. “The eggplant with garlic sauce is not perfect yet, and I haven’t gotten anyone to try it, but I think I’ll be fine.”

...

Mag woke up early the next morning and made several versions of eggplant with garlic sauce. He tried them all before confirming the final version.

Although it tasted better than the ones he had had in his past life, it was still lacking in comparison to the one he had eaten at the filthy restaurant. It was ultimately short of something.

There was likely no mistake with the recipe and procedure. All Mag could do was write it off as nostalgia. He temporarily had no way to improve it.

“Hopefully the people here will like it like I do. I don’t want to have to dance to Gokuraku Jodo in drag.” Mag dumped the dishes into the trash can, and was about to go out to buy some eggplants.

Knock! Knock!

A knock came at the door.

“Is it Firis? She came so early today.” Mag untied his apron and hung it neatly on a peg. He walked to the door in surprise. He had woken up early today, giving him plenty of time before his appointment with Firis. It wasn’t likely that she would come so early, right?

When he opened the door, he found two elves standing outside with their hands held together. “Good morning, Bl... Miss Shirley and Anna, can I help you?”

Blour was holding Anna’s hand, dressed in female attire—Shirley. He was a stunner in drag.

He was probably the most beautiful drag queen Mag had ever seen. He would have totally mistaken him for a woman if he hadn’t known him. Even his fake breasts looked so natural.

Mag didn’t know what was under his dress, but from the looks of it, it couldn’t have been coconut shells or buns since they wouldn’t give that full, ample look. But to say breast implants, that would be too technologically advanced for this world. It wasn’t possible that silicon implants were invented because some drag queen wanted to make themselves look more natural, right?

Of course, none of that was important. What’s important was why Blour came here with Anna so early in the morning. To say goodbye? He was leaving now that Sally was leaving?

“Good morning, Uncle Mag,” said Anna with a smile.

Blour looked displeased. “I’m here to take over her job. Hasn’t she told you about it?” His voice was feminine and melodious.

“Wait, what? Whose job are you here to take over?”

Blour raised an eyebrow. “Is there someone else who has left?”

Mag's eyes widened as he looked oddly at Blour. "Did Aisha send you here? You are taking over her!?"

"I didn't want to be a waitress, but she has left for bigger things. I need to do what she requested from me, or I wouldn't be at ease." Blour sighed. "As attractive as I am, a picturesque scene wherever I stand, to think that I'd have to work as a waitress. What a waste of my beauty and youth."

Mag: "..."

Anna: "..."

Mag held back his urge to curse as he sized up Shirley again. He had never expected Sally to find him a waitress. She was indeed thoughtful.

In terms of looks, and ignoring that he was just a drag queen, Shirley was a stunning beauty. She was perfect as a waitress.

However, looks weren't the only thing. With the hard work the restaurant needed, she would only be a vase if she didn't have the ability to match it. That would be someone Mag didn't need.

"I know I'm beautiful, Mag, but could you not stare at me? I'm not interested in men," said Blour.

I'm not interested in drag queens either, Mag thought. He also realized that his eyes had landed on her fake breasts while amidst his thoughts. He shifted them away and smiled at Blour. "Miss Shirley, I'm grateful for you to come here under Aisha's behest. However, if you wish to be hired at Mamy Restaurant, you will have to pass a test. I need to confirm that you have the ability to take on the job."

"What? A test? Are you serious? Can't you see how beautiful I am?"

It was hard not to laugh. "You are beautiful, but I need to know you have what it takes to do the job."

"That's fair enough, I guess. And I hate people who only care about my pretty face."

"Come on in, then."

Closing the door, Mag went into the kitchen and took out several plates and bowls of different shapes. He placed them on a table and then poured some oil over them and the table. "Now clear the table as fast as you can."

"I hate to get grease on my delicate hands, but this is easy." Blour walked over to the table and waved his hand. The oil was gone in an instant as a ribbon of green light brushed past the plates and table. The plates and bowls stacked themselves up neatly.

Mag fingered the surface of the table. It was smooth and smelled very refreshing. If I hadn't known better, I'd have thought he used some kind of dish detergent.

"Good. Now I need to test your math skills. One roujiamo is 300 copper coins; one tofu pudding, 200; one braised chicken and rice, 800. John Doe ate two servings of braised chicken and rice, three roujiamos, and a tofu pudding, and then he ordered one braised chicken and rice and one roujiamo to go. How much does he have to pay?"

Chapter 942 Did You Sleep With My Father?

"Is John Doe a pig? How can he eat that much?" Blour asked.

"You don't need to worry about whether he is a pig or not," Mag said calmly. "So how much does he have to pay?"

"800 copper coins each... two servings of braised chicken and rice..." Blour frowned and thought long and hard before he gave up and told Mag it was impossible for an elf to do it.

That was when Anna turned to Mag, and said, "38 gold coins."

Mag and Blour looked at Anna.

Mag looked nodded at Anna with a smile. "That's right. 38 gold coins." It was not a hard math question, but it was not easy for a child to solve it.

"Oh, Anna... How could you do this to me? I'm so embarrassed right now."

A smile showed on Anna's face. "Can I work here as a cashier, Mr. Mag? Big Sister Shirley will work as a waitress."

"You want to work here?" But you're still a child. Only two years older than Amy. Shouldn't you be in school?

Anna nodded. "Yes. I want to learn to cook from Mr. Mag and help you out. I still remember the 9x9 table Amy taught me. Besides, I don't want to stay at the embassy alone."

Blour touched Anna's head. "Chaos School said she needs to wait until next semester to be enrolled."

Mag smiled and crouched down. "Well, I guess you can work here for now," he said to Anna. "You'll get a handsome salary and free meals."

Anna shook her head. "I don't want money. I just want to learn to cook from you."

"Listen, Anna," Blour said, "if you work, you get paid. That's how the world works."

"Yes. It's unethical to exploit a child," Mag agreed. He stood up and put his hand out. "Congratulations, Miss Shirley, you're hired."

Blour shook it. "Congratulations, Mag, you found yourself an amazing waitress." They laughed.

"There is still time before the morning service, so get some rest. I'll find some clothes for you." Mag poured them two glasses of water before going upstairs.

"I prefer to wear my own dress," said Blour.

"I'm afraid you have to follow the rules here, Miss Shirley."

Mag chose Han Chinese clothing for Shirley; a white shirt with a red skirt. The sleeves were embroidered with golden thread.

As for Anna, Mag bought her a blue dress and a coat. It was getting cold, so the little girl needed something warm.

"Ding, 3,000 copper coins have been successfully deducted. The female attire is being produced!"

Three minutes later.

“Ding! Goods delivered. Please accept it!”

“Change into these,” Mag said. “We’re a bit short-handed at the moment, so I need you to start working today.”

Mag decided to look at Blour as a woman when he was dressed in female attire; he felt much better this way.

“They’re so beautiful!” Anna exclaimed. “Thank you, Mr. Mag.”

Shirley touched her skirt to feel the fabric. It was smooth. She could tell that it was made of top-grade silk, but she didn’t think the white shirt would go well with the red skirt.

“These are called Hanfu,” Mag told Shirley. Since they were not easy to put on, Mag showed her step by step.

