

Stay At home 981

Chapter 981 The Judge of The Meat Category

The new notice that Mag put up caused quite a commotion amongst the customers because the reward was simply too attractive!

All the items in Mamy Restaurant would be free flow and free of charge, including tofu pudding!

Almost all the customers going into the restaurant would take a look and try to remember the person in the picture. Even though they didn't know him, what if they met him on the road one day?

There were even people taking down crucial information with a notebook. They seemed to have the idea of setting up a search party.

Yabemiya and the gang also found out what Mag was doing during their lunch. They saw the customers reading the missing-person notice seriously, and all of them thought, Boss is really a kind man.

Mamy Restaurant seems to be very famous recently. I heard it has already overtaken Ducas Restaurant as Chaos City's top restaurant. But I wonder if it lives up to its reputation. After all, the roast pig that Beate made was rather impressive. The ranking of the meat dishes would have to follow according to their actual tastes. An elderly man with white hair looked at the signboard outside of Mamy Restaurant before he followed the crowd in.

Avis, who had left Chaos City for Rodu at the age of 16, became an apprentice chef at Reid Restaurant, and continued working there for 50 years before becoming a sous chef.

Reid Restaurant was in the top five restaurants in Rodu. It was very popular and had a great reputation.

The roast pig was the signature dish of Reid Restaurant, and was considered the best pork dish in Reid Restaurant.

Beate had been an apprentice in the Reid Restaurant for 10 years, and he was his mentor.

Beate later left Reid Restaurant. He returned to Chaos City and became the head chef of Ducas Restaurant. He made Ducas Restaurant the best restaurant in Chaos City with the roast pig.

Avis rather liked his disciple, Beate, who was quite talented. He was the one who gave him the advice to set up Ducas Restaurant then.

Rodu was a very hierarchical place. He had spent 50 years, and was the best chef of Reid Restaurant at roasting pig, but he could only be a sous chef at most.

Therefore, he didn't want to see Beate, who also hailed from Chaos City, waste his whole life there and never get to the position where he could be the one to make the final decisions.

He ended his career as a chef in Reid Restaurant using his health as an excuse a while back. He had also rejected the other restaurants' invitations with a high salary. He decided to return to Chaos City to enjoy his retirement as his children and their families were all living in Chaos City.

Robert had gone to invite him to be the judge for the meat dishes ranking. He only agreed after listening to Robert's ideals of reviving Chaos City's culinary scene.

Although Beate was his disciple, Avis didn't tell him about him being the judge. And in order not to affect his judgement, he had placed Ducas Restaurant as the last on his list.

The first restaurant he picked for that afternoon was Mamy Restaurant. He was a little surprised with its popularity. The line outside it was even longer than the one at Reid Restaurant.

However, the popularity wasn't going to affect his judgement, because he was only going to review the meat dishes. A restaurant only needed one scrumptious dish to be popular, for example, like the Reid Restaurant.

Actually, there was another reason that Avis had agreed to Robert's invitation and that was the boss of this restaurant—Mr Mag.

As the sous chef of Reid Restaurant, he had naturally been present at the birthday banquet of the King of the Roth Empire.

Reid's roast pig had taken the title of the best dish of the court banquet thrice. He was in charge of the roasting twice out of the three times they won. Hence, he had only viewed Chef Bellmann as his competitor for the court banquet's best dish.

But nobody had expected that the court banquet's best dish would be won by an unknown young chef. The king hadn't even tasted the roast pig coming after.

That was the trigger that caused him to leave Reid. This was a huge setback to him. Yet, he was also very curious when Chaos City had such an impressive young chef like him. It made him want to go back to have a look.

Avis glanced at the missing-person notice at the door when he entered. Helping a vagrant to look for his long-lost son? This gave him a different perception of this young chef.

As he was early, there were still seats available when he followed the crowd into the restaurant.

He sat down and began to appraise the restaurant.

Compared to the four-stories-tall Reid Restaurant, this Mamy Restaurant was not big at all. In fact, it wasn't even as big as a single story of Reid.

But the restaurant's decoration made a person feel very comfortable. The original wooden tables and chairs even had the same markings when he observed closer. There were nice green plants hanging on the carved railings which made one feel warm in this early winter.

The murals on the walls were rather elegant as they portrayed the different species very intricately.

What made Avis even more astonished was that the restaurant not only didn't segregate the zones, it didn't even segregate the tables. Demons and elves were sitting at the same table. Orcs and humans were sitting side by side. Even in Chaos City, such scenes were not usual.

It seems like this Boss really has something up his sleeves, Avis thought. Then, he flipped open the menu on the table, and the descriptions with pictures made his eyes widen. He was surprised at the same time.

The cheapest snack on the menu cost 200 copper coins. The Peking Duck even cost 2000 copper coins a helping. The roast pig in Reid Restaurant only cost 5000 copper coins, and that was meant for six people.

Furthermore, Reid Restaurant was a 100-year-old enterprise. How could this six-month-old restaurant compare to it?

The spicy grilled fish got the best dish award at the court banquet, but this dish should be considered under the seafood category. There were also the braised chicken and rice and pepper steak at the court banquet. The braised chicken and rice has soup in it, I wonder if it is listed under the soup category. In this case, today I shall try the pepper steak, beef kebabs, Peking Duck... Avis looked at the dish that was marked with the red words "new item" under the meat category. He mumbled, "Why don't I try this red braised pork first? Creation of a new item is the ultimate test of a chef's capabilities."

"May I take your order?" Yabemiya asked with a smile when she came to Avis's table.

Avis wasn't in a hurry to order, and instead he asked Yabemiya, "May I ask what kind of pork is this red braised pork made of?"

"This red braised pork dish is made with the meat of the Fiery Pig," Yabemiya answered smilingly.

Chapter 982 A Huge Mountain Between

"Fiery Pig? That's a 5th-tier magic beast! And it's only found on the Red Dragon Island and nowhere else!" "Oh my! If I remember correctly, the red dragons love to eat Fiery Pig, right? How does Boss Mag do it?"

"Those giant dragons who came to make trouble and were crushed were red dragons, right?"

The customers suddenly lost their cool after they heard Yabemiya.

Surprise also appeared on Avis's face. This red braised pork, which was priced at 800 copper coins, actually used a 5th-tier magic beast as the main ingredient. Even the roast pig at Reid Restaurant only used the domesticated 1st-tier black mountain pig. For them to use the 5th-tier magic beast, a VIP customer would have to make a reservation before they would purchase and cook it.

"Pork... Then, I shall have a helping of red braised pork and a helping of pepper steak. Please serve them in the reverse order." Avis closed the menu. This review was going to be done anonymously. If he ordered too much and wasn't able to finish, it would be very obvious.

Besides, he already estimated that he wouldn't be able to finish these two dishes.

"Sure, please wait for a moment." Yabemiya nodded and proceeded to the next customer.

While waiting for the dishes to be served, Avis was also observing the restaurant. This Mamy Restaurant, which was capable of accommodating over 100 people of different species, was extraordinarily quiet when compared to normal restaurants.

Even the dwarves and orcs, who were famous for their loud voices, were also speaking gently in the restaurant. That was quite a sight.

Dishes and dishes were sent out of the kitchen. Avis gazed toward the kitchen. Although separation was done for the kitchen, it wasn't complete. Instead, it was separated by a huge crystal wall. The customers outside could see all the actions going on in the kitchen.

This was something Avis had never seen before. To a chef, his culinary skills were his life. They even would keep some of their skills from their disciples so nobody would know all of their culinary skills.

However, Mag had opened up his kitchen, which meant showing the entire cooking process to his customers.

