

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2206

“I’ve already given him a stern warning, so he shouldn’t dare to make another move. Besides, keep in mind that he’s still the youngest son of the Kanagawa family. We can’t just get rid of someone with such a high status that easily,” replied Gerald as he puffed on his cigarette.

“... So Why’d you say you were going to take down those two families this afternoon? In the end, you let both the Hanyus and Kanagawas go!” muttered Aiden with a sigh, making it clear that he had been expecting to fight this entire time.

“Oh, we’ll definitely be getting rid of them, but not yet. Don’t worry, when the time comes, I’ll definitely ask you to come along,” replied Gerald, who knew Aiden’s personality well.

“... Promise?” said Aiden, his mood instantly improving.

“Have I ever lied to you? Either way, let’s head back to get some rest first. We still have other important things to do tomorrow,” replied Gerald as he threw his cigarette butt away before patting Aiden on the shoulder.

“... Oh? What things?”

“You’ll find out tomorrow,” replied Gerald with a subtle smile.

After a good night’s rest, a refreshed Gerald was just about to leave his room... Only to realize that upon opening his door over ten people were standing there waiting for him!

Realizing that these were the individuals who had left the Futaba manor a few nights back, Gerald couldn’t help but frown as he said, “And what are all of you doing here?”

Gerald, for one, didn’t have a good impression of these people. Had it not been for the fact that he didn’t want to cause a mess here, he would’ve driven them out of this place as soon as he could!

“... Well, we came back to deal with some things, and since we haven’t met in a while, we decided to pay you a visit since we were already here,” explained one of the men as he forced a laugh.”

“I see. Well, now that you’ve met me, do leave me be,” replied Gerald as he attempted to close the door.

Grabbing onto the door to prevent Gerald from closing it, the same man then immediately exclaimed, “P-please wait a moment! The truth is, we’re here to discuss something with you...!”

Feeling a slight headache coming, Gerald then asked, "...What's this really about...?"

Clearing his throat, the man replied, "... Well, we're here to explain ourselves... You see, we didn't stay in the manor back then since we didn't want to trouble the patriarch any more than we needed to. With that said, now that things are starting to look up again, we're considering moving back to help the Futaba family return to its former glory. So... if there's anything we can do to help, please tell us now, mister! We'll definitely do our best to fulfill what we can!"

"That's right, mister! We'll do whatever you tell us to!"

"Well said! As Futabas ourselves, we can't just allow our family to crumble!" declared the other Futabas with determined tones. If one didn't know any better, they'd surely be moved to hear how determined they were to better their family. Unfortunately for them, Gerald had already witnessed their true colors.

With that in mind, Gerald who didn't want to waste any more time talking to them simply replied, "Save the speech for the patriarch. I'm just a guest here, and it wouldn't be right for me to meddle in your family affairs."

"That... B-but the patriarch fully trusts you! With that said, I believe that we're saying all this to the right person!" declared one of the other Futabas. After all, talking about all this to Takuya was just a waste of time and money! They were all just here to fawn on Gerald!

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“You’re all seriously annoying, you know that? Before Gerald revealed his relationship with the Yamashitas, all of you simply wanted to kick him out so that you could leech off the family without any further delays. Are you seriously buttering him up now after what you’ve all done? Even an idiot could tell what you’re really trying to achieve!” scoffed Aiden as he walked down the hallway. He had come over to meet Gerald, and when he realized what was happening, he couldn’t help but mock those pitiful individuals.

“What was that?! Who the hell even are you?!”

“Must be some new servant or something!” yelled a few of the Futabas, angered by Aiden’s straightforwardness. After all, they of all people knew that every word he said was true!

Getting increasingly annoyed with them after watching them diss on Aiden, Gerald who wanted very badly to kick all of them out took in a deep breath before saying, “Aiden, come over here.”

Upon realizing that Aiden was with Gerald, the other Futabas immediately felt their jaws drop. To think that he was with Gerald! Now that they knew this, they couldn’t help but lower their heads in shame, regretting their previous attitude toward Aiden. Still, if they hadn’t retorted, that would’ve signified that what Aiden had said was true!

Regardless, Aiden was much more straightforward than Gerald. With that in mind, he simply replied, “just kick them out already. These people just want profit and it clearly shows! Besides, the patriarch has already warned us about them. If we aren’t careful, they’ll exploit us till we’re nothing but bare bones!”

“W-with all due respect, mister, we’re sincere in helping the family develop! The way we do things is just different! Remember, we’re Futabas as well! There’s no way we’d even dream of harming our family!” declared another Futaba who knew better than to scowl back, now that he knew that Aiden was with Gerald.

“That’s quite enough. If all of you are this free, go get your breakfast together or something!” grumbled Gerald as he gestured for them to leave. After bumping into these idiots this early in the morning, Gerald was pretty sure that his mood would be down the entire day.

Just as Gerald was about to close the door again, the panicked Futabas instantly began yelling, “P-please don’t listen to him, Mr. Crawford...! We really are putting the family first! Just so you know, we’ve already done plenty to help the family in secret! If you’re interested, we can elaborate on what we’ve done!”