“There is a bathroom upstairs. You can change there,” said Mag. “I’m going to the market to buy some ingredients. Tell Amy I’ll be home soon if she wakes up. I’ll make some breakfast after I get back.”

“Let’s go, Big Sister Shirley,” Anna said when Mag was gone.

“Okay,” Shirley said reluctantly. “But I won’t wear them if they make me look ugly.”

It took Shirley a good 10 minutes to get into her new clothes. She looked at herself in the mirror, stunned.

The white shirt went surprisingly well with the red dress. They were stylish, elegant, and much more flattering than her favorite dress.

This went well with her temperament, surpassing even that favorite dress of hers.

The unique design and the magical match ultimately resulted in such incredulous effects. It exceeded her expectations.

Even more magical was that the attire seemed custom made for him. It fit him perfectly, with no error in measurement.

What surprised her even more was that they fitted her as well as if they had been made for her.

“Holy cow! These clothes are so amazing!”

Looking at the mirror, Shirley fell silent before exclaiming in amazement.

That was when the door creaked open. Amy was first surprised to see Shirley standing there, but when she saw the dress Shirley had changed out of, she angrily demanded, “Did you sleep with my father?”

Chapter 943 Won’t This Get Back To The Wind Forest?

“Huh...!?”

Shirley was stunned, and almost jumped up. Her usually calm demeanor changed instantly as she waved her hands, and said, "You can't make this sort of comments out of the blue, Little Amy. Why would I be sleeping with him?!"

"But if you're not sleeping with him, then why are you changing your clothes in the bathroom? It's still not yet time to open the restaurant, so my father wouldn't let the customers enter in advance. Furthermore, he wouldn't have allowed others into the bathroom." Amy had a knowing look on her face.

"This..." Shirley was taken aback. Even though the situation wasn't what she had described, why did she feel that it was a very reasonable explanation?

"Amy!" Anna's voice came from the stairway. Anna, who had already changed into that blue Lolita dress, poked her head out of the stairway. Then, she ran up the stairs with a smile and looked at Shirley in the bathroom. With her eyes shining bright and mouth slightly open in wonder, she said, "Wow, Big Sister Shirley. You look beautiful after you changed into the uniform!"

"Uniform?" Amy looked at Anna with some surprise and doubt, and said, "Big Sister Anna, why are you in the restaurant too?"

"Big Sister Shirley and I have become the restaurant's staff. Our clothes are uniforms supplied by Uncle Mag," Anna said with a smile.

Shirley recovered her calm demeanor. With a slight nod, she said, "That's it." Then, she looked at Anna with gratitude. She didn't expect her to get her out of the mess.

"So, that was it." Amy looked at Shirley with a tinge of disappointment, and silently said to herself, "There goes a chance to report an important piece of information to Sister Irina."

However, Amy's expression quickly lit up again. She grabbed Anna's hand, and happily said, "That's fantastic. I will be able to see Big Sister Anna every day."

"Yup." Anna had an equally happy smile on her face.

...

Mag was walking around in the market when he saw a huge eggplant as big as a winter melon, and said in his mind, "System, see how cheap these fresh big eggplants are. They cost less than one copper coin for 500g, and they're nicely shaped and huge. We will need gene mutations to grow such huge eggplants on Earth, right? I have to buy more of this good stuff."

"Host, you must be wondering why you still couldn't bring out the best of the eggplant with garlic sauce as you had in mind, despite you having done your best with all the ingredients and steps?" the system asked calmly.

"Hmm?" Mag's steps faltered, and he hesitantly asked, "So, System, are you going to give me the complete recipe?"

"No. The system is very happy that the host had come up with the best eggplant with garlic sauce recipe successfully by researching it with his own effort and enquiring mind.

“Now, you do not lack the technique, but the best eggplant. Nothing’s good when it’s done to the extreme. An eggplant as big as a winter melon can no longer be called an eggplant. An eggplant that can’t be put on a grill is an eggplant that has lost its soul.

“Also, the eggplant grown by this system came from the south slope of the Flying Fountain Mountain on the Dragon Islands, where there’s plenty of sunshine. The volcanic ash had supplied the eggplants with rich soil and nutrients. The eggplants have combined the strong points of both the long eggplants and round eggplants, and preserved the taste of the Earth eggplants perfectly. It’s the best choice for making eggplant with garlic sauce and spicy grilled eggplant!” the system said in a distinct passionate voice of a salesperson.

Mag furrowed his brows slightly, but he managed to calmly respond, “How much does your eggplant cost per 500g?”

“The excellent eggplants are sold individually as a single piece. The eggplants produced by this system are supple, nutritious—”

“How much per piece? How heavy is one?” Mag interrupted calmly.

“35 copper coins for a piece, and they weigh approximately 400g per piece. The price is marked clearly, honest and non-negotiable!” the system said seriously.

“It’s too expensive. I came up with this dish by myself, so you can’t decide on the ingredients. I would rather buy the huge eggplant that only costs one copper coin per 500g. There’s not much difference in texture.” Mag pursed his lips and walked to the seller at the side decisively.

“Hey, hey, hey! There’s no need to rush. We can still negotiate the price!” The system panicked. “You did come up with this dish by yourself. But, as a person who strives to be the God of Cookery, how could you allow the food that you cook to have flaws when you could achieve perfection?”

“30 copper coins for a piece, and not a single coin more. At the same time, you are going to open the purchase restrictions for the other ingredients for making eggplant with garlic sauce.” Mag’s lips curled a little.

“D-deal!” The system spat out through clenched teeth.

“Good.” Mag walked past the smiling vegetable seller and straight toward the entrance of the market.

It was the best to get the ingredients that the system provided. The little flaw in the texture indeed made Mag feel a little uncomfortable. Being a perfectionist was such a bother.

Mag saw a few workers from the Food Association adjusting the magical screen when he was cycling back to the restaurant. It looked like the new Delicious Cuisine Rankings would be going online soon.

Mag even ran into Firis along the way. Mag gave her a ride since the child seat removed yesterday was not put back yet.

“T-thank you... Boss,” Firis, who had never got so close to a man before, stammered with a blush when she got off the bicycle.

“You’re welcome.” Mag opened the door with a smile and prepared to go in with the bicycle.

“Miss Sally... Is she gone?” Firis suddenly asked in a soft voice.

Mag stopped, turned around, and looked at Firis. He nodded, and replied, “Yes, she went back last night.”

“Hmm...” Firis bit her lips, and her eyes reddened.

“Don’t worry. Everything will be fine.” Mag patted her shoulder gently, and went in with the bicycle.

“Princess... Are you still alright?” Firis stood at the restaurant’s entrance for a moment to calm her emotions before she opened the door and went in.

Firis! Shirley, who was drinking water gracefully, almost choked when she saw Firis walk through the door. She coughed, and her face turned red.

Firis, who had just walked in, was stunned to see such a beautiful elf, and a little elf too. How did they get in when the restaurant was not open yet?

“This is Big Sister Firis, also known as Big Sister Beansprout. She’s in charge of chopping vegetables and slicing ducks. Her knife skills are marvellous, only Father is slightly better than her.” Amy introduced her to Anna and Shirley. Then, she looked at Firis, and said, “Big Sister Beansprout, this is Big Sister Anna and Big Sister Shirley. They will be the employees of the restaurant from today onwards.”