He was so confident. Wasn't he afraid that people could steal his techniques? Avis thought curiously, and couldn't help staring at Mag's back.

Three stoves, a grill, a big pot, two ovens... He was just like a spinning top that kept moving in between the kitchenware. He was flipping the fried rice on the stove, the beef kebabs were sizzling on the grill, the baked fish was slowly turning golden brown in the oven. Everything seemed so smooth, and there wasn't any hint of busyness.

This is an expert. Avis stared for a long time before he praised Mag in his heart.

He was a chef, so he understood how important focus was to a chef.

In the back kitchen of Reid Restaurant, there were over 100 chefs and apprentices who all had their specific jobs so they could serve the food to 1000 customers.

But over here, Mag had to prepare food for 300-400 customers alone. That was simply unbelievable!

He wouldn't have believed it if he hadn't seen it for himself.

But will the food cooked in this manner be delicious? Avis had some doubts in his heart. Everything has its pros and cons. Something must be given up when they choose to speed up. That's for sure.

"Your red braised pork. Please enjoy it." Yabemiya placed a helping of red braised pork and a bowl of rice in front of Avis.

"This aroma!" Avis, who was staring at Mag, snapped his attention back. He looked at the red braised pork in front of him in disbelief. This rich aroma was even more impactful than the roast pig he made.

The block of meat with layers of fat and lean meat was shiny red. It didn't look greasy at all. Instead, it looked very enticing.

The white pork meat usually seems unappetizing, especially the fatty part and the skin which look very greasy, but he has used spices and seasonings to make the pork's color look enticing. This is similar to roast pig, but the roast pig's color isn't as good as this. Color: five stars!

I wonder what spices did he use to cook this? It actually made the pork give off such enticing aroma that even surpassed the roast pig. Aroma: five stars!

The color and aroma are both excellent. I wonder what it tastes like? Avis thought before he picked a piece of red braised pork and put it in his mouth.

After biting gently with his teeth, Avis's eyes lit up instantly.

The skin and fatty meat were definitely the main focus here. The soft and chewy skin was just of the right texture, and the fatty meat melted away with just a gentle bite. The sweet and soft taste was simply indescribable, and it made Avis raise his eyebrows.

Also, the lean meat was the perfect complement. It was lean but not dry at all.

This mouthful was fatty but not greasy, sweet but not sticky, and rich but not salty. It was simply a delicacy out of this world!

After swallowing that piece of red braised pork, Avis only felt that his taste buds were still cheering for it. The long-lost satisfaction and anticipation made him amazed.

He had once believed that he had already reached the pinnacle of cooking pork. Even if there were better chefs than him, they could never surpass him at cooking pork. Nobody could make a tastier roast pig than him.

But now, after tasting this red braised pork, his thinking was totally subverted.

He had never heard anyone could cook pork like this!

Although it was not roasted, the red braised pork had exceeded his expectations and imagination in the aspects of spice configurations, cooking techniques, and innovation. It blew him away.

Even though his pride after roasting pigs for 50 years made him unwilling to accept his failure, as a true chef, he chose to follow his heart.

The taste and texture are equally great! Five stars! Avis thought as he stared at the bowl of red braised pork in front of him. Then he looked at Mag, who was working hard in the kitchen, and a deep sense of respect began to rise in his heart.

He was just one person doing everything by himself and cooking for so many customers, yet he produced such an amazing delicacy. Furthermore, this was just a new released item and a completely innovative pork cooking method.

A chef like him deserved to receive the court banquet's best award. Truly deserving!

Avis ate a mouthful of rice. The soft and fluffy rice covered over the tiny bit of greasiness in the red braised pork, and made it even more scrumptious. A mouthful of red braised pork with a mouthful of rice... It was simply impossible to stop.

The distance between Beate and him is a huge mountain. One that even I can't overcome. 10 minutes later, Avis stared at the empty bowls in front and sighed in his heart.

Chapter 983 I Won't Be Able To Repay All Of Your Kindness In This Life

This red braised pork is simply too delicious. I've got to control myself. I had already put on 1.5 kg this month, so if I continue to put on weight, I'll be 50 kg. A teenage girl stared at the three pieces of red braised pork and her empty rice bowl and hesitated for a long time. Finally, she raised her hand. "Give me another bowl of rice. please."

“This has totally subverted all I thought about pork, even the roast pig at Ducas Restaurant didn’t bring me such a surprise. It’s fat but not greasy. It’s a fragrant, sweet, and tender soft delicacy. It’s simply too scrumptious!” A middle-aged man sighed as he put down the bowl that he licked clean.

Avis listened to the customers’ praises. If he’d been at another restaurant, he would’ve thought they were people engaged by the boss, but after tasting that delicious red braised pork, he only felt that their reviews were too superficial and lacked actual power.

Red braised pork, it’s divine!

Soon, the black pepper steak was served. Avis, who was still submerged in the scrumptiousness of the red braised pork, soon fell into the delicious trap of the black pepper steak.

As Avis looked at the signboard after exiting Mamy Restaurant, he emotionally said, “He’s indeed the chef who received the court banquet’s best dish award. He really got what it takes.”

Then he turned and left. That was all that afternoon. He was already stuffed.

...

The golden opinions that the customers heaped on red braised pork made Mag feel successful. He felt that all the suffering he had gone through in the test field for the God of Cookery was worth it.

Bringing the best delicacies to the customers was also a thing that made one feel blessed.

After the lunch service, Mag wrote two more missing-person notices by hand, and then proceeded to the Food Association and the city lord’s castle.

Very soon, the missing-person notices appeared on the notice boards of the city lord’s castle and Delicious Cuisine Rankings.

The notice board at the city lord’s castle was a column that the people of Chaos City paid a lot of attention to on the normal days. With Aden Square being the shopping district with the highest foot traffic in Chaos City, the magic notice board that stood in the middle of the square naturally gained plenty of attention.

For that period of time, this missing-person notice became a hotly discussed topic in the streets of Chaos City. Those who were not familiar with Mamy Restaurant lamented the father’s determination even after 25 years. They spread the news as they were touched.

A city-wide search exercise began to proceed quietly, driven by three missing-person notices.

...

It was getting late at night.

An unknown blacksmith in a small lane at the north of the city still had a dim oil lamp lit.

A hunchbacked old blacksmith removed his dirty apron and put a padded jacket he took from the side. He rubbed his hands and shouted into the shop, “Hada, let’s wrap up. Master is bringing you out for a drink. We need a nightcap on such a cold night.”

“Okay,” a hoarse voice answered from inside. After a series of banging sounds, a fit and muscular young man emerged from the blacksmith shop. He’d look like a perfectly positive and handsome young man if not for the two missing fingers on his left hand and crippled right calf. He still looked positive as he smiled at the old blacksmith even when he had a few streaks of charcoal on his face.

“Let’s go, Master. It’s cold today, you got to wear more.” The young man called Hada wrapped the old blacksmith up with his own clothes. He was only wearing a thin shirt.

The old blacksmith walked slowly as he calmly said, “I don’t feel warmer even when I wear more clothes. I most likely won’t get through this winter. Guard this shop after I’m gone. This shop is all I have in my life. I will rest assured passing it to you.”

“Master...” Hada followed up chokingly. Although he was crippled, it didn’t show in his gait. His right leg quickly followed as he put his left leg forward. If one didn’t look closely, he looked just like normal people.

“Silly boy, don’t be sad. All humans will die. The king of the Roth Empire may not even live to my age. Am I proud?” the old blacksmith said with a smile.

“Master, it was you who rescued me from the streets, fed me, and taught me to be a blacksmith. You have to live for a few more years so I can pay you back...” Hada said chokingly.

