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Diane rolled her eyes at Severin. "Of course not. If I got jealous just because another woman gave you a business card, then I'd probably spend my whole life being miserable!"

"Alright then, it's about time we head back. Don't forget our celebrations at the hotel tonight!"

Catherine could not be happier. Everything that happened to the Shanahans that day

was a positive development, and she firmly believed that they

could soon rise to become a second-tier family if they could keep the momentum going.

After pondering over their newfound fortunes, she said to

Severin, "By the way, you should visit the Zelankos tomorrow and help check on their old lady's health. It'd be best if you can help treat her because then the Zelankos would owe us a favor. We can leverage that at a later date to establish more business cooperations with them."

"That's right, Severin," George chimed in. "And you mustn't offend Sheila too. She seems interested in you, and our family's future will be even more secure if you marry her!"

"That is just absurd! Severin is already our son-in-law!" Felicia's expression soured as soon as she heard that.

To her surprise, George reasoned, "There's nothing wrong with that, is there? Many rich kids have more than one wife. It brings us no disadvantage to have Severin marry Sheila, and I

think it's his luck for being able to marry someone as beautiful as Sheila!"

The old lady nodded in agreement. "Indeed! There could not be a better outcome than that. I believe Diane will be able to look past it for the sake of our family!"

Diane had a gloomy expression, and she merely looked quietly

at Severin.

Severin found that proposal to be absolutely ridiculous. "What are you people thinking? I'm not interested in a girl that's seven or eight years younger than me!"

"Don't be an idiot, Severin! She's the daughter of Brookbourn Mansion's Zachariah, and I'm sure he dotes on her a lot. Everyone will envy you if you're able to get the chance to marry her!"

"And besides, shouldn't you be happy to marry such a young and beautiful woman as your second wife?" Stanley persuaded.

Severin looked at him and said irritated, "You can marry her if you want! I, for one, am not interested! I have Diane now, and she's all I need! Diane has suffered so much for me, and I don't want to do anything that would disappoint her!"

Diane's heart felt warm when she heard that.

“Hehe, as much as I want to marry a little cutie like her, it’s a pity that she doesn’t take a fancy to me!” Stanley chuckled.

Diane smiled and remarked, “Why are you guys even thinking

about that sort of stuff? Sheila probably feels that Severin is different from other men because he helped her without asking for anything in return. You’re just exaggerating the situation to the point where you’re even asking Severin to marry her! Please don’t make all these wild assumptions!”

“Yeah. She just thinks it’s refreshing to meet someone with that character!” Severin said with a smile, then turned to Diane. “Alright, it’s time for us to go back and get some rest before we get our celebratory dinner together at the hotel!”

“Okay!” Diane nodded, and the two of them walked away.

At one corner, Frankie waved his hand and said to his disciples, Carmen and Leonard, “The operation to kill that kid begins now!”

“Don’t worry, master! He’ll be dead soon!”

Leonard rubbed his fists confidently. It was two-against-one,

and a sneak attack no less, so he believed that it would be an easy task for his disciples to accomplish.

Frankie followed behind his disciples to observe the situation.

In the event they were no match for Severin, he could swoop right in and assist them.

“If two level two grandmasters mounted a sneak attack at the same time, even a level four grandmaster may not be able to dodge it!” Frankie muttered to himself with a slight grin as he

followed his two disciples from behind.

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Severin and Diane were just about to reach the car when Severin sensed the somewhat rhythmic footsteps of a man and a woman coming from either side of him. They were walking at a speed that could not be considered slow, and though it seemed like nothing unusual, there was something about it that was different from the norm. Severin was instantly able to sense that those two individuals were elite fighters. Moreover, he could not help but raise his guard because he could feel them targeting him.

“Walk slower behind me, Diane!” Severin quickened his pace all of a sudden and walked ahead of Diane, who frowned because she did not know why he suddenly decided to quicken his pace.

As she was just starting to wonder what was on Severin’s mind, Leonard and Carmen had already appeared in front of Severin. The two of them attacked Severin simultaneously from either side, and they both produced a dagger that they stabbed right at Severin.

“Ah!” Diane yelled when she saw what happened.

