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It was normal for someone like Chloe to not recognize Waltz.

Besides, Ryan, who claims that he's the manager of Thousand Miles Conglomerate didn't recognize her as well. Waltz was Lex's goddaughter after all—Princess Fleur of Thousand Miles Conglomerate—hence, only the core members in Hell's Angels were able to meet Waltz.

Ryan, on the other hand, was just one of the insignificant managers within Thousand Miles Conglomerate's many companies.

Tobias was fully aware of Waltz's identity.

However, he didn't want to speak up. No one would listen to a chubby man like him anyway. Thus, he just stood silently in the crowd, watching Chloe dig her own grave. He couldn't help but put on a cold smirk—he knew he was in for a good show.

'This is so exciting!'

Waltz was furious as she took five steps forward.

However, the crowd was oblivious to Waltz's identity as well. Under Chloe's influence, they foolishly insulted Waltz...

"I really didn't expect this gorgeous girl to be working in a nightclub."

"I wonder what nightclub she works at, I'd love to support her."

"Her looks and her body are priceless, I'd be willing to pay ten thousand dollar just for one night with her!"

Alex took a glance at Waltz—her beautiful eyes were cold and filled with murderous intent.

She approached Chloe and said coldly, "Are you done yet?"

Chloe stared at her with disgust. "What? Why would you be scared of gossip if you're working in that field? Look at you, wearing something like this out in the open. Nightclubs aren't open yet, and yet here you are spreading your legs open. Mighty professional, I must say! I know quite a few rich men if you'd like, I'll introduce you to them."

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Waltz was tall—172 cm, a whole ten centimeters taller than Chloe.

Simply with one hard slap, Chloe's left cheek swelled up and a thin stream of blood flowed out from the corner of her mouth. She yelped in pain, spitting out blood along with a tooth.

“Ah! You b*tch! How dare you slap me?” Chloe screamed in anger, looking as if she was about to explode.

Another slap landed on Chloe's face, causing her to spit out another two of her teeth.

Her nose was now bleeding, her eyes swollen from the impact.

She turned to Ryan. “Honey, this b*tch slapped me! Beat her up for me! No, wait, have your men from Thousand Miles Conglomerate help us out. Seems like that loser knows how to fight.”

Ryan was incredibly infuriated from seeing his wife being slapped. He stood out and said, “How dare you slap my wife, you b*tch? Do you have a death wish? Do you even know who I am? I'm the manager of Thousand Miles Conglomerate.”

Waltz was expressionless. “Correction, you ‘were’.”

“What? You b*tch of a prostitute, you probably don’t even know what the Thousand Miles Conglomerate is? I—Ah... Ahhhh! My leg!”

Waltz had broken his leg with just one stomp—it was a comminuted fracture.

“You, you dare to break my leg? You’re so dead, so dead! Just you wait, I’ll have my comrades over right now!”

Waltz replied coldly, “Alright, I’ll wait.”

Watching Waltz’s brutal methods, a chill went down everyone’s spine.

Ryan immediately pulled out his phone and called for his comrades.

One of Thousand Miles Conglomerate stations was nearby, staffed with a few underlings. Within 5 minutes, a big group of men barged into the store. There were easily more than twenty of them in the group.

“Who’s Ryan Hunter? The manager of Thousand Miles Conglomerate?” One of them asked.

They had no idea who Ryan Hunter was. However, everyone had each other's backs when it came to Thousand Miles Conglomerate. If someone was in need of help, a whole group of them would come to their rescue. This was one of the reasons why Thousand Miles Conglomerate was so successful.

Watching such a big group barge in, everyone was terrified. They immediately took a few steps back to make way for the group.

'They only have themselves to blame for this. Why did they decide to go against Thousand Miles Conglomerate anyway?'

A lot of men in the store were more furious at Alex. Waltz was a gorgeous woman—women like her shouldn't be beaten up, but spared instead. If anything, the only one who should be beaten up was Alex.

They didn't care if he ended up dying in a ditch.

"Me, me, me!" Chloe yelled out to them. "Here! My husband is the manager of Thousand Miles Conglomerate!"