“It was your own good luck to be able to escape from that place then. I happened to see you lying by my doorstep. It was so cold, and I couldn’t bear to see a young child like you freezing to death, so I brought you home. I don’t have any children, and you have kept me company for all these years. You have saved me by getting a doctor to me a few times. You don’t have to feel that you owe me anything,” the old blacksmith said, waving his hand.

Hada shook his head with tears in his eyes, and said, “You taught me how to be a human, gave me a new life. Those people broke my leg and chopped off my fingers. If you hadn’t taught me how to make a living, I would’ve still been begging at some corner. Therefore, I do owe you, Master, and I won’t be able to repay all of your kindness in this life.”

The old blacksmith halted, but he didn’t turn his head when he said, “Silly boy. After I’m gone, throw out whatever should be thrown out in the house. Pack up nicely and marry the tailor’s Rachel and have a few kids. She’s a nice girl. That’s all I expect from you.”

Hada’s mouth trembled. Finally, he nodded, and said, “Okay.”

“Alright, let’s not talk about this. Let us have a drink.” The old blacksmith continued onward. At the start of the lane, there was an open-air stall which still had its lights on. Steam came out from the pot, and one could smell the aroma of mutton soup from a distance away.

...

After the Blue Suede Fashion released its windbreaker, it took Chaos City by storm. Hundreds of windbreakers sold out in a day. It created a trend of wearing windbreakers in the aristocratic circle.

And Blue Suede had also become the clothing store that was the most discussed among the ladies.

Clothing store. What an unusual name.

In the past, the rich people's clothes had to be custom-made to measure. In their eyes, only the poor would wear those poorly made and even unfitting clothes.

But now, in order to snap up a piece of Blue Suede's clothing, the noble ladies and the wealthy girls didn't care whether the size fitted them anymore. They wouldn't mind altering it themselves after they bought it.

The clothes manufacturing factory of Blue Suede Fashion was separated from the shop totally. The factory located to the east of the city had already had its tailors and apprentices enter into a two-shifts system because of the high order demands.

As the wages were two times higher than what they could earn custom-making clothes for others, and they didn't have to fawn over customers, do repeated alterations, and worry about orders, but simply follow the drawing and do their jobs to get a rewarding salary, all the tailors were highly motivated.

Benjamin used to be an old tailor from the north of the city. He couldn't earn much being a tailor to the poor.

A while ago, an old friend recommended him to try at Blue Suede. Because of his good skills, he was selected, and he brought his daughter along to this factory.

Chapter 984 Hada, Your Father Is Here, Searching For You

The boss of this factory was a good person. Not only was she pretty, she was also generous. After verifying his skills, she gave him the same pay as the rest of the tailors: 10,000 copper coins per month.

Even his daughter, Rachel, was able to get 3,000 copper coins as her pay. He hadn't dared to expect that initially.

Furthermore, the work wasn't very tiring. Although it was a two-shift system, there was plenty of resting time every day, and meals were provided—they were even better than those they had for their New Year celebration.

He had already decided to work here until he couldn't move anymore so he could prepare a nice dowry for Rachel and marry her off to a nice family.

The master tailors were in charge of the main cloth making procedures, and the female workers were responsible for sewing the corners and removing excess threads in the adjacent workshop in a more relaxed environment.

A female worker finished her job, and while waiting for new excess threads to be removed, she softly whispered, "Have you heard? There's a restaurant boss from a restaurant called Mamy Restaurant who put up a missing-person notice today. The city lord's castle and Food Association forwarded it too."

The female workers who weren't very busy looked at her curiously. Only a pretty female worker who was sewing the corners in a corner remained unmoved.

"Really? That's impressive! Who is that boss?" A female worker at the side couldn't quite believe it. The other female workers had almost similar expressions.

"Of course, it's true. I couldn't sleep this afternoon, so I went for a walk in Aden Square. I saw it with my own eyes." The female worker swore before she mysteriously continued, "By the way, do you know that restaurant is really impressive? The cheapest item on the menu there already costs 200 copper coins. The most expensive item even costs 2000 copper coins. If anyone finds this person, he or she can bring one person along with him or her to eat anything they like on the menu for free!"

"My heavens! 2000 copper coins for a helping of food! That's too expensive? Are there really people who can afford it?" a female worker exclaimed.

"Yes. I can only afford one helping with one month of my pay..." All the female workers were astonished.

"Even though we can't afford it, I deliberately went to have a look at the restaurant's entrance. There was a long line of more than 100 people." That female worker was satisfied that the others looked so shocked. Then, she smiled mysteriously, and said, "Furthermore, can you all guess whom I saw?"

"Whom?" All the female workers' interest was piqued.

"I saw our boss, Miss Gloria. She, too, was lining up." The female worker smiled.

"The delicacies that even Miss Gloria has to line up to eat? Now I believe that it costs 2000 copper coins for a helping."

"Yes. Even someone as beautiful, graceful, and rich like Miss Gloria, huh. I wish I can go to that restaurant for a meal too."

All the female workers looked wistful. The 2000 copper coins' price made it impossible for them. They needed to support their family with 2000-3000 of monthly pay, so they couldn't spend it carelessly.

"Cynthia, share with us quickly. What kind of person is he looking for? Maybe it's someone we know! If we find him, we will be able to eat the same kind of food as Miss Gloria!" a female worker said excitedly.

All the workers looked toward that worker called Cynthia.

"I did memorize that," Cynthia said a little smugly. "The missing-person notice said, an old man from Rodu was looking for his son who was lost 25 years ago. That child was called Beck Barzel. He had a black mole in between the middle-left of his eyes and a crescent-shaped scar at the back of his head..."

"Ah." The female worker, who was embroidering the clothes in the corner, jerked, and the needle pricked her fingers. The pain made her cry out. Her eyes were widened as if she heard something unbelievable.

"Are you alright, Rachel?" Cynthia stood up and walked over to that pretty worker. She saw that her finger was still bleeding, so she rapidly removed her finger away from the clothes, and nervously said, "Why are you careless, Rachel? This is not a serious cut, but our pay will be docked if we dirty the clothes."

Rachel didn't care about her finger. She stood up immediately and grabbed Cynthia's hands agitatedly. "Cynthia, you said that old man came from Rodu? The child was lost for 25 years, and he had a black mole in between his eyebrows?"

“Y-yes.” Cynthia nodded perplexedly. She looked at the agitated Rachel, and suddenly her eyes lit up. “Oh my! Rachel, do you know that person?”

Rachel didn’t answer her. Instead, she asked, “Where can I see that missing-person notice?”

“You can see it at the city lord’s castle gates and the Food Association’s magical screen on ranking in Aden Square,” Cynthia replied. She then curiously asked, “Do you really know a person like this? Who is it?”

“I am going out for a while.” Rachel put the clothes aside and jogged to the entrance.

“Hey, Rachel, it’s still operation hours! Where are you going?” Cynthia shouted loudly, and watched Rachel disappear out of the door. She dejectedly said, “What’s this? Still saying we’re good sisters? She just ran away without saying a word. I’m only curious. What’s so great about that meal?”

“Rachel?” Benjamin, who was in the next workshop, heard Cynthia’s voice. He was stunned for a minute before he walked toward the door. He stepped outside just in time to see Rachel’s back disappear at the end of the lane.

Benjamin frowned as he thought, This lass, where is she going so late in the night? He returned to the workshop again and continued sewing the clothes.

Rachel was always an obedient child since she was young. She had never made him worry before. She would definitely come back later.

...

A dainty figure ran all the way from the streets at the north of the city to Aden Square. She stood below the magical screen and panted as she raised her head to look at the missing-person notice on it. There, she saw that picture with familiar eyes and features.

