

An understated Dominance – Dahlia and Dustin Chapter 1301

Chapter 1301 : Bargaining for Jade Dew Ointment Prescription

“Cannot be sold?!” Upon hearing this, Carlos couldn’t help but furrowing his brows.

He had thought it was some kind of miraculous elixir, but he didn’t expect such severe side effects.

While feeling disappointed, he couldn’t help but be somewhat skeptical.

“Mr. Rhys, you’re not joking with me, right? I just saw Lenny, and it seems like he didn’t have any adverse reactions,” Carlos Grantwood cautiously inquired.

“Right now, it may not be apparent, but in half an hour, it will naturally become evident,” Dustin replied without changing his expression.

“Mr. Rhys, is there any way to reduce the side effects? Even if the medicinal effect is slightly weaker, it’s okay.” Carlos suggested, seeking a compromise.

Using medication that was too potent would lead to noticeable side effects.

But if milder herbs were used, there should be no issues.

“Not for now,” Dustin shook his head.

Neither Sebastian Stratford nor Carlos Grantwood were trustworthy individuals.

He wouldn’t easily share a drug that could disrupt the market balance.

Of course, the main reason was his dislike of both of them.

“That’s fine too. Provide me with the prescription, and I’ll try to improve it. If it succeeds, I’ll give you a fifty percent share. How about that?” Carlos had another idea.

As one of Dr. Elijahs’s top disciples, he had a high level of expertise in medicine.

Improving the prescription should be feasible.

“Mr. Carlos, this is a fragmentary prescription. There’s no way to improve it. You should give up,” Dustin refused once again.

“What harm is there in trying?” Dustin countered.

“Many people have tried before, without exception, all failed. No matter how much research they did, it was all in vain,” Dustin shook his head.

“Hey! You are being too stingy! Just because I asked you for the prescription, you’re making all kinds of excuses. It’s truly despicable!”

At this point, Roselyn Grantwood couldn’t hold back any longer and angrily said, “Moreover, just because others couldn’t improve it doesn’t mean my eldest senior brother can’t. My eldest senior brother Carlos is a genius in the field of medicine, much better than you. He’s offering you a chance to get rich now, and you don’t know how to appreciate it!”

“Roselyn! Watch your tone!” Carlos deliberately maintained a serious face.

“Elder Senior Brother, you are too polite to him. Such a person should not be indulged, or he will only act arrogantly!” Roselyn said, hands on her hips.

“Dustin Rhys just has some reservations, which is understandable, after all, we’ve only just met,” Carlos said diplomatically.

Carlos put on a seemingly understanding demeanor and changed his approach, saying, “But Mr. Rhys, now that you’ve joined Healwell Clinic, we are now fellow apprentices. With this bond between us, what reason do you have not to trust me?”

“You’re absolutely right! Our eldest senior brother is benevolent and has excellent character. If you entrust the prescription to him, there won’t be any problems!”

“Yes! Eldest senior brother comes from a prestigious family and is proficient in pharmacology. He will surely be able to improve the prescription, and we can all get rich together!”

“Mr. Dustin Rhys, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Since you won’t use the prescription yourself, giving it to our eldest senior brother would be the most efficient use of it!”

At this moment, the medical apprentices of Healwell Clinic began persuading Dustin.

Carlos was known for his generosity, and if he could improve the prescription, they would all benefit greatly, so they were eager to support his cause.

“I made it very clear before that this prescription is an ancestral one and will not be sold,” Dustin said calmly.

“Mr. Rhys, please don’t misunderstand. I’m not asking to buy it; I’m just asking to borrow it. Rare prescriptions like this shouldn’t be buried; they should be promoted and benefit the people. It’s our duty as healers!” Carlos argued with conviction.

“Well said! Indeed, our eldest senior brother has a heart of compassion!” Roselyn admired him wholeheartedly.

Men with such kindness and righteousness were truly rare.

Chapter 1302 – Roselyn in Infuriate

“Benefit the people?”

Upon hearing this, Dustin couldn’t help but find it somewhat amusing.

This Carlos was truly skilled at talking in circles.

Clearly, he was extremely greedy, but he presented himself as a virtuous and glorious figure, trying to portray himself as a beacon of righteousness.

It was truly nauseating.

While Sebastian Stratford might be greedy, at least he was willing to pay for things.

But this guy in front of him was something else, trying to get something for nothing.

He really had no shame.