Firis quickly nodded slightly, and said, “Nice to meet you.”

“Nice to meet you, Big Sister Firis,” Anna greeted her cordially.

“Nice to meet you.” Shirley nodded slightly, and tried to make her appearance appear calm. Although she knew what happened in the Wind Forest, she was still taken aback and shocked to meet Firis directly!

Will the embarrassing news of me being a waitress get back to the Wind Forest? Shirley looked at Firis with a worried look.

Chapter 944 You Will Pay For Your Meal Or We Will Crush You!

“Boss, Aisha is missing! She didn’t return to the dormitory last night. I knocked on her door when I didn’t see her get up in the morning. I went in when I didn’t get an answer. She wasn’t in her room, and I couldn’t find her after searching the entire dormitory. What... What will we do now?” Yabemiya said hurriedly as she came into the restaurant with a panicked look just as everyone was getting acquainted with one another.

Babla followed her in with a head of messy hair, looking as if she was just dragged out of her bed. She, too, had worry written all over her face.

“Miya, Aisha isn’t missing. She went home. She bade her farewell to me only last night. She let me tell you that she will visit whenever she can in the future,” Mag said to Yabemiya and Babla as he walked out of the kitchen.

“She only went home? What a relief...” Yabemiya was relieved. However, her face showed a hint of desolation shortly after. With red eyes, she softly said, “But, I haven’t said my goodbye to her yet.”

“It’s good that she went home.” Babla patted Miya’s shoulder gently with a relieved look. But, there was still a little loneliness in her eyes.

Mag looked at Miya with a smile, and gently said, “Aisha said she doesn’t like to say goodbye, so she went away quietly. I guess she wanted us to remember her smile.”

Miya looked at Mag and nodded lightly.

“Now, we shall introduce the new colleagues who have just joined our restaurant today. They are Shirley and Anna, whom everyone is already very familiar with. They will be part of Mamy Restaurant from today onwards. I hope everyone can get along cordially as we work together. Let’s have a good time together,” Mag continued with a smile.

Anna took a step forward with a sweet smile, and said, “I’m the cashier, Anna. Pleased to meet you.”

“I’m Shirley.” Shirley stepped forward and nodded slightly.

Yabemiya’s eyes lit up as she looked toward Shirley. She said with amazement, “Wow! What a beautiful big sister! Is this the new attire that Boss has prepared for Shirley? It’s so pretty and matching!”

Shirley could be considered as the restaurant’s regular. Apparently, Master Blour and she were siblings, although they always came to the restaurant separately. However, beautiful people would always leave a lasting impression, so Yabemiya remembered her naturally.

Babla also looked at Shirley with a little amazement. She had always thought she was very pretty in the Moon Kingdom. After all, everyone praised her as she was the oldest princess.

But, after she arrived on this continent, she discovered that there were many girls who were prettier than her in the Mamy Restaurant alone. And that excluded the beautiful women she had seen amongst the customers during this time.

Shirley’s beauty had an otherworldly feel to it, especially when she wore the special clothes. The clash between pure white and crimson red made people’s eyes light up.

In the Moon Kingdom, she would be considered as a great beauty. Instead, she was working as a server in Mamy Restaurant. This made her wonder.

It seems rather nice to be a server here, Shirley thought with a smile as she listened to the praises.

“Pretty Anna, do you still intend to learn to cook after becoming the cashier here?” Yabemiya asked Anna smilingly. Anna became familiar with everyone after staying in the restaurant and learning cooking with Mag every single day.

“Yes, I want to learn cooking from Uncle Mag and become a chef as good as him. But I will also do my job properly.” Anna nodded with determination in her eyes.

Everyone smiled. This little one had a lot of ambition despite her young age.

Firis couldn’t help but look at Anna. She didn’t expect this little elf would aspire to be a chef too. She would have a little companion as she learned to cook now.

The sadness of Sally's departure was swiftly lightened by the addition of new staff and the process of familiarization.

Apart from being a little narcissistic and a clean freak, Shirley's character was perfectly fine. She quickly got along well with everyone even though she didn't talk much.

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"Today's new special: Eggplant with garlic sauce. Available from noon."

Mag wrote a line of words on the notice board, and let Yabemiya hang it on the door.

"Eggplant with garlic sauce? Does this new dish have anything to do with fish?" Yabemiya asked curiously.

"I love to eat fish. Do we get to eat fish this morning?" Amy's eyes lit up, and she came forward with anticipation.

"We should eat something light for breakfast, so we will have to wait till noon to eat that." Mag shook his head and smiled. Although he would like to have someone try out his new dish, eggplant with garlic sauce was a heavy dish, and was not very suitable to be eaten for breakfast.

"Alright." Amy nodded obediently, though she was a little disappointed.

"Alright, let's eat. It's Shirley and Anna's first day at work today, let's help them if they are unfamiliar with work. The busy opening hours will begin soon," Mag said to everyone as he tapped Amy's nose with a smile. Breakfast was already set on the table.

Yangzhou fried rice, Roujiamo with ham and tofu pudding. Simple, delicious, and would provide adequate energy for an entire morning.

"It's such a simple job, so there's no need to worry at all." Shirley fed herself a spoonful of fried rice, and her smile widened on her face. This job wasn't as bad as she thought initially, because she could eat such delicious fried rice and tofu pudding without having to queue for them.

"A job in a restaurant may look simple, but it's much more complicated than you think when you actually do it." Mag gave her a warning. Although she was a level seven magic caster, certain things couldn't be solved by magic.

They cleared the tables after breakfast, and prepared to open for business.

Mag looked at Shirley and Anna with a smile, and said, "Mamy Restaurant's customer policy is to provide a comfortable yet reasonable service. We promote mutual respect and equal treatment to every single customer, regardless of their race and financial status. As long as they are a customer of the restaurant, we will treat them without any prejudice.

"Of course, Mamy Restaurant has its baseline. The service provided by our staff doesn't include being bullied. We can remove those unruly customers from the restaurant. You can refer to the 'points to note' written on the back of the menu for details."

"I like the very last point," Shirley said as she took up a menu to read.

“What do we do if... a customer refused to pay?” Anna asked weakly.

“Don’t fret, Big Sister Anna. I will be helping you at the side.” Amy held Anna’s hand with a serious look, and said, “I will tell them, ‘you will pay for your meal or we will crush you!’”

Chapter 945 Hey Uncle, I Think You’ve Got The Wrong Person?

The customers quickly found out that Mamy Restaurant had changed its service staff. The regulars liked Sally, who was stern yet efficient and elegant. They were a little sad to hear that she had left her position.

However, the new service staff member Shirley had caused quite a stir. It wasn’t easy to find another elf as beautiful as her in the entire Chaos City, yet she became Mamy Restaurant’s server. It could be considered as a consolation that she took over Sally’s job.

Harrison got close to Mag, giving him a thumbs-up, and said, “I’m really impressed with you, Boss Mag. Could you tell me where you recruit your staff from secretly? I would like to recruit a secretary.”

“I usually just go with the flow when it comes to staff recruitment.” Mag smiled before he turned and walked to the kitchen.

He couldn’t say that he picked up Yabemiya; Babla had fallen from the sky; Firis was found in the Wind Forest; and Shirley was recommended by Sally, right?