Rachel teared up immediately. She cried as she chokingly said, “Hada... Your father is here, looking for you... Barzel, so Barzel was your surname. You remembered correctly...”

“I have to tell him this news. He will be so happy.” Rachel wiped away her tears, then turned, and ran toward the north of the city.

Her clothes were soaked with her sweat. It was bone-chilling when the cold wind blew, but Rachel was full of smiles.

The little cripple who grew up with her, took a beating for her, and strove for her. The man she loved deeply. His father was finally here to look for him.

It had been so many years. Although he had never said it, she knew he would still miss home. That home which he couldn’t even remember very well.

“Hada! Hada! Open the door now, Hada!”

Rachel knocked hard on a door that was rather old.

The door creaked open, and Hada came out. He looked at the sweaty Rachel nervously. “What’s up, Rachel? Something happened? Are you alright?”

“Silly man, I’m fine.” Rachel shook her head. She said to Hada with tears in her eyes, “Hada, your father is here, searching for you! He’s really here!”

Chapter 985 Be Like A Man. Don’t Be Wishy-washy

Hada, who was about to put the padded jacket that he was wearing onto Rachel’s shoulders, froze on the spot. He looked at the teary-eyed Rachel, and hoarsely asked, “W-what did you say, Rachel?”

“I said your father’s here looking for you, Silly. I saw the missing-person notice that he put up. The man in the picture drawn was you. He really came to look for you,” Rachel said smilingly as she wiped her tears away.

Hada shook his head and took a step back. He confusedly said, “H-how could this be? It’s been so many years, how could he still be looking for me? You must have seen wrongly. It couldn’t be me...”

“How could I have seen wrongly? The missing-person notice said there was a black mole near the left eyebrow and a crescent-shaped scar at the back of the head. You have all of these.” Rachel grabbed Hada’s hands, looking into his eyes, and said, “Furthermore, he came from Rodu and the child was lost 25 years ago. Didn’t you say you remembered your home was in Rodu? Barzel is your surname. You remembered correctly. Your name is Beck Barzel. He really is your father, and he’s looking for you.”

Hada’s eyes widened and his body started to shake uncontrollably. Veins on his forehead began to pop up too.

“Hada? Hada, are you alright?” Rachel looked at Hada and backed off a step in fear. Hada now looked a little scary, and wasn’t the silly guy who laughed at her in her memory.

“No... He is not my father! My father is long dead! I don’t have a father, and I didn’t come from Rodu. I am not called Beck Barzel... I am Hada. I only have Master... no father...!!” Hada shouted angrily and grasped his hair with a twisted expression.

“Hada...” Rachel stared at Hada. Suddenly, she rushed forward and held Hada tightly. Tears flowed down her faces and she began to sob.

Hada heard Rachel’s crying, and he calmed down gradually. He looked at Rachel, who was crying in his arms and soaking his clothes with her tears, and felt all his strength had left his body. He slumped to the floor and sobbed with an empty look in his eyes. “Why, why is he only looking for me now? Why did he only think of looking for me after 25 years... If he had come to look for me earlier, my fingers wouldn’t have gotten chopped off by them, my leg wouldn’t have been broken, either. If he had come to look for me earlier, I wouldn’t have been a cripple, and I would’ve been able to ask your father for your hand properly... W-why now...”

Rachel hugged Hada, who was crying like a child, tightly. She, too, was crying nonstop. She only held his face in her hands after he had calmed down. Looking into his eyes, she said, “Silly man, I don’t care how you look. As long as you ask my father for my hand, I will marry you. I don’t need his approval.”

Hada looked at Rachel with tears in his eyes. He hugged Rachel tightly in his arms, and said with a choked voice, “Sorry, Rachel, sorry. I need to take care of Master now. He gave me a second lease of my life. I should stay with him...”

"It's alright. If you really don't want to meet him, then don't. I respect your choice." Rachel shook her head. She could feel his pain and desperation just now. If their roles were reversed, she, too, might not know how to face that father.

The old blacksmith suddenly appeared at the doorway with his padded jacket slung over his shoulders, and said to Hada in a deep voice, "Why don't you meet him? At our age, if we don't get to see our biological son before we die, we definitely cannot die in peace."

Hada looked at the old blacksmith. "Master, I—"

"Hada, I know you are filial, but he is still your father. Furthermore, how did you know he hadn't gone looking for you for the past 25 years? Norland Continent is huge, and he is only an ordinary person. How would he know that the human traffickers brought you to Chaos City?" the old blacksmith interrupted Hada. "Why don't you meet him and ask him personally?"

Hada's expression became a little hesitant.

"Go and see him tomorrow. Even if you have found your father, I am still your master. If you are still willing to take over this blacksmith shop, it is still yours. You're still responsible for burying me after I die." The old blacksmith waved his hand. After taking a look at Rachel with a smile, he said, "Be like a man. Don't be wishy-washy." Then, he went in.

Hada remained seated in a daze.

"Hada, are you willing to meet him?" Rachel asked softly.

Hada's eyes became focused again. After a moment of hesitation, he nodded. "Yes, I'll go."

"Good, then I will go with you tomorrow." Rachel smiled, and then she sneezed uncontrollably.

"You have sweated quite a bit. You are going to catch a chill when the wind blows. I'll send you home first." Hada quickly covered Rachel with his padded jacket. Then he stood up and walked toward a small courtyard hugging Rachel in his arms.

"I'm fine. It's just a sneeze. I just need a change of clothes and sleep." Rachel shook her head and smiled.

Hada shook his head and insisted, "No. I will make you some ginger soup. Drink that before you sleep."

"Today, my... my father is working the night shift, so he's not home..."

"That's great. I can send you into the house, then I'll go home to cook the ginger soup for you."

"Blockhead..."

...

"You are really a blockhead." The old blacksmith sighed after he saw Hada came back with an empty bowl.

...

The missing-person notice had gained some traction after a day, and attracted quite a bit of attention in Chaos City. Mag had never imagined that this one kind act had unintentionally advertised Mamy Restaurant to the entire city. It made the customers lining up for breakfast double in number.

Hence, Mag had to magnify the menu, make it into a stand, and put it at the entrance directly so those people who were simply curious would go away by themselves.

The pricing on the menu had a very strong filter effect.

Of course, this had also made the missing-person notice even more talked about.

An unlimited buffet for two would at least cost 10,000 copper coins, right? That was quite an enticement.

...

Benjamin walked to his small courtyard quickly after he finished his nightshift. He mumbled to himself, "This lass, Rachel, didn't come back for the whole night. Did she go home first because she was not feeling well?"

The door opened from inside just as he was about to open it.

"Father!" Rachel was stunned after she saw Benjamin at the door. Then, she walked past him and jogged out. "I am going out for a while."

"This lass!" Benjamin looked at Rachel, who disappeared down the corner of the lane. He stomped his foot, and then went into his courtyard.

Chapter 986 It's Him! It's Him! It Has To Be Him!

Rachel poked her head out to look at her closed courtyard's door before walking over the other courtyard gingerly, and knocked on the door. "We should set off now, Hada!"

The door opened rapidly. Hada, who was wearing a padded jacket, stood at the door. He looked at Rachel as he scratched his head, and said, "Rachel, what do you think of me dressing like this?"

"It looks good." Rachel smiled and nodded. Then, she put a straw hat on Hada's head. After taking a quick look at him, she took his hand, and said, "Let's go. Let's set off now."

"But, why am I wearing this straw hat?" Hada followed her out and pointed at the straw hat perplexedly.

"This hat is going to be very helpful." Rachel smiled, but she wasn't planning to tell Hada why.