“Beat it!” growled Gerald as he glared at the annoying crowd, prompting them to take a few steps back in both fear and shock. Seeing his chance, Gerald then pulled Aiden into his room before slamming the door shut...!

After things quieted down, Aiden poured himself a glass of water downing it in one go before asking, “So... What the hell were they doing here?”

“How should I know? They were already waiting there the second I opened the door!” replied Gerald in a helpless tone. He really hadn’t expected them to be this crazy!

“How annoying! The patriarch should really consider disowning them from the family already! Keeping them around will only spell ruin for the Futabas! ” scoffed Aiden in response.

“I believe that the patriarch knows how to appropriately deal with this. From what I can tell, he’s already planning on doing that once things calm down a bit. Either way, none of this concerns us. Remember, our goal is only to get the key to Yearning Island, nothing else,” replied Gerald, clearly still concerned about his sister and parents. The sooner he could save them, the better.

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After a brief sigh, Gerald paused for a moment before turning to look at Aiden while asking, “... Actually, hold on. What are you doing here this early in the first place?”

“Huh? Didn’t you say that we were doing something today? I’m here to ask you about it!” replied Aiden as he smacked his forehead. To think that those idiots had nearly caused him to forget why he was here!”

“Ah. Well, it’s nothing much. I just wanted you to head someplace with me,” explained Gerald as he got to his feet.

Watching as Gerald then put his coat on before opening the door, Aiden who quickly got up as well was prompted to ask, "Where to?"

"The Fareast Consortium. I previously gave them a hand, you see, so their chairman owes me a favor. Since the Futabas require help now, I may as well use this chance to get that favor done with," replied Gerald.

Either way, upon seeing Gerald step out, the Futabas from before who were just about to leave immediately encircled him again, though they made sure to keep their distance.

"Um... Mister- "

"You should be well aware of my relationship with the patriarch. One more word or step forward and I'll remove you from the family, no questions asked," growled Gerald as he glared at them.

Upon hearing that, everyone immediately went silent, knowing full well that Gerald wasn't kidding. Besides, since Takuya had obeyed Gerald's orders throughout that family meeting, it honestly felt like Gerald was the family's actual patriarch.

Whatever the case was, all of them could only follow and stare as Gerald and Aiden got into their car before leaving the manor together. It was at that point when they finally accepted that they weren't going to get anything out of this.

Truth be told, they had already anticipated not getting any immediate benefits with Gerald taking the lead. With that in mind, their sole goal today had been to make a good impression on Gerald. Unfortunately, it seemed that their actions had the complete opposite effect on him.

Moving back to the duo, Aiden found himself getting increasingly bored as Gerald drove on. Eventually, he started looking up the Fareast Consortium on the internet and by the time he was done, he couldn't help but yell in surprise.

Naturally, this shocked Gerald, prompting him to look at Aiden before asking, "What? What happened?!"

"I-I just didn't expect the Fareast Consortium to be this powerful...! It's in the top five groups in Japan...! From what I've managed to gather, the group has a market value of a billion dollars...!" exclaimed Aiden who had initially thought that they were just a small group. Now that he knew all this, Aiden learned to never underestimate Gerald's social connections...!

"I see... and yes, they're worth quite a bit. Either way, though I haven't contacted that group in years, the chairman should still remember the favor he owes me..." muttered Gerald who had to admit that he only remembered this favor in the first place due to the Futaba family's crisis...

"How awesome!" exclaimed Aiden as he gave Gerald the thumbs up.

“Don’t go looking too much into this, we’re merely heading over to ask him to lead us a hand. While we’re at it, we may as well ask him to treat us to a meal as well,” replied Gerald who cared little about the chairman’s status. After all, it wasn’t as though the chairman was going to be able to help him save his parents and sister.

Regardless, since the Futaba manor was quite far away from the Fareast Consortium, the duo only got to the city the group was in at noon.

Being one of the top five consortiums in the country, the Fareast Consortium boasted a whopping forty floors, making it stand out among the other buildings in the city. In fact, due to its importance, the Japanese government even set up streets in front of the building to facilitate entry and potentially further develop the group.

Either way, upon seeing the building’s massive signboard, Gerald parked their car in front of the building before saying, “Well, this is it.”

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Before they were even able to step away from the car, they watched as a security guard came running over to them. After briefly sizing Gerald up, the guard then said, “I’m sorry, but you can’t park here without permission! This parking area belongs to the consortium! With that said, please leave!”

Upon hearing that, Gerald couldn’t help but frown slightly. While he knew that this guard was simply acting according to protocol, it didn’t change the fact that the guard’s tone

was annoying. Whatever the case was, Gerald simply replied, "I'm here to meet Derrick Zima. If he's in, just tell him that Gerald's looking for him."

"Derrick Zima? Are you even aware that he's the chairman of the Fareast Consortium? With that said, who do you think you are? Do you think he'll meet you just because you want him to? Either way, beat it already before I call more guards over to kick you out!" scoffed the guard after laughing out loud.

Upon hearing that name, Aiden couldn't help but whisper in Gerald's ear, "The consortium's boss is a Westoner...?"