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The leader approached them and stared at Ryan.

Ryan, on the other hand, had already prepared his worker tag for identification. The leader of the group yelled, "So who was the one with the balls to break our fellow manager's leg? Own up to it now and I'll just break one of yours. If not, you'll have to bear further consequences."

Chloe couldn't hold in her anger anymore. She pointed at Waltz. "It was her, that b*tch of a prostitute! She broke my husband's leg and knocked my teeth out! Beat her up now! Lock her up in a cage! Humiliate her in public! Just do something!"

The group of men looked towards Waltz and were stunned.

"Ms..."

"It was me," Waltz said dismissively without even lifting her gaze.

The leader was sweating cold bullets.

Ryan may not recognize Waltz. But, the leader was one of the members in the underground association. How could he not recognize her?

'This was truly a big mistake on Ryan's end due to his unfamiliarity with Waltz... No, his wife called Princess Fleur a prostitute, that's just a death wish!'

Chloe yelled, "What are you waiting for? Get moving!"

The man then slapped hard across Chloe's face.

This time, Chloe couldn't even open her left eye and spat out more teeth.

"Ahhhh! Why did you slap me! You should've slapped that b*tch!"

Another two slaps landed on Chloe's face.

Chloe fell to the ground, she couldn't even speak due to the immense pain around her mouth.

Ryan was shocked. "What are you guys doing? I called you here to teach that b*tch a lesson. Why did you slap my wife?"

Exactly, why is that?

Everyone fell speechless. This looked like something out of a drama scene.

The leader replied, "That's because you're ignorant."

He then stomped on Ryan's other leg, breaking it as well.

"As the sales manager of Thousand Miles Corp, how dare you not recognize Princess Fleur? How are you even the manager?"

"Ah..." Ryan cried in pain.

"I really don't know her. I don't go to nightclubs often. I... Ah, Princess Fleur, Ms... Fleur?"

Realization finally hit Ryan in the head.

Princess Fleur, this woman is the almighty Waltz Fleur. She was in a position that he could never reach, no matter what he did.

Immediately, all Ryan could feel was helplessness and despair. Due to the immense pain in his legs, he blacked out and fell unconscious.

Everyone was silent, as if they could hear a pin drop in the store.

No one expected this gorgeous woman in a red dress would be one of the Three Great Chieftains of California's underworld, the almighty Princess Fleur. They had really thought that she was just some prostitute from a nightclub.

This was too big of a mistake.

Especially the men who had joked about using her services just a while ago. All of their faces were pale white, trembling with fear.

Chloe finally realized who this woman was.

At this moment, fear, regret, confusion and shock were all boiling up inside her.

"Alex, so you managed to hook up with Waltz Fleur from Thousand Miles Conglomerate. Well aren't you just the greatest?"

"Princess Fleur, how would you like us to deal with these two?" The leader asked.

“Throw them out. Oh, by the way, this woman seems to be quite interested in working in a nightclub. Let’s grant her wish!”

“Yes, Ms. Fleur.”

Trembling, Chloe fell into the depths of despair as well.

With this, everything was settled. The men from Thousand Miles Conglomerate left as soon as they’re done.

However, the crowd was now staring at Waltz with fear and respect.

Alex had only taken a few glances at them this whole while. He was mainly focused on a few rocks that were lying by the side.

He was able to sense a slight hint of Chi coming from them.

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Waltz disliked being put in the spotlight in such a way. She pulled Alex to the side. “Let’s go, Brother! I heard stone gambling is highly risky. And to be honest, you don’t need any more money. What’s so great about this anyway? Let’s just get those pills done!”

‘Pills?’

Taken out of context, many people misunderstood her words.

Everyone stared at the two puzzledly. Could it be that Princess Fleur from Thousand Miles Conglomerate was that type of person?

However, no one dared to speak up against her.

Alex shook his head. “I’d like to buy some for fun.”

Waltz waved dismissively. “Fine, have some fun then. Which one would you like? I’ll get it for you.”

‘Tsk tsk, just look at her, isn’t she just wife material?’