"Alright." Hada didn't continue to ask. His smile grew wider as he looked at his hand in Rachel's. However, he quickly hesitantly said, "But, what should I say when I see him later?"

"You have never thought about what to say to him when you see him before?" Rachel asked Hada.

"No." Hada shook his head. "Once, they hit me on my head with a wooden club, and I forgot many things about my childhood after that. I even forgot what he looked like. I only remember the name Barzel."

Rachel squeezed Hada's hand tight as her heart ached for him. She shook her head, and said, "It's alright. You will know what to say when you see him."

...

In front of the magical screen in the center of Aden Square, Angus looked at the missing-person notice on the screen in a daze.

If he hadn't met Mag, he most probably would not have known how Beck looked like as a grown-up, and could've never put up such an attention catching missing-person notice in the busiest location in Chaos City.

There were so many people in Chaos City, so maybe Beck was right here. Or he could be in a town in the Roth Empire.

He didn't know, but he was still waiting hopefully.

He had made it through 25 years. He could wait for another few more days.

But, for the past 25 years, he had never felt the warmth and concern that he had felt in the past two days. Be it Mag, who was willing to help him despite that they had only just met, or the city lord's castle which provided him with food and lodging, they provided the concern that he had never felt in 25 years.

I shall go and have a look at Mamy Restaurant. I wonder if Beck would be found... Angus leaned on his staff and walked toward Mamy Restaurant.

No long after, a young couple came to the magical screen.

Rachel pointed at the magical screen, and whispered, "See, Hada. Doesn't he look exactly like you."

Hada, who raised his head, was totally stunned. The picture on the screen looked exactly like him. His eyes became moist as he read the descriptions.

It had been 25 years. He had long forgotten how his father looked, but he still remembered how he looked when he was young.

"Let's go to that restaurant." Rachel held onto Hada's hand tightly and led him toward Mamy Restaurant.

Hada was quiet on the way there.

...

Mag came back after sending Amy to school. He met Angus at the door, so he stopped and greeted him. "Angus, have you eaten your breakfast?"

"Yes. I have eaten my breakfast at the relief station." Angus smiled and nodded. He looked at Mag expectantly and nervously at the same time. "Boss Mag. Beck, he... Is there news about him?"

"So, he is that old man? He's such a poor thing. He must have suffered a lot all these years as he searched for his child."

"He had walked all over the Roth Empire on his legs. Only a father's love could have kept him going."

“Damn those human traffickers. They should all be arrested and jailed in Bastie Prison for the rest of their lives!”

The customers in the line were looking at Angus, who was talking to Mag, with pity and indignation.

A short distance away, Hada, who was wearing the straw hat, stared at the rickety old man as his body trembled. Those lost memories flashed through his mind like fragments.

He’d been a tall, well-built, and wealthy-looking middle-aged man. That image slowly merged with that rickety old man with white hair and dressed in tattered clothes a short distance away.

“F-father...”

A hoarse voice came out from Hada’s throat as the straw hat was blown away by a gust of wind and revealed his face.

Angus’s whole body shook. His eyes widened as he slowly turned away to look at the young man, who stood a short distance away, in a total shock.

Mag, who was still thinking about how to console Angus, also looked over as he heard the sound. His eyes lit up as he saw that man who looked exactly like what the system had drawn. The mole near the left eyebrow was especially obvious.

“It’s that man in the picture!”

“It’s him! It’s him! It has to be him! He’s exactly identical!”

“My heavens! Is this the reunion of the father and son?”

A commotion broke out amongst the customers in the line as they watched this scene in disbelief.

“My son!” Angus suddenly regained his wits and quickly stode toward Hada shakily.

Hada also limped forward, and then he hugged Angus tightly.

“My son... My son...” Angus hugged Hada and repeated those two words again and again with tears.

Hada, too, was crying as he hugged Angus who was already a head shorter than him.

The tall and strong father in his memory had become so weak and small now. He didn’t seem to have much flesh on his body. He felt like he was hugging a skeleton that could easily fall apart anytime. It made him feel sad and self-reproachful.

He’d actually been searching for him all these years. He suffered as much as he had on the road for the past 25 years, and yet he had always blamed him.

The customers quieted down gradually as they looked at Hada’s broken right leg and left hand with two missing fingers with pity.

This issue seemed to have a happy ending, but the child that the human traffickers had kidnapped had to have endured unimaginable pain and suffering, and nobody knew how he had survived all these years. Even after finding his father, how was he going to face his future life with a physical handicap?

“Your hand... Your leg...” Angus noticed Hada’s leg and hand rapidly. He touched the scars that were healed long ago, and said with self-reproach, “These are all my fault. It’s my fault. If I had watched after you properly, you wouldn’t have been kidnapped by them. Your hand and leg... It’s my fault... My fault...”

“No, Father, this is not on you.” Hada grabbed Angus’s hands as he attempted to slap himself. Shaking his head, he said, “It’s on those human traffickers. They were the hateful ones. Furthermore, I can live normally now. You don’t have to blame yourself.”

Angus looked at Hada. Even though the padded jacket that he was wearing was well-worn, it was very clean. Although his leg was crippled, he was still a strapping man. His arms were almost two times thicker than normal people’s. It almost made people forget about his handicap.

“Nice to meet you, I am one of Mamy Restaurant’s customers. I feel very sorry for what happened to you guys. This is a small token, and I hope that you two can have a better life in the future.” Constantine came up to the two of them from the line and gave them a cheque from Buffett Bank with both his hands.

Hada looked at Constantine with gratitude, but he shook his head, and said, “Thank you for your kind intentions, but I will take care and provide for my father myself. I have arms and legs, so I can work to provide for him.”

Chapter 987 The Father And Son Reunion!

Constantine looked at the determined Hada, and hesitated for a moment before he kept the cheque away. Instead, he extended a name card out, and said, “Alright, if you ever need anything, you may come and look for me. I can provide a suitable job for you.”

Hada looked at the name card that Constantine was holding. After a moment of hesitation, he finally took it, and said, “Thank you.”

“You are welcome.” Constantine rejoined the line and glanced toward the restaurant. He saw that beautiful figure behind the glass panes and smiled. Miss Shirley must have noticed my generosity and kindness, right? This is quite a good start.

Shirley looked at Constantine and pursed her lips with disdain as she said, “Oh my, he’s showing off just because he’s rich. He doesn’t care if it is appropriate.”

“Yes.” Anna, who was standing next to her, agreed wholeheartedly and nodded. Then, she looked at Angus and Hada with a smile, and said, “However, the grandpa has managed to find his child. That’s fantastic!”

Yabemiya nodded with tears in her eyes, and said, “Yes. Boss is so kind-hearted and loving.” She could empathize with Hada’s current feelings very strongly. But when would her father come and look for her? What did he look like?

Could Boss draw a picture of my father too? Yabemiya looked at Mag, and a thought flashed through her mind and consumed her.

She had always been waiting for her father to come and look for her. Why couldn't she go and look for him instead? 18 years had passed; was he searching for her too?

I will ask Boss once the service is over, Yabemiya thought.

Mag watched the reunited father and son with a smile on his face. However, as he looked at Hada's missing fingers and crooked right leg, he felt as if someone had stabbed him in the heart. Damn human traffickers!

Angus and Hada embraced each other for a while before Angus brought Hada over to Mag and said with gratitude, "Thank you, Mr Mag. Thank you for reuniting my son and I."

"Thank you." Hada bowed deeply at Mag too. If Mag had not made this missing-person notice, they wouldn't have seen each other in this vast world again.

It was only when he met his father that he finally realized he had always wanted to see his family again, even after all these years. He had never expected to meet his father again in Chaos City which was thousands of miles away from their home.