“What’s happening? Those are assassins, aren’t they?” Catherine was about to get into the car when she heard Diane’s yell. She immediately knew that it was a possible

assassination.

“Protect Mom!” George immediately ordered several bodyguards to surround the old lady.

“They’re here! Jada, the assassins you hired are here, and they’re already making their move!” The still-petulant Victor

was about to drive away when he saw that there was

movement over on Severin’s end. His mood took an immediate

turn for the better and he felt that it would be great if he could witness Severin being killed by the assassin.

“That can’t be possible. They’re already going ahead with the

assassination?” Jada was confused too. She had told Edward

that she wanted to have a look at the assassin to see if the

person they hired was capable enough, but the assassination took place before she could even meet them. She tensed up right that instant, hoping that she could witness Severin’s death at the hands of the other party.

When Severin saw two daggers stabbing right at him, he tilted his body slightly and leaned backward to avoid the fatal blow. The two level two grandmasters were startled by the speed

with which he reacted. Under normal circumstances, it would

be difficult for anyone to react to a sudden attack by level two grandmasters. Severin, however, seemed to have anticipated their attack and ended up avoiding it.

Severin might have successfully dodged their attack, but they

were not at all troubled by that. After glancing at each other, they switched the direction of their attack and stabbed

downward instead.

“You’re as good as dead, kid! Let’s see if you can dodge this one!” Frankie, who was not too far behind, snickered coldly to

himself. After all, there was no way for Severin to avoid the attack from that posture.

“SEVERIN!” Diane was frightened, and she immediately turned to find her family’s bodyguards. All of them were protecting her grandmother and the other family members, meaning it would be too late for them to save Severin even if

they rushed over at that instant.

Diane’s heart was beating so hard that it nearly popped out of

her chest. ‘Will Selene have to lose her father forever now that he had returned after all those years? Will the happiness that finally came into my life disappear again?’ She could not bring

herself to imagine what she would do and how she would live

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“Haha, it’s over now!” Frankie was elated! Though he initially thought that the target would be difficult to deal with, it seemed that his worries had turned out to have been misplaced.

At that moment, however, Severin placed his hands on the ground and spun his body, enabling him to kick Leonard and Carmen directly in their abdomen.

“Gah!” The two of them flew several meters back after being kicked.

Severin squatted down on the ground and struck a cool pose as he looked at the two people who struggled to get up after being kicked. He pointed his fingers at them and said, “The two of you are too soft!”

“How in the hell did you react so quickly?” Leonard massaged his abdomen, gritted his teeth, and exchanged a glance with Carmen before charging toward Severin again.

“I won’t hold back since you’re asking for it!” Severin could not be bothered to toy around with them and launched himself forward like an arrow. In the blink of an eye, he had already appeared in front of his opponents.

“How in the world is that happening?!” Frankie, who was observing from one side, was just as shocked. Severin’s sudden burst of speed was so quick that he felt unable to go up against him!

‘This is bad. He might be a level four grandmaster too. It looks like I’ll have to join the fray!’ Frankie thought, clenching his fist.

However, Severin clapped his hands suddenly, and the powerful force caused Leonard and Carmen to lose their grip on their daggers. Then, Severin grabbed one dagger in each hand and slashed their chests without hesitation.

“No! This...can’t be!” Leonard and Carmen looked down to see blood flowing out continuously from the huge scars on their chests. They clutched the wound in disbelief, fell on the ground with a thud, and died on the spot.

“How dare you kill my disciples! I’m going to kill you!” Frankie became furious when he thought of Carmen’s delicious figure the previous night. In a fit of rage, he clenched his fists tightly and punched Severin.

Severin did not want to be at an advantage over the other party, so he tossed the dagger in his hand and clenched his fist as he confronted his opponent.

"I can't believe my eyes. The assassins you hired seem to be really skilled, but it looks like Severin is much more powerful than they are! He killed the two of them so easily!" Victor was excited to witness Severin's death, but the tables turned too quickly and both assassins were killed in a flash.

"I thought we only hired one assassin? Why are there two? No

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Frankie felt that the young man in front of him was an enigma.

"Send my greetings to the grim reaper." Severin smiled coldly, then rushed over again in a blink of an eye.