The men in the area took glances at Alex—they were extremely jealous of him.

Apart from Waltz's status, her appearance was just ethereal compared to most women. As someone who was able to win Waltz's heart over, they figured that Alex must be of high status and quite respected within Thousand Miles Conglomerate...

Back in ancient days, a princess's spouse wouldn't be regarded to be that far from royalty himself.

Besides, Waltz referring to Alex as her Brother struck fear in the hearts of everyone in the crowd.

Alex had briefly scanned all the ores in the stone gambling store and managed to identify three stones in particular that had Chi flowing within. He didn't need Waltz's help in getting any of them since there weren't too many. Alex walked up to the stones and picked out the three that had caught his eye.

One was a larger piece while the other two were smaller.

The large one was as big as a bench.

While the other two were the sizes of basketballs.

Tobias was fairly obsessed with stone gambling. However, as Alex picked out the stones, he shook his head and approached him. "Mr. Rockefeller, these three ores don't look so good. There's a low chance that you'd be in the green with these. Why don't you choose some other ones? I've gambled quite a few times, I might be of help."

Alex shook his head and said, "There's no need for that, I'd like these three."

Tobias looked as if he had something to say, but he decided not to speak up.

He couldn't help but think, 'Why is CEO Fleur's Brother so weird? He chose the shabbiest alchemy stove just a while ago. Now he's getting these useless rocks that won't ever get him in the green. Is he destined to have such bad luck?'

"Excuse me, how much are these in total? I'll have them." Alex turned to the store owner.

The store owner stared at Waltz and didn't dare to ask for money. So, he just told Alex that everything was for free.

Alex shook his head. "Just tell me how much they cost. I, Alex Rocekefeller, am not a cheapskate."

The store owner didn't have any opinions on Alex's decision, though he definitely didn't want to give it out for free.

With precise calculations, the total cost of the stones was five hundred and thirty thousand dollars. In just a few minutes, the trade was done.

Suddenly, someone in the crowd spoke up. "Hey, isn't that Princess Fleur? What brings such a beauty to our area? Do you know how to gamble on stones too?"

A young man walked out of the crowd. He seemed scruffy, a devilish smirk was plastered on his face.

However, Alex could tell that he was a fighter with one look. He was in the Intermediate-Royal rank too.

Waltz huffed as soon as she saw the young man. She didn't want to pay any further attention to him.

She turned to Alex. "Brother, this guy is just loathsome, I hate him. Just ignore him."

Alex smiled, he knew that he would never acknowledge such people.

Seeing how close Alex and Waltz were, the man was shocked. He smiled and said, "Woah, am I seeing things, Princess Fleur? You're here to gamble on stones with a man, and he isn't even Azure! Now this is some top tier gossip. Could it be that you're cheating on Azure?"

Waltz became angry. "Shut your trap, Dicky! Azure is my brother, get your facts right!"

It was obvious that Dicky wasn't his real name.

His real name was Dickinson Cohen.

Dickinson chuckled. "You may treat him as a sibling, but he might not! Oh, no no no, he might be trying to get it on with you!"

Suddenly, he noticed the ores that Alex bought.

Dickinson said loudly again, "Oh, Mr. Will, you actually sold that cesspool rock? What a miracle! How much did you sell them for? I guess there really is some rich fool wasting his money on such crap."

The ore that Dickinson was talking about was the bigger rock that Alex had bought.

This rock had quite the journey when it was being transported to the store. During transportation, the ore fell off the truck and smashed a cesspool open, falling directly into the pit.

Knowing that Alex had bought this rock, Dickinson found an opportunity to insult Waltz. Alex seemed like Waltz's close friend after all. Dickinson just couldn't help it.

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Waltz was infuriated. Even the crowd gathered up their courage to start gossiping about them upon Dickinson's appearance...

"Mr. Will kept this ore here for more than a year but no one wanted to buy it."

"Just look at it, it's so dull. How could it be in the green? Anyone with any gambling experience would know that that's just a useless rock. Only those who are inexperienced would think otherwise."