"Don't mention it." Mag helped them up with a smile. "It was nothing difficult. I am also very happy that you two can see each other again."

"Rachel." Hada turned and waved to Rachel, who was standing at a side quietly. He shyly said to Angus, "It's Rachel who told me about the missing-person notice. And it's her who brought me here. She is... the woman I like."

Angus looked at Rachel, who was about 20 years old and looked fair, and smiled brightly.

"How do you do, Uncle." Rachel stepped forward. She was holding onto the edge of her shirt nervously with a blush on her face.

"Good... Good." Angus nodded with satisfaction in his eyes.

Mag got the buffet coupon from Yabemiya, who already prepared it in advance, and passed to Rachel with a smile. "It is a good thing that the father can reunite with his son. This young lady had brought Beck to the restaurant, so this buffet coupon for two belongs to you. You can bring one person along with you to have a meal in Mamy Restaurant during any of its opening hours."

"Wow! That is fantastic!"

Everyone was staring at the buffet coupon in Mag's hand with wide-open eyes. To the foodies, this was equivalent to an admission ticket to the heavens!

Rachel looked at the coupon in Mag's hand and hesitated for a moment before accepting it. She said, "Can I regift this?"

"Regift it?" Mag looked at Rachel with a perplexed expression.

The customers were also staring at Rachel. Didn't this lady want to have a romantic dinner with this gentleman who had just found his father?

“Yes. I would like to give this buffet coupon to Hada and his father. They should be the ones to enjoy a great meal together.” Rachel nodded and smiled at Hada with a loving look.

“This big sister has such a beautiful smile,” Anna whispered.

Everyone was beginning to look at Rachel with a gentle gaze too. A young lady like this was indeed very beautiful.

She’s really a good girl. Mag’s eyes lit up too. He had such strong mental strength despite his physical disabilities, and even met such a good young lady. He didn’t have to worry for him anymore.

“Rachel...” Hada gazed at Rachel. He was deeply touched, but he didn’t know what to say.

Angus quickly waved his hands, and said, “No, no, no. How can you give this to me? Beck and I can eat anywhere. This is a place for you youngsters to come to eat.” Then, he gave Hada a suggestive look.

“But...” Rachel still tried to insist.

Hada, who understood the look, scratched his head and grasped Rachel’s hands. He shook his head, and said, “Let’s come together again, Rachel.”

Rachel looked at the gentle Hada and the smiling Angus, and then looked at the buffet coupon in her hand. She hesitated for a moment before she agreed and kept the buffet coupon.

Applause erupted at the entrance and the customers were all smiling.

Although they all wanted to have that buffet coupon, that was the best outcome without a doubt.

Angus said to Mag, “I’m very grateful for your help, Mr Mag. You let me see Beck again. He says he wants to bring me home, so we shall take our leave first. Don’t let us delay your opening hours anymore. We will come back to thank you properly later.”

“Please don’t mention it. If you require my help for anything, please feel free to look for me here at Mamy Restaurant,” Mag said smilingly.

Mag only retrieved his gaze after the three of them disappeared from his view. He glanced at his watch and realized that it was already 10 minutes past the opening hour. He apologetically said to the customers, “Please pardon me for wasting 10 minutes of your time. The breakfast service will end 10 minutes later today. Welcome to Mamy Restaurant, everyone.”

“It’s fine. For a matter like this, even another 10 minutes’ delay will be fine too,” a customer answered, and the others all agreed.

In the line, Gloria was watching the three of them walking away as she wondered, Rachel? She seems to be an embroidery worker in Blue Suede? Furthermore, her skills are rather good too.

However, Mr Mag is so kind-hearted. He is such a learned and refined person. Gloria looked at Mag with sparkling eyes.

Chapter 988 | Hereby Sentence You To Death

After the breakfast service, Mag went to the city lord's castle and Catering Association personally to notify them that they had found the person. He expressed his gratitude as well.

This was the first time that Mag had done something like this. There was indeed a special feeling after he found the man.

On his way back to the restaurant, Mag saw a little beggar who was crawling along the sidewalk. He had two missing fingers and a broken leg.

His bicycle slowed down gradually as Mag looked at the boy who was around six, seven years old. He looked so weak as if he had only a layer of skin left on him. He was only wearing a set of thin clothes in such cold weather. His pants were already torn due to the crawling and blood could be seen on his black knees. There were many battered marks on his face and arms.

Pedestrians who walked by him would stare as they couldn't help themselves. Sometimes, someone would drop a few copper coins into his broken bowl, and the little boy would do a few kowtows and mumble a word of thanks.

Mag felt his heart clench at that instant. It had been 25 years, and yet the same problem was still happening.

Anger rushed up to Mag's brain instantaneously.

But he didn't go forward. Instead, he just observed from the side.

The number of copper coins in the little beggar's bowl began to increase, and soon it was almost half a bowl full.

A bony man, who was squatting a short distance away, walked over. He glanced around before he bent over and poured all the copper coins from the bowl into his pocket. He even kicked the little beggar when he got up before he bent down again to say a few words to him. Then, he turned, looked at Mag viciously and strode toward him. He showed Mag a short dagger hidden underneath his clothes when he passed him by, and coldly said, "Scram. Keep your nose out of my business, or else I will slaughter you."

"Alright." Mag grabbed hold of his bicycle handles tightly before he slowly pushed his bicycle and walked away.

That whole day, Mag rode his bicycle all over the entire Chaos City. His expression slowly changed from anger to calmness, and finally to indifference.

The same problem was indeed still happening in Chaos City. It didn't change because of time, and even the method had remained the same.

There were at least over 300 children who were maimed and forced to beg on the streets and lanes of Chaos City.

There were seven gangs who were controlling these children. Humans, demons, and orcs were all in cahoots.

Underneath the surface of Chaos City's peace and equality hid darkness that shocked Mag.

It was late at night.

Amy was already asleep.

Mag was writing seven letters with his left hand in the study. He put the letters into the envelopes and then wrote on every one of them: "Urgent! Private and Confidential, For the City Lord's eyes only!".

The light in the study was extinguished. A shadow leaped down from the second floor of the restaurant, and then disappeared into the darkness.

...

"Cry! You can cry harder! I will kill you if you make one more sound!" In the slums at the north of the city, in a courtyard surrounded by high walls, a drunk middle-aged man was holding a whip and lashing fiercely at the little beggar in front of him.

That little beggar was only seven, eight years old. His clothes were torn by the whip's lashes and revealed the wounds beneath them. His body was twisted in pain, but he covered his mouth tightly so he wouldn't cry out, because he knew if he cried out then, he would really die on that day.

A few dozens of little beggars were huddled together in a corner in the courtyard, staring at the man holding the whip with fear.

Everley was the scariest demon. A little beggar would die in his hands every few days. Nobody could escape from his clutches. Anyone who had tried to escape died. Even if they managed to escape, they would be recaptured and slowly tortured to death in front of everyone.

"If you even dare to keep one copper coin in the future, you are dead." Everley spat on the face of the little beggar before he pointed the whip at the other little beggars and smirked. "And you guys remember this. You all are the dogs I reared. The money that you got from begging all belongs to me. If you dare to keep any copper coins, I will kill you all!"

The little beggars all lowered their heads and averted their gazes from Everley.

Everley was satisfied with their behavior. It made him feel like a king. Nobody had escaped from his clutches in the past 20-odd years.

Oh, no. There was one, which was a humiliation to you.

But, he was still young then. After that, no imps had ever escaped from his clutches again. Those who did were all dead.

A bony man came in from the yard with a sinister smile, and said, "Boss, a new batch just arrived. There are two little girls, do you want to try first?"