“Hey! My eldest senior brother is talking to you, can’t you hear?”

Seeing Dustin remain silent, Roselyn grew impatient.

“Since you’ve joined Healwell Clinic, you should listen to us. Consider the prescription for the Jade Dew Ointment as your contribution to Healwell Clinic. There will be benefits for you in the future!” Roselyn said impatiently.

“I’ll say it one last time: the prescription will not be shared,” Dustin spoke coldly.

“Hey! Why are you so dense, like a block of wood? How can you be so unenlightened?”

Roselyn was becoming increasingly frustrated. “My eldest senior brother wants your prescription, not for personal gain but to benefit the public, to save patients. This is a noble aspiration. Shouldn’t you support it?”

“Is it appropriate for him to achieve his aspirations using my belongings?” Dustin retorted.

“What’s inappropriate about it? It’s said that a compassionate doctor should have a compassionate heart. Aren’t you being too selfish? You have no sense of humanity!” Roselyn sneered.

“If you’re not selfish, if you’re righteous, if you’re generous, and if you have a compassionate heart, then why don’t you donate all your possessions? Your house, your car, your clothes, your bags, and all your luxury items. Can’t you give them all to those two beggars sitting at the street corner?”

“For the benefit of the people!”

Dustin started to retort in kind, every word cutting to the heart.

He really couldn’t stand these holier-than-thou types.

“You... you’re clearly using sophistry!”

Roselyn’s face turned bright red, her frustration turning into anger.

“What? Don’t want to? Weren’t you just talking about it so beautifully? Why can’t you sacrifice yourself for others? Since you can’t do it, why do you have the audacity to demand it from me? You’re clearly applying double standards,” Dustin continued to press.

He originally didn’t want to make a big deal out of this, but this woman kept pushing him, going on and on.

Did she really think of herself as a soft target that could be easily manipulated?

“You... You... You... You’re outrageous!”

Roselyn’s face turned red, her veins pulsating as she became highly agitated. “I am your senior sister, and you dare to show disrespect to me? This is simply disregarding authority and challenging superiors!”

“Senior sister? That’s just your self-righteousness,” Dustin sneered.

“I don’t care! You must hand over the prescription today, or else you can forget about staying in Healwell Clinic. I’ll have you expelled from our sect!” Roselyn threatened in a stern voice.

“Miss Roselyn, you’ve misunderstood something. I never intended to join Healwell Clinic, so your threats are just a joke to me,” Dustin shrugged, utterly indifferent.

“You... You...”

Roselyn was so furious that she stomped her feet, and she was on the verge of losing control.

For a moment, her eyes turned red, and tears streamed down her face.

She had actually been so angry that she cried.

Chapter 1303 – Make a Deal

“You rascal! You’ve gone too far! You’re bullying me!”

Roselyn was furious and felt wronged, tears streaming down her face.

She was known for her stunning beauty, exceptional talent, and had been pampered her entire life. Wherever she went and whatever she encountered, people always treated her with deference.

But this guy, Dustin, had no manners at all. He not only showed her no respect but also insulted her publicly, causing her great embarrassment.

It was utterly despicable!

“Alright, alright, Sister, you should calm down a bit,”

Seeing that things were getting out of hand, Carlos began to mediate, “We’re all fellow disciples here, and we’ll see each other often in the future. There’s no need to damage our relationship.”

“Hmph! Who says we’re fellow disciples? Healwell Clinic has both him and me. It has me, but it doesn’t have him!” Roselyn firmly asserted.

“That’s enough!” Dr. Elijah couldn’t hold back any longer and spoke in a stern voice, “Roselyn, you’re being too stubborn. The prescription for the Jade Dew Ointment belongs to Dustin. How he chooses to handle it is his business. You have no right to meddle.”

“Grandfather? I’m your granddaughter, how can you take his side?” Roselyn found it hard to believe.

Her grandfather usually attention on her, so why was he siding with an outsider today?

“Dustin saved Healwell Clinic twice. If you can’t be grateful and instead cause trouble like this, it’s really unreasonable!” Dr. Elijah scolded with a straight face. “If you dare to be disrespectful again, don’t blame me for confining you to your room and not letting you leave for a month!”

“I…” Roselyn opened her mouth but ultimately held back.

She knew that her grandfather’s word was ironclad, and whatever he said, he would do.

Although she felt wronged, causing more trouble wouldn’t lead to a good outcome.