"As Princess Fleur's brother, you'd think he'd know better. Who is this guy anyway?"

Waltz glared at Alex as she heard the insults, clearly frustrated and annoyed.

Alex turned to Dickinson and said calmly, "If there really was a jade within this rock, what would you do?"

Dickinson cackled. "If this cesspool rock does have a jade in it, I'll eat this rock up."

"Okay then, you promised."

Suddenly, Alex remembered that Charis had said something similar before. He didn't really hold a grudge against her and let her off easy... However, this guy was another case.

"Excuse me, cut it open for me. Remember to be careful." Alex said to the stonecutter.

Waltz pulled on the corner of his shirt. "Why don't we just leave?"

She was afraid of humiliation. More importantly, Dickinson was her enemy—he worked for Frank Accardo after all. The two had fought in the past and Waltz was defeated.

Alex replied, "Don't worry."

Dickinson smiled as he watched Waltz, as if he was looking at a clown. He didn't even dare Alex to do anything if the rock were to be empty. Waltz's humiliation was enough for him... He wasn't even worried of losing.

Only a fool would actually eat a rock.

With loud buzzing, the rock was being cut open with a machine.

It was extremely intriguing to watch two of the best fighters in California gambling on stones, everyone wanted to see if the ore really contained a jadeite. However, most of them just wanted to see Waltz's brother publicly humiliated.

Why?

'You already have Princess Fleur by your side. How could it be possible for your luck to be any greater?'

The stonecutter suddenly exclaimed. "There's mist coming out!"

"What?"

“How could mist be coming out so quickly? This is the first cut, isn’t it? How would mist come out from this side?”

Dickinson was shocked, he rushed to the rock and bent over next to it, staring at it intently.

Waltz was surprised as well. She turned to Alex and asked, “Are you really that lucky?”

Alex smiled softly. “I’ve had pretty good luck my whole life.”

The stone cutting proceeded.

Three minutes later, the stonecutter exclaimed again. “Oh my god! Yes, yes! We’re in the green!”

Five minutes later, he shouted out once more. “We really are in the green! This is an amazing find!”

At this moment, everyone was appalled upon the sight of a green surface coming out of the ore.

Everyone didn't expect such a dull rock to contain any jadeites.

However, the show had just started.

Another ten minutes later, Tobias yelled, "Holy sh*t! Oh my god! This is unreal! This is... a glassy emerald! This is especially rare!"

Yet another ten minutes passed and the stonecutter had cut up the ore from three different sides. A large emerald that was about the size of a basketball surfaced though, only a small part of the ore had been cut open.

Dickinson sat on the damp ground, shocked to his core. "How... just how big is this thing?"

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Dickinson wasn't the only one who was appalled.

Everyone in the crowd had widened eyes and mouths agape. They were pushing against each other, trying to peek at the stone as much as they could.

Some even took out their phones to take pictures—they wanted to post about it on their social media pages. This was a once in a lifetime experience.

As for the store owner, Mr. Will, he was turning green as soon as he saw the emerald in the ore. Even just from its slightly exposed surface, he could see its magnificent glow and vibrant color. This was an exceptionally rare piece. Based on its market value, it could be sold for more than 100 million.

This was 100 million that they were talking about!

He had stored this ore for more than a year, yet he didn't realize its value at all. He regretted his decision immensely.

However, gambling was solely based on luck after all.

As someone who had been in the mining industry for quite some time, this was the first time that Mr. Will had ever seen such a precious gem.

Suddenly, a middle-aged man spoke up. "Are you selling this emerald? I'll buy it for 80 million!"

Alex continued to stare at the emerald—he was able to sense a strong saturated core of Chi stored within the gem. He was satisfied and completely ignored the middle-aged man's offer.

Tobias huffed. "Kayden Park, are you trying to fool innocent sellers again? 80 million? Just look at this thing—just its mere surface would cost 100 million. Don't you dare touch it."

Kayden smiled coldly with darkened eyes. "Do you want it too, Tobias? Can you even afford this?"

Alex turned to the stonecutter and said, "Please continue."