"Great. It has been some time before we had new stock. Let's go check them out. I'll give you one after I'm finished with them tonight." Everley's eyes lit up. He walked toward the door as he rubbed his hands.

"Great." The bony man's eyes lit up, and he strode excitedly toward the door.

"Creak."

The worn-out door opened in gradually from outside.

“Didn’t I ask you to wait outside!” the bony man shouted unhappily.

A figure holding a sword walked in as he indifferently said, “They are still outside.”

“Who are you!?”

Everley and the bony man were shocked as they looked at the man in black who just came in. His face was covered by a piece of black cloth, and only his eyes were visible. Right behind him, a few figures were lying in a puddle of blood. They were the delivery guys.

“Guys, come here! Someone’s here looking for trouble!” the bony guy shouted into the yard in panic. After a series of noises, figures carrying weapons rushed out and stood behind Everley.

The arrival of his minions boosted Everley’s confidence. He coldly said to the man in black at the door, “Although I don’t know which gang you belong to, it doesn’t matter. I’m not interested. What I am sure of is that you are dead meat.”

Mag looked at the child lying on the ground and those children huddling at a corner. He said in a chilling voice, “It’s an unforgivable crime to abduct and mutilate children. I hereby sentence you to death.”

“Acting as a hero? Smash him!” Everley swung his hand, snatched the saber from a minion at his side, and attacked Mag.

Mag raised his hand and stabbed his sword into Everley’s heart.

There wasn’t any hesitation. The sword already went through another man’s throat as if he was just stomping on an insignificant ant. Like an agile snake, the sword slid across those people’s throats and finally stopped in front of the throat of the bony man.

“Don’t kill me... Don’t kill me...” The bony man had already broken down. 20 men were all killed in an instant, and even Everley, who was a 3rd-tier knight, didn’t survive more than a second. He collapsed in front of this man just like a helpless ant.

“I simply like to stick my nose into others’ business,” Mag said calmly to the bony man.

“You!!” The bony man’s eyes widened immediately as he thought of the man he met in the morning.

The sharp longsword went into his throat and stopped the rest of his words.

“Don’t be afraid. Someone will come to rescue you,” Mag said to those children who were screaming in a panic as he sheathed his longsword and disappeared into the dark night.

“Right here!”

Very soon, a series of footsteps could be heard from beyond the yard. Men who were wearing the uniforms from the city lord’s castle and the Gray Temple rushed into the small courtyard. They were all shocked when they saw the terrified children who were huddling in a corner.

“Those animals!”

The official from the city lord's castle who was leading the team said with tears in his eyes, "Rescue the children! Report back to the city lord!"

Chapter 989 A Father

The city lord's castle was brightly lit, and the staff were all walking around with serious expressions.

"My Lord, this is the fifth letter." An official strode into the meeting room and presented him a letter.

The meeting room was full of people. They were officials from the city lord's castle and people from the Gray Temple. Their expressions were all serious and furious.

Their gazes all landed onto that letter. In front of Michael, there were already four identical letters. Because of these four letters, they were all awakened from their slumber and rushed to the city lord's castle immediately.

This was a rare 5th-tier incident.

As Michael tore open the envelope of the fifth letter with a somber expression, a staff member rushed in, and announced, "My Lord, the fourth team just reported that they have discovered 51 abducted children and 23 suspected human traffickers. The suspected human traffickers were all killed before the fourth team's arrival! The children found on the spot all had different degrees of mutilation, except those who were just sent to the lair. According to the children, it was a man in black who saved them. There is only one person."

"Another 50 children!"

The expressions of all the people in the meeting room had changed. They could barely control their anger.

In less than an hour, the city lord's castle had received four letters. There were four addresses in the letters which all turned out to be lairs of the human traffickers when the city lord's castle personnel arrived. There were already over 100 children found.

These human traffickers were so horrendous that it raised their hackles!

They wanted to crush those human traffickers after they saw what they had done to the children.

"Who is that man in black?"

Everyone was curious about the man in black who triggered this incident. He was fully in charge of everything. Even the city lord's castle was just his sidekick.

He was working alone, so how did he find out about those human traffickers' lairs hidden deep within the slums and dark alleys? And he always managed to kill all the human traffickers and leave the scene before the people from Gray Temple arrived.

Michael took out the fifth letter with a somber expression. This letter, too, only had a phrase and a sentence: "Human traffickers' lair. Get the children out."

Michael passed the letter to the chief secretary at his side, and said in a deep voice, "Order the fifth team to depart now. All the leaves of the city lord's castle and Gray Temple's personnel are cancelled.

Inform all our medical personnel and magic casters who know healing magic to assemble at the city lord's castle and await orders. Bring all the children back and do our best to provide them with treatment."

"Yes." The chief secretary turned about and strode out quickly.

As Michael looked at the officials present, he shook his head and said, "I am very disappointed. There are so many children who were mistreated so cruelly right under all your noses, and yet you people could manage to ignore them all these years? If there weren't all these letters which were delivered to the city lord's castle today, were you guys going to continue to pretend that you have already made Chaos City a stable and peaceful place?"

All the officials lowered their gazes in a silence.

A Gray Temple official stood up and said with shame, "My Lord, this is the Gray Temple's dereliction of duty."

"No. This is the dereliction of duty of both the city lord's castle and Gray Temple." Michael shook his head and smashed his fist onto the table. He somberly said, "Tonight, regardless of how many letters will be delivered to the city lord's castle, and how many children will be saved by the unnamed hero, I want you guys to do everything you can to eradicate every single human traffickers' lair in Chaos City. Rescue all the children, apprehend all the human traffickers!"

"All the 10th-tier magic casters are to coordinate and move out with us. This is the city lord's order. Codename: Operation Daisy." Michael wrote two lines of words on a piece of paper. Then, he took out his city lord's seal and placed his mark on it.

"You shall inform Lord Rolan that we need the Gray Temple to coordinate with the city lord's castle for this operation," Michael said to the Gray Temple official who had spoken up earlier.

"Yes!" that official answered, and strode toward the door.

"I hope all of you can end this before the sun rises, otherwise the children who are left behind will be in grave danger." Michael passed the city lord's order to the official who stood next to him. All the city lord's castle's officials and Gray Temple's officials stood up and walked out of the meeting room.

"This is a battle. A battle to rescue the abducted children!"

The city lord's chief secretary returned to the meeting room, and whispered next to Michael's ear, "My lord, these letters were delivered to the city lord's castle by pedestrians. They didn't know what was in the letter. There could still be pedestrians on their way to deliver more letters. If we could find these pedestrians who are on their way here, maybe we would know the man in black's next target."

"Leave it." Michael waved his hand as he shook his head, and said, "All these are obviously part of his plans. Tonight, both the city lord's castle and Gray Temple would not have done better than him. Let him do whatever he intends to. What we have to do is to bring all the children back safely and heal them with all we can, and destroy all the human traffickers syndicates that are not included in his plan."

The chief secretary nodded with a thoughtful expression.

...

“Who... Who are you...”

A 7th-tier demon grabbed the longsword that was stabbed into his chest as he kneeled in front of the man in black with unwillingness.

“A father.” Mag removed the longsword and sliced the 10 fingers off the demon’s hand.

“You are safe now,” he gently said to the children in the black cages at the side.

Footsteps could be heard from beyond the courtyard. Mag put away his sword. He leaped out of the courtyard and disappeared into the dark again.

He hid on a dead tree a short distance away, and observed that small courtyard that was brightly lit up by torches. He could hear the shouts of the city lord’s castle’s and Gray Temple’s personnel. The children were freed from the metal cages before they were blindfolded and carried out of the courtyard. They were put in the horse-drawn carriages that were prepared in advance and drove toward the city lord’s castle.