This sort of recruitment process was simply... too far-fetched. It was too embarrassing for him to even bring it up.

“Boss Mag is perfect, except he speaks too philosophically...” Harrison sighed. He was so envious of the beautiful staff that worked in the restaurant.

“Help me up. I want to see if Shirley’s still so heartless to reject me today. I’m so love-sick because I can’t be with my love,” a pale Constantine said weakly in a luxurious horse-drawn carriage.

“Why are you doing this to yourself, Master?” A middle-aged man, who seemed to be a butler, extended his arms and helped him up. He said with a hint of helplessness, “Miss Shirley doesn’t even know that you have been going to Mamy Restaurant daily to wait for her. You can’t blame her for being heartless. This is a one-sided love, she doesn’t have any feelings for you.”

Constantine’s expressions froze momentarily, and he turned to look at the butler. He said with a vibrato, “You... You... are sprouting nonsense! Even though I have only seen Miss Shirley twice, I’m sure that she is the only woman for me in this life. No matter what, I’m going to find her and express my love for her. Otherwise, I would rather die!”

“What if she turned you down?” the butler asked rhetorically.

“I...” Constantine’s face flushed instantaneously, and he angrily said, “Nonsense! W-why would she turn me down! I love her reverently with all of my heart. I would even give up my life for her. Why would she turn me down? This would absolutely not happen. She will definitely fall in love with me!”

“This isn’t how love works.” The butler sighed. He helped Constantine out of the carriage with a resigned expression.

“There would be no meaning in me living if I couldn’t see Miss Shirley again. I would rather die and be reborn as a butterfly that follows her around so I could see her daily,” Constantine said sadly.

Just as he looked up, he saw a woman in a white top and red dress in the midst of clearing a table behind the glass.

“Miss Shirley!” Constantine’s eyes lit up immediately, but he blinked shortly after. He tagged the butler, and said with a tinge of nervous happiness, “Did you see Miss Shirley? Or am I hallucinating? Why is Miss Shirley working in Mamy Restaurant as a server?”

The butler looked into the restaurant, and then nodded. “If that beautiful lady elf is indeed Miss Shirley, then you are right, Master.”

“Excellent! Let’s go in...” Constantine beamed. He felt that strength had returned to his legs, and swiftly walked toward the restaurant’s entrance.

“Calm down, Master. This is Mamy Restaurant. We need to queue to enter.” The butler quickly grabbed Constantine. He pouted his lips at the queue to emphasize his point.

Constantine looked at the people in the queue who were staring at them in an unfriendly manner, and calmed down immediately. He almost forgot he was at Mamy Restaurant. If he cut the queue, he would be blacklisted and banned from the restaurant in the future.

Although he didn’t know why Shirley was working in Mamy Restaurant as a service staff member, Constantine was exhilarated. If this was real, then he would be able to see Miss Shirley every day. This was euphoria.

He walked all the way to the back of the queue and joined in. Constantine, who seemed to be very feeble in the beginning, was very energetic now, just as if he just had a booster. He didn’t require the butler to prop him up anymore. He stared at Shirley with his bloodshot eyes, and his heart felt as sweet as if it had fallen into a pot of honey.

Miss Shirley must have remembered me, right?

No, she should be as lovesick for me as I am for her. Otherwise, why would she become a server, given her beauty and status? She has gone to such lengths just to see me. It’s so hard on her.

It must be this. I haven’t expected Miss Shirley to be such an attentive lady. I’m deeply touched, and I have to make my feelings known to her today. I have to tell her that I love her too!

Don’t worry, Miss Shirley. I know all about your feelings for me, Constantine thought in his heart. His face became increasingly flushed, and he began to take in deeper breaths.

The queue moved forward slowly. Finally, it was Constantine’s turn.

He straightened his clothes and took a deep breath. Constantine tried his best to calm down before he pulled open the door. Bang! The door crashed into his forehead.

“Ouch!”

Constantine covered the bump on his forehead. He was seeing stars in front of him.

The customers still in the queue tried to hide their laughter by covering their mouths with their hands, while those in the restaurant looked over curiously, trying to see who was the idiot that managed to crash into the door in such a manner.

“Someone’s here to cause trouble?” Shirley was also sizing up Constantine at the door. Apart from taking over Sally’s job, she also promised to protect the restaurant. Did she have to act so soon?

“Miss Shirley is looking at you, Master,” the butler reminded him softly.

Constantine straightened up instantly. He felt the pain had disappeared in that instant, and the stars were gone. He blinked and happened to gaze straight into the face that occupied his mind day and night.

Constantine took two steps forward with a lovestruck gaze, and said to Shirley, “Miss Shirley, I know all about your feelings. I didn’t expect that you miss me as much as I miss you. I feel your pain. Let me protect you!”

The restaurant was silent. Everyone was staring at the two people standing at the entrance and guessing about their relationships and possible grievances. It got many of the customers’ fiery gossipy souls burning wildly.

Shirley looked at Constantine, who sported a bump on his forehead, and frowned. She calmly said, “Hey Uncle, I think you’ve got the wrong person. I don’t know you.”

Chapter 946 Destined To Be Single!

“Critical hit!”

Constantine took two steps back and looked at Shirley with disbelief. His face, which was blushing originally, paled instantly. If the butler had not propped him up in time, he wouldn’t even be able to stand properly.

Miss Shirley doesn’t remember me at all? How could this be? I’m thinking about her every single day. Can’t she feel that at all? Is my overwhelming love for her all wasted? Constantine looked at Shirley with a wretched look as if he was a wronged child.

Shirley furrowed her brows. She really couldn’t recall who this man, who seemed rather impotent, was.

“Ha... So it’s actually one-sided love plus delusion.”

A young lady burst out laughing on the spot. People had thought it was a love tragedy initially, and then it suddenly had a twist, and became a comedy.

The customers, who were looking at them, smiled too. They didn’t expect that this lady elf would bring them such amusement when she had only just joined the restaurant.

This had to be this year’s most pathetic love declaration? There wasn’t even a rejection. It was simply a case of mistaken identity.

Bro, hers could be bigger than yours if she decides to take it out. Mag looked at Constantine from the kitchen and sighed in his heart. He felt a little sorry for him.

“Shirley is so popular. Someone declared his love for her on her first day at work,” Yabemiya said softly with a smile.

“That Uncle is ugly,” Babla said with disgust after she looked at Constantine.

Shirley continued clearing the tables. She put the plates gently on the tray. She waved her hand across the table with a gentle move, and a green light flashed. A stream of clear water flowed over the table and chairs, making them as clean as new.

The butler held onto Constantine’s arm, and calmly said, “Sober up, Master. You’ve got to maintain your dignity now.”

Some sparks returned to Constantine’s eyes gradually. He quickly put on a smile when he saw Shirley getting ready to leave with the tray. He said, “I was only joking earlier, Miss Shirley. You must have forgotten about me since we haven’t seen each other for a long time. Thus, let me introduce myself again. I am—”

“I’m not interested.” Shirley turned around and went to the kitchen without even giving him a second look.

Constantine looked at Shirley’s retreating back with a gaping mouth. His heart felt heavy.

“This poor man. He actually looks alright.”