Kayden offered once more. "I'll buy it with 100 million dollars, kiddo. You should be grateful with this amount."

Kayden had just arrived, so he had not recognized Waltz. He even tried to pat Alex on the shoulder.

Alex blocked his hand instinctively. "No, I'm not selling it. I wouldn't even if you offered me a billion."

Kayden huffed, his expression was grim. “Hey kiddo, beware of the consequences of sudden wealth. You’ll never know when you’ll lose it all.”

Kayden wanted to come up with an evil scheme, to hire someone to rob Alex as he was on his way home.

Everyone looked at Kayden, treating him like an idiot. Princess Fleur was standing right by his side, yet this man was openly threatening Alex like that.

The stone cutting process continued.

Another twenty minutes later, the entire piece of emerald had been extracted from the ore. It was as big as two basketballs combined. This would mean that the rare gemstone occupied one-third of this ore.

Many were gasped in shock, while some took pictures with their phones.

Tobias gulped. “This is a rare emerald gemstone. Such a big one too. This is priceless, this is just priceless!”

It was impossible to estimate this gemstone’s value according to the market price.

This could easily be valued at 300 million or more.

However, this was not some simple math question that could be easily solved.

Waltz was stunned this time round too. She excitedly pounced on Alex and smiled. “Brother, you’re rich!”

Dickinson stood up immediately. He looked confident—as the sixth best fighter in the underworld, money wasn’t important to him.

He noticed that Waltz really wasn’t interested in Azure and was now closer to another man. Dickinson was extremely excited about this and took out his phone to take a picture, smiling to himself. “Oh poor, poor Azure. You really have been cheated on, huh?”

Waltz looked over coldly. “Hey Dicky, bon appétit. Enjoy your rocks.”

Dickinson was taken aback. “Why should I eat rocks? I’m no fool.”

Alex’s expression turned cold as well. “You lost, suck it up.”

Dickinson looked extremely smug. “So what if I don’t want to admit defeat? What did I say just now? Do you have proof? No, right? But hey brat, I admire you. You’re daring enough to take Azure’s woman. He’s from Thousand Miles Conglomerate too, you know? Wouldn’t you be scared of getting your d*ck cut off the next day as revenge?”

Alex replied, “I admire you too, you’re still smiling, even now.”

Dickinson cackled. “So what if I’m smiling? What can you even do to me? Square up if you will, come at me!”

Suddenly, Waltz went up to him and slapped Dickinson hard across his face.

Dickinson couldn’t dodge it at all, she was way too fast.

Appalled, he said, “There’s no way you were able to slap me.”

Waltz huffed. “I can cripple you if I wanted to.”

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Due to Waltz's competitiveness and sudden improvement in fighting, she had wanted to teach this loathsome piece of sh*t a lesson. Thus, she didn't hold back when she slapped him.

"Heh, you've lost to me before, Fleur. Did you forget? Does your arm no longer hurt?"

Back then, he had dislocated Waltz's arm.

Upon hearing the exchange in provocation, the crowd dispersed immediately.

However, the big fight didn't happen as expected.

Dickinson flung his leg towards Waltz, yet she was able to grab him by the ankle and threw him to the ground. Dickinson's arm smashed against one of the ores. With a loud crunch, his arm was fractured.

"Holy sh*t! You, you're advanced now!"

Waltz appeared proud, a smug look was plastered on her face. "Hey Dicky, remember to avoid me if you can. Oh, by the way, suck it up, loser."

She picked up a small stone and shoved it into Dickinson's mouth. The sharp ends cut the insides of his mouth, causing it to bleed profusely.

The color drained from Kayden's face, his jaw trembled slightly.

He finally realized that the woman next to Alex was Princess Fleur of Thousand Miles Conglomerate. To think he wanted to hire someone to rob them clean. He couldn't help but sweat cold bullets.

Half an hour later, the two smaller ores that Alex bought were cut open as well.

Everyone couldn't help but gasp and cry with envy.

"This can't be possible, there's just no way!"

"How could this be?"

"All three of them, all three of them had emeralds in them, oh my god!"

Lots of people had posted the pictures onto their social media pages as well.