Though Frankie still wanted to resist, Severin slapped away the old man's hand. The next second, he grabbed the man's head and gave it a light twist. A crisp cracking sound was heard, and Frankie's head fell limply to one side. Severin then released his grip, sending Frankie's body collapsing on the ground.

"Go over and help him! Why are you just standing here?" When George saw that the fight had ended, he stood up and kicked the two bodyguards standing beside him.

The two bodyguards were speechless, and one of them immediately answered, "But sir...it's done. The three of them are already dead. Mister Severin is far too strong. His speed was as fast as lightning, and his movements were as smooth as the water's flow!"

George then said, "Are they dead? Ahem, that's good then. You should go over and help dispose of the bodies!"

"Goodness me, I was scared to death! Who hired these assassins? They came just as soon as we exited the hotel!"

Catherine was frightened, and she could not help but pat her chest to soothe herself before bringing everyone toward

Severin.

"How dare they attempt to assassinate our guests in broad daylight, and right after the opening ceremony too!" Henry, Gideon and the rest of the Longhorns who heard the report from their subordinates rushed out of the hotel and walked up

to Severin.

"Are you okay, honey?" Diane, who was not too far away, was the first to run over. She then immediately checked Severin's body, starting with his arm.

Severin smiled. "My injuries will be all gone if you kiss me!"

“Now’s not the time to joke around, you dunderhead!” Diane glared angrily at Severin and chastised him.

“What happened here, Mister Severin? These people are simply too bold!” Henry came over and asked at once.

“Were you hurt, Severin?” Catherine asked with concern too. After all, the Shanahans would have to rely on Severin to achieve greater heights in the future, and it wo

loss for them if he were to die.

Severin smiled. “Don’t worry. I’m fine!”

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After speaking, he looked at the three people on the ground and could not help but say, “The three of them are strong. I can’t be sure if someone hired them to assassinate me, or if

they have some other reason for attacking me.”

The bodyguards behind Gideon looked at Severin with a bit

more awe in their eyes. The fight earlier was brief and

appeared to be rather easy, but they could all see that

Severin’s skill was far higher than that of average people. After all, only those who had genuinely gone through such training would understand the significance of Severin’s pace, the angle of his attack, and so on.

Gideon glanced at the corpses on the ground and said to his subordinates, “Snap a few photos of them and find out who these people are. I want to know if they’re assassins or people with influence. They had it coming for them when they came here to cause trouble. If I find out that this was done under the orders of an influential family, I will kill them for sure!”

Severin smiled awkwardly and said, “Mister Gideon, these people came after me, and I cannot possibly put the burden on you to help me investigate.”

Gideon replied with a smile, “You’re being too polite, Mister Severin. As one of our most distinguished guests, I have to be responsible for everything that happens to you, especially since you haven’t even returned home and this happened in the vicinity of the hotel. You have my assurance that I’ll help you get to the bottom of this!”

“Thank you very much for your trouble then!” Severin said with a smile.

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The Ballards and the Zelankos had left much earlier, and they just so happened to miss the thrilling encounter.

However, several wealthy businessmen had not left yet, and they were all in awe after witnessing Severin’s skills.

"I finally understand why Mister Gideon values Severin that much. It's not just medical skills that he's good at. He's a superbly good fighter too!" One of the wealthy businessmen whispered.

Another wealthy businessman said, "Severin is Miss Diane's husband, and it'd be best if we avoid offending the Shanahans. If we manage to secure a chance to cooperate with them in any business-related matters, we should make the most of it to build a relationship with them. Once the Shanahans become a second-tier family or even a first-tier family in the future, it won't be that easy to establish connections with them anymore!"

Jada sighed. "Let's just leave. Guess I'm just down on my luck now that the one-and-a-half-million was wasted just like that!"

"Was it that expensive?" Victor could not help but ask. "I might not know anything about assassins, but I didn't expect them to be so expensive!"

"Ordinary assassins aren't that costly, of course. The one we hired was a four stars assassin, which set us back about three million. Easton and I paid half each, and even then, there was a fifty percent discount because they were celebrating their anniversary. The usual price is double that amount," Jada explained.