Seven lairs, 150 human traffickers, 342 children. Even though we cannot eradicate them completely, from today onward, there shouldn’t be any more organized human traffickers syndicates in Chaos City anymore. Mag threw the longsword he borrowed from the system aside casually. The system kept it away automatically. An intense feel of tiredness washed all over him.

It was tiring enough if he had to hack through 150 blocks of wood, let alone killed 150 human traffickers. There were even two 7th-tier demons and one 7th-tier orc among them.

I hope Lord Michael won’t disappoint me with his following actions. Mag glanced at that courtyard again before he leaped onto a roof at a side and moved toward Aden Square.

Mag avoided a few teams from the city lord’s castle and Gray Temple on his way back. He was shocked to sense a few 10th-tier great magic casters’ auras among them. At the same time, he felt gratified.

Mag let the system keep and handle the black clothes when he got back to the restaurant. He took a shower carefully to wash away the bloody scent before he changed into his pyjamas and lay on the bed.

The gross feeling that arose from killing too many people made it hard for him to fall asleep. However, he didn’t regret his actions at all. As a father, when he saw those children who were maimed, there was only one thought in his mind: human traffickers deserved to die!

Mag sat up and looked at Amy who was sound asleep on her bed. This little one was hugging Ugly Duckling with a smile on her face as if she was having a wonderful dream. Mag’s heart calmed down gradually, and a smile appeared on his face.

Chapter 990 You Have To Kiss And Hug Her, And Raise Her Above Your Head

That night, many didn’t sleep in Chaos City.

The powerful magic casters were wandering around the slums and lanes at the north of the city. They were scanning the surroundings at the full expense of their spiritual powers. Many courtyards with high walls were barged into, and human traffickers who were deep in their slumber were taken away. The abducted children were brought to the city lord’s castle.

The city lord's castle was brightly lit through the entire night. The children's cries were pacified gradually. The healing magic casters had tears in their eyes, and some even ran out to bawl their eyes out before going back to continue healing the children.

...

It was almost dawn when the tired-looking chief secretary came into the meeting room with a document folder. Facing Michael, who also didn't sleep the entire night, he said, "My Lord, the cross search was fully completed with the coordination of the Gray Temple and the city lord's castle. After deducting the 150 human traffickers who were killed by the man in black on the spot and the 342 children that he rescued, the following search resulted in apprehending 52 human traffickers and rescuing 61 abducted children. The children are all accepting healing right now. The healing magic casters have all done their very best to help their children regain their health, but there are still 120 children who will remain handicapped for the rest of their lives."

Michael received the document and read through it carefully with a somber expression. He nodded. "The search will carry on in secret. Continue to monitor and investigate suspicious people and locations. Make sure we don't miss out on anything.

"Organize the children's information and release it to the public as soon as possible. Find their parents for them and send them back home. The city lord's castle will set up a special fund to raise those children nobody claims. They will be properly educated, and when they grow up, they will have the skills to make a living for themselves.

"At the same time, we have to improve the emergency response mechanism for missing children. Once we receive a case of missing children, the city lord's castle and Gray Temple must respond actively and plan necessary deployment to find the children as soon as possible.

"And arrange a meeting with Rolan for me. With regard to human traffickers' penalties, I feel there is a need to introduce a law amendment in Chaos City. I need to discuss it with him."

"Yes." The chief secretary jotted down everything rapidly in his personal notebook. He paused, and asked Michael, "A law amendment would require both the city lord's castle and Gray Temple to vote. May I ask how much you think the punishment should be increased?"

"They don't even spare the innocent children. Death penalty is the minimum," Michael said solemnly.

"Yes." The chief secretary nodded.

"Oh, yes. Didn't Boss Mag help an old man find his child who was kidnapped by human traffickers 25 years ago yesterday?" Michael said suddenly.

"Yes. You had agreed to put up the missing-person notice on the notice boards earlier. Mr Mag had come to the city lord's castle again yesterday to notify us that the old man had already found his child. Therefore, we had removed the missing-person notice and released a new notice." The chief secretary nodded.

Michael nodded thoughtfully. "Add in Mamy Restaurant into my schedule. I am going to see Boss Mag."

...

The citizens of Chaos City discovered in shock that all the little beggars, who were always begging on the streets, had disappeared in one night.

This made those people who always gave to those children worried. They wondered if the poor children were frozen to death as the nights were starting to get colder.

...

Mag went to the little bed with a smile, and gently said, "Little Amy, time to rise and shine. Wash and eat your breakfast, or else you will be late for class."

Amy shook her head with her eyes closed, and said, "Hmm~ Your little Amy is not awake."

"Then what shall I do?"

"Your little Amy says you have to kiss and hug her. And raise her above your head before she will wake up," Amy said with a naughty smile.

"Alright then." Mag smiled helplessly as he bent over and kissed Amy lightly on her forehead.

"Your little cutie is already online." Amy flicked open her eyes and stretched out her arms at Mag as she poutingly said, "I want you to hug and raise me above your head."

"Alright," Mag said indulgently with a smile. Then, he carried Amy up, raised her above his head, and gently lowered her down. He repeated the moves a few times.

"I'm flying! I'm flying~"

Amy's crystal clear giggles filled the room.

"Meow~"

Ugly Duckling, which was at the foot of the bed, was staring thoughtfully. It lay back on the ground, closed its eyes, and stretched out its two little paws.

Mag only lowered Amy after she had enough fun. Then, he took out the clothes that she was supposed to wear today.

Amy sat on the bed and trod on Ugly Duckling's belly gently as she said, "Don't play dead, Ugly Duckling, Get up now."

"Meow, meow."

Ugly Duckling twisted around with its eyes closed, seeking her favor.

"Don't you know what you look like?" Amy retrieved her little foot.

Ugly Duckling opened its eyes and gave Amy a gloomy glance before standing up and rubbing against Amy's leg with its head.

Amy rubbed Ugly Duckling's head with her feet as she consoled, "It's fine. It's not your fault that you are ugly. This is your fate."

It's cold today, so Amy's got to wear her padded jacket and bunny beanie. Mag brought a white down jacket and a little beanie over. After helping Amy change out of her pyjamas, he wrapped her up with the down jacket and put on the beanie for her.

The white bunny beanie had two cute droopy ears. The beanie could cover the ears nicely, and there were two white furballs that fell to her hands' level. Wearing it together with the white down jacket made her look like a little white rabbit, which was so adorable.

Mag nodded with satisfaction as he felt that his dressing sense was getting back.

"Meow~" Ugly Duckling gazed at Amy in shock as it almost couldn't recognize her.

"Father, how do I look?" Amy asked expectantly.

"Erm, very adorable." Mag nodded.

"Amy wants to have a look too! Amy wants to have a look too!" Amy said excitedly.

"Then, Father will carry you." Mag carried Amy to the bathroom.

"Wow. Little bunny is so cute!" Amy looked at herself in the mirror with wide eyes. Then, she began to sing, "Little bunny, white and chubby, two pointed ears..."

"Little Amy, you can try to pull those two furballs," Mag said smilingly as he suddenly remembered something.

"This?" Amy took one white furball and pulled.

The left bunny ear stood up.

"Wow!" Amy blinked and stared at the pointed ear in amazement. Then, she grabbed the other and pulled it. The other ear stood up too.

Pull and release, and the bunny ears would rise and fall. Amy's eyes widened as she made all sorts of cute expressions.

"It's so fun and cute! Father, I really like this little bunny," Amy said happily as she held Mag's face and gave him a kiss.