“Isn’t he the famous swinging bachelor of our Chaos City, Constantine? He’s filthy rich and owns dozens of jewellery shops. He’s a famous Casanova who never had a failed conquest. I didn’t expect him to meet his match here.”

“He had to pay for his sins eventually. If those ladies he had led on all these years knew he had this coming, they would laugh their asses off.”

The customers discussed quietly as they looked at Constantine. Some of the customers who knew Constantine began to expose his past to satisfy others’ curiosity for gossip.

“Master, should we stay or go?” the butler asked softly as he looked at Constantine with a worried expression. Although he didn’t have much hope for Constantine, he did watch him grow up, so he couldn’t bear to see him wither away.

“Why should I leave? I shall be wherever Miss Shirley is.” Constantine plonked his butt onto a chair at a side, then laid his head on the table, and looked toward the kitchen with a dazed look. He feebly said, “Furthermore, I’m starving. Please give me a set of Yangzhou fried rice and a set of braised chicken and rice...”

“You finally decided to eat, Master?” The butler beamed, and promptly waved the service staff over to take his orders.

“A momentary defeat is fine. As long as I persevere, I believe Miss Shirley will be touched by my heartfelt sincerity eventually. I have decided that she is the one for me. If I can’t marry her, I’d rather be alone for the rest of my life,” Constantine said with a determined look.

“Destined to be single!”

Mag saw a line of colored words rising up from Constantine's head.

"System, you're a little naughty." Mag raised his eyebrows and couldn't help laughing.

Yangzhou fried rice and braised chicken and rice were served swiftly. Constantine, who had not eaten for a few days, had a hearty appetite. He finished the fried rice and braised chicken and rice in no time. He looked fresh and no longer sickly.

"The food cooked by Boss Mag is not only delicious, it also fills you with energy. It's marvellous." Constantine marvelled. He looked at Mag in the kitchen, and said in his heart silently, He also helped me found Miss Shirley. I'll definitely give him a big red packet after I win Miss Shirley's heart.

"Check, please." Constantine snapped his fingers.

Anna came over and looked at the plates in front of Constantine. After thinking for a moment, she said, "One set of braised chicken and rice, one set of yangzhou fried rice, one set of savoury tofu pudding. The total is 16 gold coins."

"The remainder is the tip for you. Keep the change." Constantine gave two dragon coins to Anna with a smile. He gave Shirley a look, and then walked to the door decisively.

The greatest error when it came to winning a girl's heart—grovelling.

That would only cheapen yourself and make the girl despise you. You wouldn't be able to get the girl like this, especially the beautiful ones.

As an experienced Casanova, Constantine began to go to his chase instincts after he calmed down. He already knew what to do to capture this rose with thorns.

A good gentleman's bearing with a wealthy facade. This was the technique he used that made him a perpetual success in winning the ladies' hearts all these years.

"But—" Anna held onto the two dragon coins. Before she could finish her sentence, Constantine had already gone out.

What a rude person. He won't even finish listening to what Anna has to say. Shirley looked at the back that went out of the door with an annoyed gaze.

"What's a tip, Big Sister Shirley? Why is he giving me a tip? What should I do with it?" Anna asked Shirley with a puzzled look.

"That guy is probably too arrogant. You can ask Boss Mag how to handle this." Shirley pointed toward the kitchen.

Anna jogged to the kitchen entrance, and asked Mag, "Uncle Mag, that uncle spent 16 gold coins, and he left after giving me two dragon coins. He said the remainder is a tip for me. So, what should I do with it?"

"Oh, a tip. This is a recognition from a customer that Anna has done a good job. Anna, you can keep this money," Mag replied with a smile. Even though this was a first, Mag didn't want to put a stop to it.

Tipping was common in overseas restaurants. This kind of recognition was akin to praise. It was a recognition of good service provided by the server.

Chapter 947 “Interfering Teacher” Cres

The opening hours in the morning went by peacefully without any hiccups. Apart from Anna being a little uncertain the first time she did the check, nothing else went wrong with Yabemiya and Babla’s help. Shirley quickly caught up to Sally’s efficiency. Furthermore, with the division of labor, there was even more room for improvement.

“Thanks for the hard work.” Mag looked at Shirley, who slumped on a table without a care for her image after she finished cleaning the entire restaurant.

“I didn’t expect a seemingly simple job like this could be so tiring after doing it repeatedly for hundreds of times. This is not a job for an elf.” Shirley looked at Mag grudgingly through a transparent glass.

“The most tired person should be Uncle Mag. He had to cook so many delicacies for all the customers by himself,” Anna said as she held a glass, shaking her head. She looked at Mag with reverence and adoration.

“Good girl.” Mag smiled as he patted Anna’s head. This little one really warmed people’s hearts with her words. He was even tempted to give her a tip.

“Heehee.” Anna smiled obediently like a kitten.

Shirley, who was slumped over the table, suddenly sat up and looked at Mag cautiously. Then, she said with a relaxed expression, “Was that hard? I don’t find it hard at all. This is just a piece of cake for me.”

Anna turned to Shirley with a smile, and said, “Big Sister Shirley also did a fantastic job.”

“Shouldn’t I be fantastic naturally?” Shirley said with a smile in her eyes.

“Yes. Shirley’s magic is really fantastic. The restaurant is as clean as if Aisha had cleaned it,” Yabemiya agreed wholeheartedly. She looked at Shirley with envy in her eyes. If only she could use magic too.

Mag smilingly said, “It’s your personal time from now till eleven. You are free to do as you please. We will eat lunch at eleven. If you want to have lunch, come back earlier.”

“Then, I shall go to the ice cream shop now. Anna, Shirley, do you guys wanna go and have some fun together?” Miya asked Shirley and Anna as she removed her apron.

“I would like to learn to cook from Uncle Mag with Big Sister Firis, so I won’t be joining Big Sister Miya.” Anna shook her head.

“I have a place to be, so I’m not joining you, either.” Shirley stood up and shook her head.

After everybody dispersed, Mag began to teach Firis and Anna.

Firis continued learning to roast beef kebabs. Her beef kebabs were getting better after her days of practice, but they were still far from being perfect.

However, when it came to the concoction of the sauces, she was very talented. She could already concoct all three sauces perfectly. With regards to control, she indeed was very gifted.

Anna continued with her previously uncompleted course. This little one didn't have much culinary experience; hence, Mag let her start from learning knife skills. Other skills would then be taught after she had a good foundation on basic knife skills.

"Ding! Congratulations, Host. As you have taken in two disciples, you shall receive an "Interfering Teacher" crest and a "Disciple Direction" opportunity. After you decide to activate it, the other party will enter the test field for the God of Cookery in her dreams and receive a testing opportunity." The system's voice suddenly appeared at this time.

"Hmm?" Mag raised his eyebrow and looked at the shiny medal in his mind. Feeling very surprised, he said, "System, what the heck is this 'Interfering Teacher'? Wouldn't you be exposed if someone else enters the testing field too?"

"Relax please, Host. If you don't bring this up deliberately, no one will know of the existence of the test field for the God of Cookery. The directed person will only think she had a dream after she wakes up," the system said.