"Seriously? Even organizations such as that hold anniversary celebrations?" Victor did not know whether to laugh or cry. It

was the first time he ever heard of such a thing. After some brief thought, he gritted his teeth. "We need to hire an even better one next time after our failure. I'm sure we'll manage to find one that is strong enough to kill Severin!"

"Are you willing to spend money for that?" Jada smiled bitterly.

"Hmph, Severin punched me in public, humiliated me, and made our family lose our quota in the Liberty City project. He is the cause of our family's severe losses! He must be killed, even if means I have to go bankrupt to achieve that!" Victor gritted his teeth and said viciously.

All of a sudden, Jada received a call from Edward.

"Hey, Edward, I saw everything with my own eyes earlier. The plan failed!" Jada lamented as she answered the phone.

"Saw what? Anyway, you should come over as soon as you can. The assassin said that he'll be here in a bit. I've already

reserved a VIP room at the Constifce Hotel. You and Easton wanted to see how strong he is, right?"

Jada was stunned. "The assassin? Didn't the assassins already make their move?"

"What do you mean? The person we hired called me to inform that they've just arrived. They plan to rest for one night before starting the operation," Edward explained in confusion.

"Okay, text me the number of that VIP room. I'll be there soon!" Jada felt elated as she ended the call.

“What’s going on? What was that about the assassin not making a move yet?” Victor frowned. He had a general idea of what happened earlier after listening to the conversation his daughter had over the phone.

“Edward said that the assassin just arrived and hasn’t done

anything yet, which means that the three people from earlier weren’t the ones who we hired!” Jada grinned. “Maybe ours is even stronger than them!”

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“Oh? Well, what are you waiting for then? We won’t be joining you to meet the assassin, but I’ll drive you to the hotel.” Victor was overjoyed. “Severin must’ve offended quite a lot of people, but if you didn’t hire those assassins from earlier, then who did?”

A cunning look appeared in Jada’s eyes as she mulled over the possible people who could have hired the assassins from earlier. “I know! It must be Rufus! I heard that Rufus likes Diane too, and Severin offended him before as well.”

“Haha, Severin’s lucky to be able to survive this long, but his days are numbered if he keeps offending everyone he meets. He’s overestimating himself if he thinks he can get away with offending both the Chavezes and the Horsfields!” Victor finally felt a lot less angry after hearing what Jada said.

When Jada arrived at the VIP room, Edward and Easton were already waiting there.

“Hasn’t the assassin arrived yet?” Jada asked as she sat down.

“Not yet, but soon!” Edward answered.

Easton then nodded and said, “Edward just told me that the Shanahans secured two quotas for the project. It seemed your father wasn’t too happy about that and made some off-handed remarks about Severin, which then triggered Severin to punch your father in the face. Your family even lost the quota as a result. How’s your father right now? His injury isn’t serious, is it?”

Jada smiled bitterly. “He’s fine. It’s just a little nosebleed. Severin wouldn’t dare to be too violent!”

Jada then looked at Edward. “It’s a shame you left a little too early, Edward. You would’ve managed to see the thrilling fight if only you left about two or three minutes later!”

“Really? When the assassin called to inform me that the meet-up was on, I called the hotel to reserve a VIP room and came right away to order some food. Looks like I missed out on something exciting.” Edward chuckled.

Jada then said, “As soon as Severin and Diane left the hotel, three people ambushed Severin and wanted to assassinate him. Severin was too powerful though, and even though the first two assassins nearly killed him with their first attack, he dodged them easily and killed them on the spot. Then, this old man came out of nowhere to try and kill him, but it was the old guy that ended up getting killed.”

“Severin killed all three of those people? They’re probably not very strong then!” Easton remarked with a

faint smile.

Jada shook her head. “Even though they were killed in the end, their speed was still relatively fast, more so than many other bodyguards. In particular, the young man and the young woman who attacked Severin first had synchronized so perfectly that you could immediately tell they were well- trained individuals. I initially assumed that they were the assassins we hired, and I only realized that they weren’t when Edward called me!”

Edward smiled and said, “I wonder who it was that hired them. Maybe they were reluctant to spend too much money and ended up hiring people who weren’t skilled enough. Otherwise, it could not have been possible for all three of them to be defeated so easily by Severin!”

Easton laughed too. “That’s true. Those assassins were hired by ordinary people, and they can never compare to a four stars assassin that you hired.”