In the end, she could only direct all her anger and resentment toward Dustin through her eyes.

Sooner or later, she would make him pay!

“Mr. Rhys, this girl has been quite rude. Allow me to apologize on her behalf,” Dr. Elijah Grantwood said apologetically, claspng his hands.

“It’s fine. I was just joking earlier,” Dustin replied with a faint smile, not wanting to make a big deal out of it.

Despite Roselyn’s stubbornness, Dr. Elijah was still reasonable.

Considering that uncle Lorenzo would have to stay in Healwell Clinic for a while, Dustin didn’t want to create unnecessary conflicts.

“Mr. Rhys, can we discuss the matter of the prescription?” Carlos said impatiently. “I sincerely want to cooperate with you. As long as you’re willing to provide the prescription, we can research it together, make money together, and benefit the people together. Why not give it a try? Of course, if you feel my sincerity is lacking, feel free to name your price. Whatever you need, I’ll try my best to fulfill.”

Upon hearing this, Dustin was about to refuse, but then he seemed to think of something. Suddenly, he changed his tone and said, “Since Mr. Carlos is so sincere, let me be straightforward. If you can obtain three rare medicinal herbs for me—Ice Heart Lotus, Dragon Blood Ginseng, and Golden Marrow Jade—I will give you the prescription for the Jade Dew Ointment.”

“Really?”

Carlos’s eyes lit up, and he became excited. “Mr. Rhys, don’t even mention three medicinal herbs. Even if it’s thirty or three hundred, it’s completely fine. Tell me, what do you need?”

“I need Ice Heart Lotus, Dragon Blood Ginseng, and Golden Marrow Jade,” Dustin listed the names of the medicinal herbs one by one.

These were the primary ingredients for refining the Bone Cleansing Pill and were crucial for treating Uncle Lorenzo.

If he could exchange a partial prescription for three top-quality medicinal herbs, it would be a great deal.

“Ice Heart Lotus? Dragon Blood Ginseng? Golden Marrow Jade?”

Upon hearing this, Carlos immediately furrowed his brow. “If I’m not mistaken, these three medicinal herbs are extremely rare treasures, right? They can’t be found on the market at all. I wonder, Mr. Rhys, what do you need these items for?”

“I have my reasons. It depends on whether Mr. Carlos agrees or not,” Dustin replied calmly.

“These three medicinal herbs are extremely rare, and they are worth a fortune. They’re hard to come by. Give me some time, and I should be able to gather them,” Carlos said thoughtfully.

“Alright, I’ll wait for your good news. As long as you manage to collect the three medicinal herbs, I’ll immediately hand over the Jade Dew Ointment formula,” Dustin said with a faint smile.

Chapter 1304 – Emperor Pavilion Restaurant

“Great! It’s a deal!” Carlos was filled with enthusiasm.

The Grantwood family, although not as influential as the Torbys family in the field of medicine, was still a prominent presence in the southern city region. With a bit of effort, finding three top-quality medicinal herbs shouldn’t be too difficult.

“The day is getting late, how about we all have a meal together? It’s a good opportunity to welcome and entertain Mr. Dustin Rhys,” suddenly suggested Dr. Elijah.

“No problem! Today, I’ll host the dinner. Let’s go to the Emperor’s Pavilion!” Carlos declared grandiosely.

“The Emperor’s Pavilion?”

As soon as these words were spoken, the people from Healwell Clinic couldn’t help but brighten up, their excitement evident.

The Emperor's Pavilion was the most famous restaurant in the southern city, typically catering to high-ranking officials and dignitaries. Ordinary people didn't have the qualifications to enter.

To dine there, one not only needed money but also status and position; the threshold was extremely high.

What made the Emperor's Pavilion even more renowned was a story that had been passed down through the generations. It was said that someone from the Forbidden City had dined there once, found the food exceptionally delicious, and even composed a poem in praise. Since then, the restaurant was renamed from Fulai Tower to the Emperor's Pavilion.

This poem became the restaurant's signature, and the story behind it spread far and wide.

For common folks, having the fortune to dine at the Emperor's Pavilion was something they could boast about for a whole year.

As night fell, a few luxury cars pulled up at the entrance of the Emperor's Pavilion.

As the car doors opened, Carlos led a group of people into the restaurant with a high and mighty demeanor.

Wherever they passed, greetings and salutations filled the air.

Anyone who saw them had to address Carlos as "Young Master."