"That's good." Mag looked at Firis, who was placing the kebabs with burnt edges on a side and putting new kebabs onto the grill again. He continued, "Then, I shall give this opportunity to Firis. Given her current progress, she would be able to master roasting beef kebabs with just one entry to the test field."

A golden light flew out of the crest and disappeared into Firis's forehead.

"Direction is successful." The system sounded.

Mag relaxed after seeing that both Firis and Anna didn't notice that golden light at all. He proceeded to curiously ask, "System, what's the use for this crest?"

"As a God of Cookery, it's not your ultimate motive to conquer the world with Chinese cuisine. The real duty is to spread Chinese cuisine throughout the world, change the world's dining habits, and make more people love cooking and life. The crest is a reward for the Host who has made a contribution in promoting food culture. The Host will receive a special reward after he receives three crests," the system answered.

"There's something good like this? So, what should I do to receive more crests?" Mag's eyes brightened. He loved transactions with rewards.

"The Host only needs to promote Chinese cuisine to the best of your ability. As for the rest, just go with the flow."

"You might as well have said nothing!" Mag rolled his eyes.

Mag also gained some new ideas after talking to the system. Just like the system had said, if he was the only person who knew how to cook Chinese cuisine in this world, even though the customers loved his food, this world would no longer have Peking Duck and Roujiamo after he passed away.

How lonely would that be.

Mag sighed silently. It was indeed gratifying to be able to decide the heights of culinary arts in a world.

However, when it came to releasing the recipes... He wasn't stupid. He hadn't earned enough money to make a stupid move like this.

Mag made himself a cup of tea in a good mood. He was content being a supervisor at a side.

Right at this moment, someone knocked on the door.

Mag opened the door while holding the cup of tea. Scheer, who was wearing a red trench coat, stood at the door with a man with thinning hair, a pair of thick glasses, and a black document bag underneath his armpit.

"Mr Mag, I've got a matter to discuss with you. May I have a little of your time, please?" Scheer smiled at Mag.

Mag's gaze remained at the trenchcoat that Scheer was wearing for a moment. Wasn't that the design that he had given to Gloria? It seemed Gloria had already begun selling it. The cutting was proper, and the workmanship was very fine. It looked clean-cut on Scheer, giving her some additional presence.

"Of course. Please come in." Mag stepped aside with a smile and nodded slightly to that middle-aged man with a receding hairline.

Scheer saw Firis and Anna in the kitchen after she stepped into the restaurant. She pointed to the man next to her. "Let me make the introduction. This is Bourell. He's the chief engineer in charge of the steam engine locomotive project."

"How do you do, Mr Mag? It's a pleasure to meet you. You're an admirable genius designer." Bourell stepped forward to grasp Mag's hand with both of his with admiration in his eyes.

"It's my pleasure to meet you too. Please have a seat." Mag nodded and smiled. This man looked like his college mentor, giving him a sense of familiarity.

Scheer sat and went straight to the point as she looked at Mag. "We have come to tell Mr Mag that construction of the first steam engine locomotive is completed, and it is in the process of preliminary debugging. We hope Mr Mag would spare some time to join us at the production base to assess it as the chief designer."

Chapter 948 None Of The Restaurants Could Be Rated

"That's fast?" Mag looked at Scheer in a shock. He had only given Scheer the final drawing before he left for Rodu. It had only been two weeks, and Scheer had already produced the first steam engine locomotive. It was even going through preliminary debugging. That was unbelievably fast!

"We hope to open a route from Chaos City to Vic Mountain and have it running before we start the negotiations three months later. If the tests go smoothly, the steam engine locomotive and tracks will enter into the production phase. The bank and the city lord's castle are both very determined." Scheer smiled and nodded.

Mag pondered for a while before shaking his head gently at Scheer, and said, "It's not going to be an easy feat to build and run a railroad track hundreds of kilometres long from scratch in three months.

Just the production of train tracks alone is a big project, and do not forget the geographical criteria needed to lay the tracks. Although I recognize the abilities of the city lord's castle and Buffett Bank, I have to remind Miss Scheer that railroad is a public service project. Its safety concerns all the lives onboard. We simply can't make do because we have a deadline to meet."

Although he didn't know much about politics, he could roughly understand why Scheer wanted to open a section of railroad before the start of the peace treaty negotiations. It was to increase Chaos City and Buffett Bank's bargaining chips on the table.

The rise and fall of a conglomerate the size of Buffett Bank was no longer decided by a country or a city. However, stability and peace were the most important factors in the banking business. If Norland Continent fell into total chaos because of war, then Buffett Bank wouldn't be far from its collapse.

Chaos City was born in the peace after the war. It would be in a very awkward position if war started again. Furthermore, it could even be attacked on all sides.

Even though Chaos City had been getting stronger in the past 100 years, it was still just one city. It still wasn't at the level where it could contend with the respective races.

Since Chaos City was born in peace, it naturally wouldn't want the war to start again. Coming up with steam engine locomotives was to make the different races calm down and promote harmony to a great extent.

However, Mag was still an engineering guy deep down. No matter what the capitalists and politicians thought, a steam engine locomotive wasn't just responsible for carrying goods. It also undertook the huge responsibility of basic passenger transportation. Safety was very important, and sloppy work was out of the question.

Bourell, who was standing at a side, looked at Mag seriously, and said, "We understand Mr Mag's concerns. Getting the train to run in three months is the shortest construction period that our engineering department came up with after repeated scrutiny and argumentation.

"The land is mostly plains from the east of Chaos City toward Vic Mountain, and they're geologically stable. The workload in laying the tracks will be greatly reduced.

"Furthermore, we've recruited a large number of blacksmiths and fire magic casters from multiple races. We will also be using a great number of magical tools and setting up numerous tracks production points along the route to make sure of the quality and quantity of the tracks."

Bourell took out a few drawings he had in his document bag as he spoke. A topographic map of the terrain between Chaos City and Vic Mountain, a planning map of the production points, and a program of presets and solutions with regard to the laying of tracks.

Mag went over the drawings very carefully once, and reached a conclusion in his heart: ostentatiously rich!

He was a rich second generation who had seen the world in his previous life. However, even with his father's capital, building an expressway was already his limit. It was impossible to use

countless manpower and material resources to build a railroad in a barren land in three months under the conditions where heavy industry was seriously lacking.

Using fire magic casters and dwarf blacksmiths as laborers... this level of ostentatious wealth. Other than national wealth, Mag couldn't imagine that a conglomerate like Buffett Bank would dare to attempt this.

The monetary network stretching across Norland Continent had brought a tremendous unimaginable wealth to Buffett Bank. Either Scheer was crazy or Buffett Bank was rich beyond his imagination.

The smiling Miss Scheer sitting across the table looked very normal, so obviously it was the latter.

"Mr Mag, please trust our determination and work attitude," Scheer said to Mag smilingly.

Mag passed the drawings back to Bourell with a complicated expression, and said, "Seems like Miss Scheer's really focused on this steam engine locomotive project."

Scheer was making a huge gamble. If they lost, Buffett Bank would be dragged into an abyss. This wasn't making cars.

"I believe Mr Mag's excellent creations will bring about a huge change to this world," Scheer said to Mag smilingly with a meaningful look.

Mag removed his gaze. He smilingly said, "When would Miss Scheer like me to go and inspect the completed locomotive?"