Jada thought for a while, and said to the two of them, “I suspect that Rufus was the one who hired the

Edward nodded. “Now that you mention it, I remembered my bodyguard telling me that he saw Rufus trying to cause trouble with Severin. Unfortunately, Rufus’s bodyguard was beaten up and Rufus was forced to kneel and lick Severin’s shoes! Can you imagine how humiliating that is?”

“No way! Isn’t he the only son of a second-tier family? It makes sense that he’d want to send those assassins to kill Severin after suffering such terrible humiliation!” Jada suddenly realized.

All of a sudden, there was a light knock on the door of the room.

“That should be the assassin we hired!” Edward said excitedly and stood up immediately.

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Edward walked to the door and opened it, whereupon a sultry-looking woman in a side-slit dress walked in. The woman’s height was about five foot nine, and she had a very good figure. Her sexy and slender legs were exposed from time to time through the slit of her dress, sparking racy thoughts in whoever laid eyes on them.

“I present to you our assassin, Black Rose! Please come on in!”

Edward closed the door, then gestured in a gentlemanly manner as he introduced the assassin to Jada and Easton. Upon seeing the assassin’s stellar figure, fair-skinned face, charming eyes, and icy temperament, Easton could not help but gulp at how smoking hot that woman was.

When Jada saw that the assassin strut in with a sexy gait, she was not happy at all and asked coldly, “Are you sure you hired a proper assassin and not just a woman with a pretty face?”

“Of course she’s a proper assassin! She’s the four stars assassin whose code name is Black Rose!” Edward answered directly..

The assassin chuckled. “It appears that this young lady right here doubts my abilities!” She walked over, sat down on a chair, and smiled coldly with an indifferent expression.

Jada doubled down on her remarks. "Even though 'Black Rose' is the perfect codename for an assassin, the way you present yourself makes me doubt whether or not you're up to the job!"

"Hehe, don't worry. My modus operandi mainly revolves around seducing men and making them loosen their guard. That way, it's much easier to deliver the fatal blow." Black Rose giggled and narrowed her eyes. Killing intent appeared briefly across her face, and she then patted the stool next to her. A loud slam was heard, and the stool immediately shattered into a dozen or so pieces. "But that doesn't mean my fighting abilities are weak when it comes to killing my targets."

Black Rose stared straight at Jada and sent chills down the latter's spine.

It felt as though she was being stared at by a venomous snake lurking in the shadows, and her face turned pale from fright. After a while, she said tremblingly, "You're strong. I didn't think that you're just as skilled as you are beautiful."

"Hehe, how did you think I managed to get ranked as a four-star?" Black Rose chuckled. "The honor of being a four-star is only achievable once you take up a hundred assignments and succeed in all of them."

"Indeed. I'm sorry that she underestimated you earlier. Easton nodded. At that moment, the waiter entered and served the food he had ordered.

"It's probably unwise for us to ask for your name, so I hope you're fine with us just calling you Miss Black Rose. Since you're already here, why don't you join us for dinner?" Edward offered cordially.

"Perhaps I can arrange a hotel for you to stay in?" Easton then said.

The assassin smiled coldly and took her seat. She then said, "That won't be necessary. The location where an assassin stays must not be known nor revealed. We cannot expect to take up lodging in a hotel arranged for us by other people."

"Oh, you're right, Miss Black Rose!" Easton nodded and smiled awkwardly. He could not help but sneak a peek at her sexy long legs and lament in his heart, 'It's unfortunate that a woman like her is an assassin. She probably won't provide any other services, but man it'd be awesome if I could sleep with her for one night!' As soon as he had that thought, he recalled that he had trouble getting his manhood up and immediately felt depressed as a result.

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Black Rose ate a bit of food and left soon after.

After she left, Edward smiled. "So, are the two of you satisfied?"

Easton smiled and said, "Hahaha, of course, of course! She has a stunning figure! It's just a damn shame that she's an assassin. Anyone who lays a hand on her will be toast!"

"That's why she calls herself Black Rose. Roses may be beautiful, but they're also full of thorns!" Jada remarked.