"Indeed. He came over to Japan a few decades ago to make a living, and with a bit of luck, he managed to get to where he is today. Well, I say that, but he's quite strong as well, which is probably how he avoided getting sifted out in the beginning," explained Gerald with a nod. While he didn't know much about Derrick, Gerald was certain about Derrick's strength.

"Cease the whispering and get lost already before I get angry... Just so you two know, literally everyone wants to meet the chairman! Just so you know, even superiors of the military have to make appointments just to get to meet him! That should explain plenty, so beat it and stop wasting my time! Consider this my last warning before I call more guards over!" grumbled the guard when he realized that the two weren't keen on leaving anytime soon. Had it not been for the fact that there were so many people around, he would've surely shoved them away by now!

“Let’s not get too cocky, shall we? Listen here, your chairman is my friend’s old pal, and he owes him a favor! How about you stop wasting our time and tell him about us already!” scowled Aiden who was getting slightly impatient.

“Hah! What a joke! I’ve never heard the chairman owing anyone favors before!” retorted the guard with a roar of laughter.

“I’ll just call him,” replied Gerald who didn’t want to waste any more time here.

Turning around to make his call, it was barely even a second after he dialed Derrick’s number when the call connected and an excited voice asked, “Gerald?”

“It’s been a while. First thing’s first, I’m currently at your consortium’s ground floor to discuss some things with you. However, your guard’s blocking my way,” replied Gerald.

“You’re where?! Give me a few minutes. I’ll be there in no time,” said Derrick before hanging up.

Slipping his phone into his pocket, Gerald then looked at Aiden before saying, “He’s coming down soon.”

“Are you guys for real? You should consider acting as a career, you almost look like the real deal! Regardless, let’s see if the chairman actually comes over!” scoffed the guard as he laughed heartily, thinking that Gerald had lost his marbles.

With how loudly he had been speaking about the chairman, the surrounding people couldn’t help but flock around the trio. By the end of it, there were about ten people whispering among themselves, wondering how this would end.

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Upon seeing how many people had gathered, the guard couldn’t help but declare, “All of you! Get this, these two claimed to know our consortium’s chairman! Not only that, but after ‘giving him a call’ they said that he’s coming down to meet them soon! Wait along to see if he actually comes! If he doesn’t... Then join me in kicking them out!”

“They what now? Hey, do you two even know how famous our chairman is? How the hell could anyone like you two ever deserve to meet him!”

“I know right? Just kick them out while you can! Who knows where these maniacs are from!” scoffed the surrounding individuals who all worked at the Fareast Consortium.

They were right to be doubtful. After all, despite working here for so long, they themselves hardly ever got the chance to see the chairman, though this was most probably because the chairman was always abroad and making more business deals. Even then, these were the luckier few who even got the chance to catch glimpses of him in the flesh.

Many within the consortium had never even seen the chairman before, save for his photograph in the lobby. At best, they would be able to catch glimpses of his exclusive helicopter touching down atop their building.

Whatever the case was, after hearing their comments, Aiden couldn't help but blush as he asked, "How long is it going to take for Derrick to come down, Gerald...?"

Honestly, if Gerald wasn't by his side, he would've already started arguing with them. However, he knew better than to behave that way with Gerald here, so he was forced to keep quiet, naturally making him extremely sulky about the situation.

Gerald himself hardly took their comments seriously, so he simply replied, "Just wait for a bit."

Finally, about ten minutes later, the building's doors were opened by a security guard and out jogged a suited middle aged man with a slick back hairstyle. Honestly, he was moving so quickly that he nearly toppled down the stairs!

Regardless, upon seeing him, everyone was quickly stunned. After all, the person was none other than Derrick! Some of them even did double takes since they weren't used to seeing him in person!

Either way, upon seeing Gerald, Derrick straightened his suit before enthusiastically walking up to him while saying, "Gerald! It truly has been ages since we last met!"

Chuckling in response, Gerald simply replied, “Oh, I could’ve met you ten minutes earlier if your subordinates had just allowed me in!”

Naturally, Derrick immediately caught onto what Gerald was implying. With that, he quickly turned to face his employees before growling, “Listen here! This man goes by Mr. Gerald Crawford, and he’s a very important friend of mine! If you dare block him from entering again, you’ll instantly be fired! Got that?”

“L-loud and clear...!” whimpered the frightened employees who were frozen in fear. To think that these two ordinary men actually knew their chairman...! Had they not witnessed this with their own eyes, they surely wouldn’t have believed any of this!

Upon hearing their response, Derrick then turned his gaze toward Gerald again before saying, “Now that that’s settled... Please come this way, Gerald. Honestly, you arrived just in time! I just returned from the Western Union a few hours ago, you know? Had you arrived before then, I would’ve surely had to make you wait even longer!”

“I see... Could I be disturbing your test right now?” replied Gerald with a smile.

“Not at all! Truth be told, I’ve been looking forward to your visit for ages! While I would’ve paid you a visit myself, I know how busy you can get. What more, you’re always moving around, so I figured that it’d be best for me to wait for you instead. It’s the reason why I haven’t made a move even after all these years. I really hope you don’t mind that!”