The grandeur of the scene was impressive, and it deepened the admiration of the young people, including Roselyn.

"The Emperor's Pavilion is truly luxurious!"

"I never thought that in my lifetime, I'd have the chance to dine at the Emperor's Pavilion. It's incredible!"

"Thanks to our Big Brother's generosity, or else where would we have this opportunity?" After entering the restaurant, the disciples from Healwell Clinic were wide-eyed, discussing excitedly.

They looked like country bumpkins who had just entered a magnificent palace.

“Dustin, what do you think? Are you completely awestruck?” Roselyn deliberately approached to Dustin Rhys and adopted a condescending expression. “For someone like you, a loser, you probably haven’t seen such a high-end restaurant before, right? Take your time and look around, take some photos. In the future, when you go out, you can brag about it. After all, you won’t have such an opportunity a second time. Cherish it, bumpkin.”

Hearing this, Dustin just chuckled and didn’t bother to respond.

This woman was actually flaunting her superiority in front of him. He didn’t know where she found the courage.

“Hey! Why are you laughing?” Roselyn was somewhat displeased. “Looking at you, I can tell you’re inexperienced. The Emperor’s Pavilion is the best restaurant in the southern city, a place even the emperor has visited. Only high-ranking officials and dignitaries can enter. If it weren’t for the fact that you’re benefiting from Big Brother, you would never set foot in this place in your entire life!”

“Whether the Emperor’s Pavilion is the best in the southern city, I’m not sure,” Dustin shook his head and calmly said, “I only remember that ten years ago, when I dined here with the emperor, it was called Fulai Tower, not the Emperor’s Pavilion.”

Chapter 1305- A Historical Poem

“What? You dined with the emperor?” Roselyn was first taken aback and then burst into mocking laughter. “I say, country bumpkin, do you have a problem with your brain? Just you? Dining with the emperor? Are you worthy? Even my Big Brother doesn’t have that qualification. Who do you think you are?”

A shabbily dressed country bumpkin like him actually claimed to know the emperor. He was truly shameless!

“Believe it or not, it’s up to you,” Dustin shrugged and didn’t argue further. There was no point in talking to someone like her who had such a narrow view.

“Humph! I just thought you lacked awareness and didn’t have gentlemanly manners, but now you’re boasting. I really don’t understand why my grandfather values you,” Roselyn said disdainfully.

As a member of the Grantwood family, she naturally had an innate sense of superiority when dealing with outsiders from rural areas.

“We’re here, this is it!” At this moment, Carlos, who was leading the way, suddenly stopped and pointed to a hanging scroll in the air.

The scroll was quite large, framed with a golden border, and hung prominently in the most visible spot. You could see it just by looking up.

At this moment, the scroll had several lines of calligraphy written on it.

The handwriting was vigorous and powerful, with a majestic brushstroke and a unique artistic conception. It was clearly written by a master calligrapher.

“Big Brother, is what’s written on it a poem?” Roselyn raised her head, curious.

Although she didn’t understand calligraphy, she could tell that the characters were beautifully written, pleasing to the eye, and truly remarkable.

“Yes, it’s a poem!” Carlos smiled and nodded. “I believe you’ve all heard the rumors about the Emperor’s Pavilion. About ten years ago, the emperor visited the Emperor’s Pavilion and, after three rounds of drinking, he was in high spirits and composed this poem you see before you!”

“Oh my god! I didn’t expect the rumors to be true! There’s actually a poem written by the emperor here. This is amazing!”

“No wonder it’s called the Emperor’s Pavilion. It truly lives up to its reputation!”

The doctors from Healwell clinic were staring intently at the poem. They were all excited. For ordinary people like them, witnessing the talents of the emperor was a great honor.

“Hmm... Strange. Why does the poem have two surnames as the author?” Suddenly, someone asked.

“You hit the nail on the head with that question,” Carlos said with an air of knowledge. “Indeed, this poem was composed by the emperor, but the person

who physically wrote it was another prominent figure. That's why there are two surnames on the inscription. Of course, it also signifies that the emperor holds this person in high regard."

"That's incredible! Someone could co-sign a poem with the emperor? That's amazing!" The crowd marveled.

"To have the emperor value them so highly, this person must be a royal, right?" Roselyn was filled with admiration.

"Sister, you guessed wrong." Carlos smiled and shook his head. "This person is not a royal, but their status is even higher than that of a royal."