"Right then. I'll pay for the meal if we're done eating. How about we raise one last glass and drink a toast to Severin's early death? Hahaha!" Edward stood up and proposed. He was very satisfied with the

assassin he hired because he believed that the assassin's sexy figure would be very useful in seducing Severin. He would almost certainly take the bait, and death would soon follow once he fell for her charm.

After their toast, Edward went to pay the bill. They then left the hotel with Jada and Easton following Edward from behind. The two of them then saw Edward off as he got into the car and left the hotel.

With Edward gone, Easton said to Jada, "Edward didn't lie to us after all. He hired a four stars assassin this time around, and I genuinely hope we'll finally succeed!"

"I hope so too. Men are all the same, anyway. You, for instance, were ogling her thigh earlier!" Jada left after making that remark.

After returning home, Victor immediately asked her, "How was it? Did you meet the assassin? Is he reliable?"

Jada nodded. "It's a she, and I think she is reliable. According to her, the only path to becoming a four stars assassin is to complete a hundred assignments. Plus, she's a beautiful woman who specializes in seducing her targets before creating an opportunity to kill them."

"That's good to hear!"

Victor nodded and breathed a sigh of relief.

At that moment, Severin and his family had already arrived in a large VIP room at a hotel.

"Isn't this a little too over the top, Grandma? The food and wine on this table are worth tens of thousands, right?" Diane asked with a smile when she saw the luxurious spread of food and expensive wines.

"I know I've always taught you to save money and spend wisely, but today is different because we've just received a huge boost in our future benefits. I firmly believe that our family would soon have a bright future, so I've decided to splurge big and celebrate today!" The old lady was beaming with joy and excitement.

"That's right, and it's all thanks to Severin! We would never have gotten two spots without him!" George remarked with a smile from one side.

Meanwhile, Stanley had a long face as he sat right beside George. He never thought that the day would come when his father would lavish praise on Severin. Now that Severin was valued by all quarters, it would be very difficult for him to reprise his role as general manager.

Judith looked at Severin worriedly and asked, "Severin, I heard that you encountered an assassin when the ceremony ended this afternoon. Did you get hurt? You need to be more careful when you head out in the future. We don't know who hired the assassin yet, but they may try to hire other assassins after this

Severin laughed it off. "Don't worry, Mom. They're like ants to me. Do you honestly think they'll put my li in any danger?"

Maurice then said thankfully, "It looks like Severin was right to hire bodyguards for us. Being rich come with a risk of being targeted by jealous people!"

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"Yes, we were all shocked at the time!" Catherine said in a somewhat traumatized manner. "Since we're going to be much more well-off financially in the future, we should hire some more bodyguards for our family. We can't compromise on our safety just to save some extra money!"

Stanley agreed. "Well, if this trend continued, then we might become a second-tier family in less than two years! Once that happens, we'd need a few more elite fighters to take charge. As it stands, there aren't any such people in our family at all!"

"Severin's extraordinary skills came in really handy today. We'd be in big trouble if not for that!" The old lady then raised her glass and said, "Let's have a toast, everyone! Regardless of what happens, the Shanahans will have a bright future ahead!"

"Cheers!" Everyone stood up and raised their glasses.

Selene raised her fruit glass too and yelled 'cheers' like an adult too.

"Oh, you!" Severin could not help but look at his daughter and kiss her chubby cheeks.

However, she looked at him in disgust. "It's time for you to shave, Dad! You have stubble now!"

"Haha, okay, okay. I'll shave when we go home!" Severin became even happier when he saw her huff and puff at him. She was growing cuter by the day!

After everyone drank their toast and sat down, Catherine then said to Severin again, "Since you have nothing to do anyway, you should try to

find the chance to get to know Brookbourn Mansion's Sheila better. It'd be great if you could become good friends with her, or better yet, marry her! You'll have our unanimous approval!" The old lady then paused for a moment and added, "And let's not forget Robin too. Do visit them and check on her grandmother when you have the time. I think her grandmother suffers from migraines or something like that. Even though these diseases are really easy to treat at a hospital, the reason I'm asking you to help out is because I want you to build a good relationship with her. I'm sure she sought you out because she values your skills. You should go there whenever you have the time! It'd be even better if you could go there tomorrow!"