"If it's convenient for Mr Mag, we can also go right now," Scheer replied.

Mag glanced at the clock on the wall before shaking his head, and saying, "It's not really convenient now. I've to prepare for the noon business very soon. If it's possible, I can go over at one o'clock."

"Mr Mag's really a good boss. I'll send someone to fetch you at one." Scheer stood up, smiled, and nodded at Mag. Then, she turned and walked toward the door.

"Goodbye, Mr Mag." Bourell kept the drawings. He shook Mag's hand again, and quickly caught up with Scheer.

Speed could indeed be increased when technology meets a huge amount of money. Mag sighed silently looking at the back of Scheer. This world was going to enter into the age of steam under the promotion of Scheer. Mag had no idea if it was going to be good or bad.

After all, this was a world of swords and magic. The experience from Earth was not applicable here.

But, there was one thing he was sure of. If the route to Vic Mountain could begin running in three months, it would definitely exert an influence on the ongoing peace negotiations. As one of the dominant players, Buffett Bank would be intertwined with Chaos City, and gain an opportunity to go onto the table with the respective races.

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"Satisfy every request from the engineering department. Has the city lord's castle reached a conclusion on the negotiation with the goblins?" Scheer asked the secretary sitting across the horse-drawn carriage after she got in.

“We’ve just received the news. The negotiation’s basically finalized. Under the threat of the impending turmoil and the feud with the elves and forest trolls, the goblins have agreed to form an alliance with Chaos City. They’re going to open up the mineral resources underground and develop together with our bank and Chaos City.” The secretary nodded.

“Excellent.” Scheer nodded. She lifted the curtain and looked at Mamy Restaurant. “You shall come and fetch Mr Mag to the project site at one o’clock this afternoon.”

...

“I am very disappointed with the vegetarian food I had in those restaurants this morning. None of them could be rated. I wonder how would this restaurant fare?” a middle-aged man with neatly backcombed salt-and-pepper hair said to himself softly as he stood in the queue and looked at Mamy Restaurant’s signboard.

Chapter 949 One More Bowl Of Rice For Me

Derrick was one of the senior food reviewers from Rodu Culinary Review Magazine, recognized as the top reviewer for vegetarian food. As a vegetarian, Derrick focused on vegetarian food reviews, and thus he was the favorite critic of the vegetarians. He was the expert in this field.

He had specially come to Chaos City from Rodu under the invitation of Robert. He was going to do a complete review and rankings on vegetarian classification for the completely revised Delicious Cuisine Rankings.

Derrick had lived in Chaos City for a period of time when he was little. He was a good friend of Old Lorry. One could say that he became a food critic due to Old Lorry’s influence when he was a young boy.

He was also involved for a period of time when Old Lorry was doing the Delicious Cuisine Rankings back then, so he did have some feelings for it.

Thus, because of this, he agreed on the spot when Robert went to him.

However, he hadn’t come with much expectations. The food scene in Chaos City had always been far behind Rodu as it didn’t have a strong background and lacked creative chefs.

Although he hadn’t stepped into Chaos City for almost 20 years, after he had eaten at the few restaurants based on the list given by the Food Association this morning, it was exactly what he had expected. There weren’t any vegetarian dishes that could impress him. There were even many restaurants that had signature meat dishes having a perfunctory attitude toward vegetarian food. They gave him rather unpleasant dining experiences.

It was a relief that he had only agreed to do one review for Robert. He would return to Rodu afterward, most probably never to return again.

Mamy Restaurant was the sixth restaurant he had chosen to visit because there was a fine line of words printed after the name. “This restaurant has a high number of customers. Reviewers are advised to queue in advance to prevent wasting time waiting in the queue”. Hence, he had moved this restaurant from the back to the front so he could see what kind of restaurant it was that required the Food Association to purposely write a reminder.

The restaurant opened at eleven thirty, but he had already arrived at eleven. He didn't anticipate there would already be customers waiting in the queue by the door. There were two lines with 20-odd people in them.

This made Derrick a little surprised. There were a few popular restaurants in Rodu that also had customers lining up in advance, but they were immensely popular restaurants with equally strong reputation and capabilities. However, there were only less than five of them.

He didn't expect this restaurant in a remote corner in Chaos City to have this kind of popularity too.

As time went by, there were more and more customers queuing up behind him. The queue of 300-400 people had already reached the square even before it was open for business.

What made him even more amazed was that the two lines didn't seem to be formed randomly. They were deliberately separated into two gangs because of a thing called "tofu pudding". They were arguing passionately about it, and almost came to blows.

I didn't expect this restaurant to be this popular. I wonder what's its signature dish? Does it make an effort for vegetarian food? Derrick thought in his heart curiously. As a vegetarian, he hadn't touched any meat dishes for more than 20 years.

Derrick tilted his head and asked a young man next to him, "Mate, this is my first visit to this restaurant. Are there any vegetarian dishes worth recommending?"

"Vegetarian dishes?" The young man pondered seriously for a while before hesitantly saying, "I wonder, can the sweet tofu pudding be considered as vegetarian? Still, the savory tofu pudding is definitely vegetarian. Uncle, you're in the wrong queue if this is your first visit. The savory tofu pudding is the correct choice for you."

A young lady standing behind Derrick glared at the young man, and unconvincingly said, "Uncle, don't listen to his lies. The tofu pudding should be eaten sweet. Only the sweet tofu pudding is vegetarian, the savory tofu pudding is heresy."

"Savory and sweet tofu pudding?" Derrick was deep in thought. So, the "tofu pudding" that they were arguing about was a dish, and the reason behind the argument was only the flavors.

Derrick was slightly embarrassed to see the two young people arguing. He quickly said, "If that is the case, I shall order both flavors. You two can stop arguing."

"Fat hope, Uncle." The young lady rolled her eyes.

"Boss Mag had made a rule. Everybody is only allowed to order one set of tofu pudding. You have to choose a flavor if you want to have it, Uncle. Everyone would like to have a second helping too. There are only 200 sets of tofu pudding at every meal. You won't even be able to have it if you are late," the young man explained.

"There's even a rule like this." Derrick raised his eyebrows, a little surprised. But, after he looked at the snaking queue, he seemed to understand why. There were so many customers, and if there were no purchase restrictions, the customers at the back of the queue would have waited in vain.

“Actually, the tofu pudding can’t be considered a vegetarian dish. It’s at most a snack. If Uncle would like to eat vegetarian food, you may not eat to the full in Mamy Restaurant. Even Yangzhou fried rice has eggs in it. You may not be able to stand the stinky tofu, and that is also a snack,” the young lady added.

“Really?” Derrick was a little disappointed to hear that. It seemed like this restaurant was also focused on meat dishes.

“Boss Mag is debuting a new dish again today. It could be a vegetarian dish,” the young man consoled him.

“Didn’t you read what’s written on the sign? They are debuting “eggplant with garlic sauce” today. It might not be vegetarian,” the young lady said.

“This...” The young man hummed for a moment, and then scratched his head. “It really might not be.”

“It’s fine. I will just try that tofu pudding.” Derrick smiled. It would be false to say he wasn’t disappointed that he couldn’t even have one vegetarian dish after queuing up for so long. However, if that tofu pudding could incite such a never ending argument amongst the customers, it had to have its unique quality. Since it was almost about to open for business, it was no harm to try it before moving onto the next restaurant.