"Oh? Who is this person then?" Roselyn grew even more curious.

"To be honest, this person is none other than the Crown Prince of the Western Liang Palace, the world-renowned Kirin Child from ten years ago, Lord Logan Rhys!" Carlos announced loudly.

"What? The Kirin Child, Logan?!"

As soon as this statement was made, the whole room erupted.

The name Logan resonated like thunder, and even though ten years had passed, his past glory still remained deeply ingrained in people's hearts.

Ten years ago was an era of exceptional talents and prodigies.

However, Logan Rhys had single-handedly suppressed all the young geniuses, dominating Stonia with unparalleled power and becoming famous throughout the world!

He had shone brilliantly in that era, standing head and shoulders above the rest.

Since then, no one had come close to matching Logan's accomplishments.

Whether they were nobles, aristocrats, or elite talents, none could compare with him!

Chapter 1306 – A New Challenge

“I didn’t expect that the calligraphy on this paper was by Logan. No wonder he was able to write poetry on behalf of the emperor.”

“The emperor’s poem with Logan’s calligraphy, it’s no wonder that Emperor’s Pavilion is so famous! It’s well-deserved.”

“Indeed, it’s Logan, the Kirin Child. His calligraphy at the age of fifteen is already comparable to that of the great calligraphers. It’s truly worth a fortune!”

As they looked at the poem in the air, everyone couldn’t help but be amazed. At this moment, they understood why Emperor’s Pavilion had such a high threshold. With such a priceless treasure on display, a high threshold was only natural.

“I heard that the Kirin Child is not only extraordinarily talented but also exceptionally handsome. He is well-versed in the classics and contemporary knowledge. It would be wonderful if we had the chance to meet him!”

Roselyn cupped her face with her hands, her eyes filled with admiration.

Although Carlos was outstanding, compared to Logan, he was hardly worth mentioning.

Whether it was family background, personal abilities, or looks, Logan had reached the pinnacle in almost every aspect.

He was a near-perfect man, the dream lover of countless girls.

In the past, she had fantasized more than once about how wonderful it would be to marry Logan.

“Before West-Seated Mountain, white egrets fly; Peach blossoms and flowing water make carp thrive. With a green bamboo hat, and a green straw coat, I wander with the slanting wind and fine rain, with no need to return.”

“Great poem! Truly a great poem!”

“The poem is great, and the calligraphy is even better. He’s truly the unparalleled genius of his time!”

“Dr. Elijah’s praise is well-deserved. The handwriting on this paper is still a bit immature,” Dustin said as he looked up at the poem, his memories seemingly drifting back to ten years ago.

“Hey! What nonsense are you talking about?” When she heard this, Roselyn was instantly displeased. “Who do you think you are? How dare you speak nonsense about the Kirin Child’s calligraphy? You have quite the audacity!”

After all, Logan was her idol, a sacred and inviolable figure in her eyes.

“That’s right! The Kirin Child’s calligraphy is worth a fortune, but what about you? People would find it uncomfortable if you wiped their backsides!” Elmer chimed in.

While the others didn’t say anything, they all had strange looks on their faces.

The characters of the Kirin Child had been verified by time long ago. Many calligraphers came to admire them and were deeply impressed after seeing them. To have characters admired by various calligraphy experts, but to call them immature when spoken by Dustin – wasn’t that too arrogant?

“I was just speaking the truth. Why are you all so worked up?” Dustin said with some frustration.

Compared to now, it was true that the characters he had written ten years ago might seem a bit immature. What was the big deal?

“I just told the truth? I think you’re just talking nonsense!” Roselyn couldn’t contain her anger. “You clearly know nothing, yet you’re shamelessly giving your opinion and pretending to be an expert. People like you are truly despicable!”

“Humph! I think someone here is just envious and jealous, so they’re trying to defame the Kirin Child’s characters!” Elmer sneered.

“Mr. Dustin, be careful with your words. If what you said today spreads, it could lead to big trouble,” Carlos warned.

Damn it, is this guy out of his mind? He dares to belittle the Kirin Child’s characters in Emperor’s Pavilion? Is he seeking death?

“Mr. Dustin! Since you’re so confident, and you think the Kirin Child’s characters aren’t good enough, then go ahead and write a new set of characters based on this poem. I want to see just how capable you are!” Roselyn glared with anger.