"Understood, Grandma! I'll make friends with them!" Severin did not like buttering up to the rich and powerful because he was far richer than any of them, but he was forced to listen to the old lady's words and could therefore only smile awkwardly in agreement.

"You're going there tomorrow, then? How about I tag along?" Stanley immediately began to speak in a friendlier manner toward Severin.

Severin frowned and had a slightly weird expression. "You're coming with me? What for?" As soon as Severin asked that, Robin's attractive yet aloof appearance came to mind and he immediately

understood that Stanley's main purpose was to ogle at Robin. He wanted to use Severin to get to know Robin, and it was obvious that he wanted to try and win her heart.

Severin found it amusing when he thought of that. 'Is he now trying to become some rich woman's boytoy after knowing that he had no chance of becoming the general manager anymore?'

"Well, umm...if I go, I could always help carry your medical box or something like that, right? Surely, I can become a helper of sorts?" Stanley smiled and came up with the first excuse he could think of.

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Severin practically facepalmed. 'Medical box?' The Dracodeus Ring that he wore was a storage item that could hold a lot of things, and there was no need for him to carry a medical box around.

Such paraphernalia were known only to the strongest people who had reached high levels of attainment. One could not expect a rich kid like Stanley to have seen such a treasure when all he knew was to eat, drink, and frolic with women all day long.

However, Severin could not help but smile when he realized that it would be a great chance to mess with him. "Are you sure? It's not a problem for you to tag along, but my medical box is a little heavy, and I'm worried you won't be able to lift it!"

"Who are you kidding? I'm a strong man, so of course I can carry it!" Stanley could not help but laugh. "Do you think I'm not strong enough just because I come from a rich family? I'm a man, after all, and even though I haven't done much physical work before, a medical box shouldn't pose a big problem for me!"

"In that case, I'll bring you along with me tomorrow then," Severin agreed with a smile. "After all, it'd be a waste not to accept an offer to help, right?"

"Haha, awesome. I'll come by your place tomorrow morning and take the chance to enjoy a ride in your Audi!" Stanley said with a laugh.

Severin's face darkened. "You're not driving?"

"Nah, I'll just take a taxi. Driving is such a hassle!" Stanley laughed.

It was a lively and harmonious evening with the Shanahans as they ate and drank to their heart's content. Stanley intended to rely on Severin to build a good relationship with Robin, so he pretended to toast a few glasses with Severin and casually asked for Robin's phone number too.

Elsewhere, Claude, the leader of the Emerald Cloud Gang, came to Brookbourn Mansion,

Zachariah and several other strong Ballard members looked at their guests and could not help but frown. Hehe, what brings you here, Claude? Oh, and take these herbs back, please. I don't accept gifts from people if I haven't done anything to deserve it."

Claude knew that Zachariah, as one of Brookbourn Mansion's people, was well-known for being a man of integrity. He had therefore expected Zachariah to reject the offering.

He smiled, and said, "Sir, this wild herb has been grown for half a century. It's not worth much, but I'm sure the esteemed old madam will be able to receive some sort of benefit after eating it. They say that these herbs contain a certain vitality that could extend the life of those who consume it!

Zachariah's eyes lit up slightly after hearing that and it was obvious that his interest had been piqued. After giving it some thought, however, he smiled and said, "I'm sorry, but I do not wish to break my principles. You are also a member of one of the underground forces, so I can't accept whatever gifts you have for me!"

An old man from Brookbourn Mansion then said impatiently. "If there's anything you wish to say, go right out and say it. Don't beat around the bush!"

Claude laughed and then said, "Sir, I wonder if you're aware that Draco Hall has already absorbed the Cedar Gang?"

When Zachariah heard that, he instantly understood the purpose of the other party's visit and could not help but smile. "I am. But this is a matter between the underground forces. It has nothing to do with either

Claude said, "Of course, of course. This is the common understanding between all of us. However, I think you should know that the overall strength of Draco Hall has already approached that of Brookbourn Mansion. Although the strength of their elite fighters might still be far behind yours, I'm afraid their financial resources might already be on the same level as yours!"

Zachariah grinned icily. "Correct me if I'm wrong, but you only came to me because you're worried that Draco Hall will take over the Emerald Cloud Gang too, right?"