...

“It’s so amazing! There’s only eggplants and no fish in sight, but why does it have a delicious fish fragrance? Also, it goes so well with rice!”

Yabemiya had a taste and couldn’t help praising it.

The others also looked at the half-finished eggplant with garlic sauce in amazement. The eggplants were cut into the shape of a fish. Scales were carved out using delicate knife skills, and the golden red garlic sauce was drizzled over it. It was tangy, sweet, savory, and spicy at the same time.

“Father, one more bowl of rice for me, please. This eggplant with garlic sauce is so delicious.” Amy showed her empty bowl, licked the drip of sauce at the corner of her mouth, and smiled.

“Okay.” Mag took the bowl with a smile and went to refill it. There was no praise in the world that could make him happier than those given by Amy.

Chapter 950 You Eat Eggplant. You’re Fearsome

Lunch ended with everyone asking for seconds. The tangy, sweet, savory, and spicy eggplant with garlic sauce won positive reviews from everyone.

Mag was naturally very happy about this.

Technically, this was the first recipe he had learnt on his own, so the sense of achievement was unparalleled.

“Welcome to Mamy Restaurant.”

Mag opened the door of the restaurant and smiled at the customers waiting at the door.

The customers filed into the restaurant and greeted Mag. They went to their favorite spots.

Harrison came in and curiously asked, "Does this new dish 'eggplant with garlic sauce' has fish in it, Boss Mag?"

Many customers were also looking at Mag with curiosity. It was worth paying attention every time a new dish was introduced.

"No, this is a vegetarian dish." Mag shook his head smilingly. He wasn't going to be secretive about it.

"Vegetarian dish? It's purely made of eggplant?"

"Oh! Eggplant is the food I hate the most! It's so soft that it's scary!"

"I hate eggplant's taste too, but my neighbour loves it. Every time I went over to his place for dinner, it simply..."

"Your neighbour must be a forest troll."

"How did you know?"

The customers started a discussion after they heard Mag. Most of them didn't have a good impression of eggplants.

"Vegetarian dish? Eggplant?" Derrick, who just sat down, glanced at Mag. He couldn't help being curious. Eggplant was also one of the foods that he hated. The horrible texture and hard to remove smell were enough to repel him.

However, since the boss of this restaurant said it was a vegetarian dish, and most likely the only vegetarian dish available, trying it was basic professionalism, regardless of his personal preference.

Mag didn't explain any further. It was normal not to like eggplant. Those who loved it would enjoy it. He returned to the kitchen with a smile on his face.

Of course, the main reason was they hadn't tried the eggplant with garlic sauce yet.

Otherwise, they would be in love with eggplant.

The customers began to place their orders. Due to their resistance to eggplant, there weren't many customers ordering it. Of course, there were more customers deliberating between ordering and forgoing, waiting for the brave ones to try first.

Derrick was appraising the restaurant. His first impression was comfortable and soothing. The lighting, the furniture and decorations in the same color, and the plants along the banister made people relax.

When he did a closer observation, he could feel the restaurant's cleanliness. There wasn't any dust in sight. There wasn't even dirt in between the table's gaps. It had to be a professional magic caster doing the cleaning to reach such a cleanliness standard.

However, what made him uncomfortable was the sharing of tables. He was a little nervous looking at the orc sitting across and the wolf-headed demon sitting next to him. He had a guarded expression.

Since he had lived in Chaos City for a period of time, he naturally knew that it was a city where all races lived together, but he was used to living in Rodu, so he was still on guard toward other races. Furthermore, he had never shared a table with an orc and a demon.

There isn't even basic segregation in place. This restaurant only deserves one star for its dining environment. I can't even focus on tasting the good food when I have to share a table with an orc and a demon.

Yabemiya came over with a smile, and asked Derrick, "What could we order for you, Sir?"

"Give me a minute. Let me have a look." Derrick took the menu and flipped it open. Pictures of delicious food appeared in front of him. Looking at all those enticing dishes had even made a vegetarian like him salivate.

However, he quickly skipped over the meat dishes and went to the snack category. The pictures of the sweet and savory tofu pudding were different. The white tofu pudding was held in a porcelain bowl. The savory tofu pudding was covered by finely chopped vegetables, while the sweet one was drizzled with a layer of reddish-gold sweet syrup. Both looked enticing.

After some deliberation, Derrick chose the sweet tofu pudding.

Then, he flipped over a page and looked at the only vegetarian dish in the vegetarian category: eggplant with garlic sauce.

In the picture, there were two fish lying on a rectangular plate with golden red sauce drizzled on top. There were only two fishes and no eggplant in sight in the picture.

One helping cost 400 copper coins. At the same time, it indicated that one bowl of white rice cost 50 copper coins, and there was no free refilling.

Derrick stared at the picture for some time before raising his head to talk to Yabemiya, "Are you sure this is vegetarian food?"

"Yes. It's vegetarian. There's no meat in it all." Yabemiya nodded. They hadn't had any customers ordering the eggplant with garlic sauce yet. It almost made her want to tell them how delicious the eggplant with garlic sauce was; it was a pity to miss. She wondered if this customer would be the first to order.

After Derrick got the confirmation from Yabemiya, he closed the menu, and said, "I would like to have a sweet tofu pudding, an eggplant with garlic sauce, and a bowl of rice."

"Sure, please wait for a while." Yabemiya's eyes lit up. Finally, a customer had ordered the eggplant with garlic sauce. According to her previous experience, this meant other customers would soon follow suit.

"Wow, Bro. You eat eggplant. You're fearsome." The wolf-face demon sitting with him gave him a shocked expression.

"You're really brave." The orc sitting across also gave him a thumbs-up.

"I'm a little curious, will the eggplant that Boss Mag cooked become a new delicacy? You shall be our tester, Bro," a young man sitting diagonally across him said happily.

“Mm-hm.” Derrick nodded awkwardly. The orc and demon were very different from his fearsome impression of them. They were friendly. He didn’t expect to be deemed as brave just because he ordered the eggplant with garlic sauce.

Yabemiya went into the kitchen, and excitedly said, “Boss, a customer ordered one eggplant with garlic sauce.”

“Roger that.” Mag nodded. He took an eggplant from the shelf next to him. It was longer than the round eggplant, but shorter and rounder than the long eggplant. He sliced it open in the middle like a fish cut open lengthwise. He twisted his chopper around, and the thin skin was removed. Soon, the two slices of eggplant began to resemble a fish. Scales were carved out with rapid knife movements. They were cut deep, but not clean through.

Two pots were heated up simultaneously. The eggplant was deep-fried in a pot filled with oil. He put a little oil in the other pot and added in finely chopped garlic, ginger, chilli, and a spoonful of his secret chili broad bean paste. He fried them till the red oil began to appear before he added in white sugar, vinegar, and a little starch water. The garlic sauce was done.

He took out the eggplant that was fried till crispy and golden brown out and plated it. Then, he drizzled the hot and thick sauce over them.

Shhhhh!

A soft sizzling sound.

A helping of tangy, sweet, savory, and spicy eggplant with garlic sauce was ready to be served!