Chapter 1307 – Cultural Evening Competition

“I haven’t written for a long time, and I’m a bit out of practice. I think I’ll pass,” Dustin shook his head.

His handwriting was quite distinctive and could be recognized by someone knowledgeable. Although he wasn’t afraid of revealing his identity now, it could still lead to trouble if certain people found out.

“Out of practice? Hmph! I think you’re just incapable!” Roselyn sneered. “You clearly can’t do it, but you insist on pretending and speaking so self-righteously. It’s truly disgusting!”

“Alright, let’s stop arguing. There are so many people watching us, and there’s no need to make a scene. I’ve already reserved a spot upstairs, and the collections up there include some rare treasures that are guaranteed to amaze you.”

“In addition, there’s a special event at Emperor’s Pavilion tonight, and if we’re lucky, we might get a pleasant surprise.”

Carlos’s words instantly picked everyone’s interest.

“A surprise? What kind of surprise?” Roselyn asked with curiosity.

“As far as I know, every three months, Emperor’s Pavilion hosts a cultural evening where participants compete in poetry, songs, and other forms of art.”

“If someone can stand out in this competition and prove their superiority, they’ll receive a special prize prepared by Emperor’s Pavilion.”

“So, during this time, Emperor’s Pavilion is always packed. If it weren’t for my early reservation and some connections, we might not even have seats tonight,” Carlos explained enthusiastically.

Spending a significant amount of money to reserve seats and attending this cultural evening was a chance to meet influential figures. After all, anyone who could enter Emperor's Pavilion was either wealthy or influential.

Now, it was the perfect opportunity to make connections.

"A cultural evening? That sounds great!" Roselyn became excited. "I've been well-versed in poetry, songs, and various forms of art since I was a child. Finally, it's time for me to show off!"

Her grandfather had forced her to study various subjects when she was young, and she had memorized many literary works. She had always excelled academically, earning her the title of a young talent in her school days.

Now, she could relive her past glory.

"Senior brother Carlos, you mentioned earlier that there are prizes for winning. I'm curious, what kind of prizes are they?" Elmer asked cautiously.

"The prizes at Emperor's Pavilion are definitely not ordinary items," Carlos replied with a smile. "If I'm not mistaken, the winner can choose one item from the Treasure Pavilion. The Treasure Pavilion is a collection of rare and valuable treasures personally curated by the owner of Emperor's Pavilion. Any item from there is worth a fortune."

"Worth a fortune?!"

Upon hearing this, Elmer's eyes lit up, and his breathing quickened.

The other doctors from Healwell Clinic were also thrilled.

To obtain an item worth a fortune, wouldn't that mean instant wealth?

They hadn't expected that a simple dinner could offer such an opportunity.

"Roselyn, we're counting on you for this. If you can outperform everyone and win a treasure, it will bring honor to Healwell Clinic!"

"That's right! If you win the treasure, our Healwell Clinic will gain fame!"

Many disciples from Healwell Clinic placed their hopes on Roselyn. They knew she was incredibly intelligent, talented, and excelled in various areas.

Especially in poetry and literature, her upbringing had given her a high level of proficiency.

“Don’t worry, I’ve got this. After winning the top spot and obtaining the treasure, I’ll treat everyone to a meal!” Roselyn declared confidently.

“Roselyn, don’t get too arrogant. Remember, there’s always someone better out there. Keep a humble heart,” Dr. Elijah reminded her at the right moment.

Chapter 1308 – Roselyn College Friend

“Grandfather, although I’m known as a talented woman at school, it doesn’t mean I can easily outshine everyone. After all, Stonia is a place where talents gather,” Roselyn replied confidently.

“Granddaughter, don’t talk like that,” Elijah frowned slightly.

“Master, my junior sister is exceptionally talented, and I believe she will do well in this competition,” Carlos chimed in with a smile.

“See? Even senior brother believes in me. I’m determined to win the first place in today’s competition!” Roselyn said with even more pride.

Dr. Elijah shook his head, somewhat helpless. He knew that her arrogance might get her into trouble one day.

“It’s about time; let’s head upstairs,” Carlos suggested, leading the group to the second floor.

Compared to the dazzling splendor of the ground floor, the second floor had an even more elegant and refined atmosphere. Every decoration and detail was meticulously arranged, creating a flawless ambiance.

Upstairs at Emperor’s Pavilion, a gathering of dignitaries and elites could be seen. These individuals were accompanied by one or two young talents, showcasing their sophistication and literary prowess.

The Emperor’s Pavilion’s cultural event, held every three months, consistently attracted a large number of returning guests. It served as an excellent marketing strategy.

Guided by Carlos, the group found their reserved seats.

“Ah! Isn’t this our talented lady, Roselyn?” Suddenly, a teasing female voice resounded from nearby.

Everyone turned their heads to see an alluring woman approaching with a swaying gait. By her side, there was a fair-skinned young man.

The young man wore a long robe and exuded an air of scholarly refinement.

“Hazel Lancaster? What are you doing here?”

Upon seeing the woman, Roselyn couldn’t help but furrow her brow. Her previous smile disappeared, replaced by a more composed expression.

“Since my family, the Lancaster family, in South City has some reputation, what’s so surprising about dining at Emperor’s Pavilion? As for you, coming from a small and insignificant background, it’s surprising that you could even enter Emperor’s Pavilion,” Yin Tao said, her lips curling in a mocking smile as she looked Roselyn up and down.

“How I got in is none of your business! You’re just flaunting your wealth, nothing impressive about that,” Roselyn retorted with a proud stance.

This woman before her was not just a fellow student but also her romantic rival. During their four years in college, Hazel had consistently used her money and looks to outshine Roselyn. She had even openly stolen Roselyn’s boyfriends more than once. This had left Roselyn with deep-seated resentment.

“Sorry, but having money is indeed impressive,” Hazel said, shrugging her shoulders with a sly smile. “Take Emperor’s Pavilion, for example. I can come here anytime I want, but what about you? You can only be here because you’re riding on someone else’s coattails. That’s the difference. Oh, by the way, take some photos when you have the chance and post them on social media. Cherish this rare opportunity. After all, for someone like you, getting in here is like a miracle.”

“You...!” Roselyn’s face turned red with anger and frustration.

Why did these words sound so familiar?

Chapter 1309 – A Unwanted Bet

“Miss Hazel, that’s a bit too much,” Carlos finally spoke. “Roselyn is my junior sister, and it’s not proper to speak like this.”

“Oh? So Mr. Carlos is here too? What a coincidence,” Hazel feigned surprise and then continued with a mocking tone. “No wonder Roselyn has the privilege to enter Emperor’s Pavilion. It turns out she has you to protect her. But I find it a bit strange, Carlos, as a young master from a prestigious family, how could your taste be so poor as to choose someone as ordinary as her?”

“Hey! Who are you calling ordinary?” Upon hearing this, Roselyn immediately flared up, wanting to confront her physically but was held back by her companions.

The Grantwood family’s influence was not weaker than the Lancaster family’s and might even be stronger. If they fought and it got back to the Lancaster family, even Carlos might not be able to protect them.

“Whoever I’m talking about is the one I’m talking about. What are you going to do about it?” Hazel sneered, her eyes filled with provocation.

She enjoyed seeing Roselyn frustrated but powerless to do anything about it.

“You... You’re going too far!” Roselyn was seething with anger and wanted to respond with harsh words, but Carlos raised his hand to stop her. “Miss Hazel, please let it go. We came here to have a meal and don’t want any trouble. I hope you’ll show some restraint.”

“Fine, I’ll let her off for your sake, Carlos.”

Hazel glanced at Roselyn, her smile faint. “By the way, the Emperor’s Pavilion seems to be hosting a cultural event later. Since you fancy yourself so knowledgeable and talented, I hope you won’t embarrass yourself.”

“Hmph! Embarrass myself? That’s a joke!” Roselyn retorted coldly. “When it comes to poetry and literature, even if you combine ten of you, you still won’t be my match!”

“Oh? Is that so?” Hazel chuckled teasingly. “Since you’re so confident, how about a little competition?”

“Competition? I’m not afraid of you!” Roselyn said confidently.

In terms of family background and wealth, she might concede to Hazel. But when it came to talent, she believed she could easily outshine her.

“Alright, let’s have a competition. And to make it more interesting, how about a bet?” Hazel taunted.

“What do you want to bet?” Roselyn raised her head.

“You don’t have anything valuable on you either. So, how about this? Let’s bet your family’s Healwell Clinic,” Hazel said with a shocking proposal. “If you lose, you give Healwell Clinic to me. If I lose, I’ll give you one billion. What do you say?”

“Bet Healwell Clinic?” Roselyn furrowed her brow slightly in response to this unexpected suggestion.

It was clear that Hazel had ulterior motives.

“With the valuation of your Healwell Clinic, it’s probably worth less than one billion. But I’m a generous person, I won’t haggle with you. The real question is, do you dare to bet? If you don’t, you better avoid me when you see me in the future,” Hazel asked with a smirk.

“What do I have to fear? Let’s make the bet!” Roselyn was provoked and readily agreed.

“Roselyn, don’t be reckless!” Dr. Elijah’s expression changed, and he hurriedly intervened. “Healwell Clinic is of paramount importance; it’s not something to be used as a bet! Even if we gamble some money, it’s one thing, but to gamble our entire business is too reckless!”

“What’s there to worry about, Grandpa? I’m confident I can win against her. She’s practically giving us money!” Roselyn was brimming with self-assurance.

“But money isn’t earned that easily. Using the entire Healwell Clinic as a bet is too risky!” Elijah cautioned, his voice filled with concern.

“Why can’t it be? I’m absolutely certain I’ll win, Grandpa. As long as I have the confidence, this is a golden opportunity, and we can’t let it slip away!” Roselyn insisted firmly.

Chapter 1310 – Bet Healwell Clinic

“Healwell Clinic’s income is actually quite low. We either don’t charge poor patients or only ask for a nominal fee for medicinal herbs,” Roselyn explained. “Our reputation has grown, but we’re not making much money from our own people. One billion is something we’d never earn in our lifetime. It’s worth the risk.”

“Things are never absolute, and I absolutely won’t allow you to use Healwell Clinic as a gamble!” Dr. Elijah maintained his stand.

“Grandpa! Why won’t you believe me?” Roselyn was getting agitated. “Before, when those hooligans were causing trouble, you were willing to stake Healwell Clinic for the sake of our people, and even for Dustin Rhys! Why is it that you’d rather trust a stranger and not me? Why?!”

She almost shouted the last sentence.

“Child, before it was a last resort. Now, it’s you being reckless. You need to understand the difference between the two,” Elijah tried to explain, his brows furrowing.

“I don’t care! I don’t care!” Roselyn was not listening and her emotions were running high. “Why should Dustin be worth risking Healwell Clinic for, and I’m not? If you don’t believe me today, I’ll cut ties with you!”

“You...” Dr. Elijah was growing frustrated.

He felt a mixture of anger and helplessness.

Why did this girl have to be so stubborn?

To prove a point, she was willing to risk everything they had?

“Master, although my junior sister is impulsive, what she says makes sense,” Carlos spoke up, supporting Roselyn. “I’m familiar with Hazel; she doesn’t

have an ounce of ink in her, and in terms of poetry and talent, she's nowhere near my junior sister. I believe in her; she will definitely win!"

"Yes, Master! Everyone acknowledges Junior Sister as a talented poetess, and she's unparalleled in writing poems. She'll easily outperform this rich girl!" Elmer chimed in.

"Master! Wealth comes with risks, and if we can win this billion, we can help even more patients at Healwell Clinic. It would be a great act of merit!" The disciples continued to persuade him.

"Well..." Under the unanimous voice of his disciples, Elijah couldn't help but waver. Now that he was in this situation, if he refused his granddaughter, she might do something reckless in her impulsivity. On the other hand, if he agreed and won the bet, he could solve many problems for Healwell Clinic.

For a moment, Dr. Elijah found it difficult to make a decision.

"Master, please agree. I'm willing to vouch for Junior Sister!" Carlos further played his part to convince him.

"Well... Since you all insist, then let the girl be willful this time," Elijah eventually nodded, but added sternly, "But this is a one-time exception, it won't happen again!"

"No problem," Carlos agreed.

"Thank you, Grandpa!" Roselyn beamed with gratitude.

"Hehe... I thought you wouldn't dare to bet. But you surprised me. Unfortunately, you're destined to lose," Hazel smirked.

"Lose? Hmph! What a joke! I know exactly how much you're worth. With your limited talent, you're not even worthy to carry my shoes!" Roselyn sneered.

During their four years in university, she didn't dare claim to know everything about Hazel, but she knew her very well. It wasn't an exaggeration to say that even her footprints were prettier than Hazel's handwriting.

"If you're that confident, let's just wait and see. I only hope you won't regret it later," Hazel smiled mysteriously, then sat down at a nearby elegant table with the man beside her.

After a while, the cultural event held by the Emperor's Palace began.