“Let’s go!” Alex turned to Waltz.

The two brought the priceless emeralds with them as they stopped by Tobias’ store to get the alchemy stove and headed back to Maple Villa.

It was a relief that the stove wasn’t too big and they weren’t driving Waltz’s Lanborghini. Otherwise, they’d have to have another car sent over.

“Brother!” Waltz said in a sweet voice, her eyes were glistening.

“What’s up?”

“How are you so amazing? You’re a fighter, a medic, an alchemist and you know how to gamble on stones too! Oh, what do I do? I’m falling in love with you!”

Alex flicked her cheeks. “Get lost.”

“Ow!” Waltz cocked her head as she covered her cheek with one hand. “You’re just so great, Brother. But look at your little sister, I’m just so weak! I would be an embarrassment to you with such weakness, wouldn’t I? So Brother, can you do me a favor and improve my fighting skills again? I don’t need you to help me improve drastically, I’d just like to rank up to the Mystic rank.”

‘Ah f*ck, so that’s the catch.’

Alex said crossly, “Do you think this is a game? You think you could just rank up as if you’re buying in-game VIP purchases? There aren’t many shortcuts in the martial arts. If we were to force growth upon your skills, you’d be limited from further growth in the future. Don’t worry, as soon as the chakra pills are done, I’ll help you out once more. As for ranking up, that’ll depend on how talented you are.”

“Okay!”

“Oh, and don’t tell anyone about the stone gambling incident. The emeralds are useful to me.”

When he returned home, Alex realized that Azure and the others who were secretly protecting the house had left.

With the stove and the materials, they attempted to make the chakra pills. However, the stove required some maintenance, it was missing a leg after all. Alex was excited to look more into the energy flowing in the stove as well.

However, just as he was about to start his research, Dorothy gave him a call.

“Alex, can you come by my place?” Dorothy sounded gloomy.

“What’s wrong?”

“My mom went stone gambling at the Antique Street and lost 500 thousand dollars. She’s in debt now because of this. The lenders have come to our house demanding their money back. Do... you have enough money?”

“Ah.” Alex replied understandingly.

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Alex excused himself and rushed off to Assex Villa by car. He couldn’t help but mumble complaints in his mind on the way there.

‘Who knew Claire was stone gambling at the Antique Street too? Did she see me? If she knew that I got myself rare glassy emeralds from all three ores I bought, she would surely force me to hand them over like she always does!’

Unfortunately, Alex ran into California's rush hour—every road was as jammed up as they could be.

Alex took forty-five minutes to reach Assex Villa.

Upon entry, he realized that all three members of the family were present.

There were another two men and a woman in the villa too. Alex was able to recognize the woman—a middle-aged woman and one of Claire's best friends. They often hung out together. He vaguely remembered that her name was Lucia Whitney.

Lucia was speaking to Claire. "Oh Claire, Brandon is a good man. I watched him grow, you know? He's now the department manager of a listed company and his yearly salary is over a million. Where could you ever find such a catch? Just say yes and you won't have to pay back the 500 thousand dollars. We'd be family then, right?"

Upon listening to those words, Alex was furious.

'Who the hell is this Brandon guy? He looks like he's in his thirties. Who is he proposing to?

'Dorothy?

'Well it couldn't be Beatrice, right? She's still studying at university.'

He rushed up to them angrily. "If any of you dare to f*cking try stealing my wife, I'll make sure you regret making that decision for life."

Lucia shot a few dirty glares at Alex and huffed. "Why are you here, you loser? Were we talking to you? Who do you think you are?"

Lucia had no respect for Alex as Claire often bad-mouthed about Alex to her.

Dorothy pulled Alex to the side and whispered, "Not me, it's my mom."

"What... what do you mean 'your mom'?"

Dorothy stared at Brandon, visibly annoyed. "That guy likes my mom."

'Huh?'

Alex was shocked.

Claire was most likely forty-six years old by now, but this Brandon was only in his early thirties. Why would he like someone with such a large age difference? They were sixteen years apart. This was just outrageous.

However, Claire didn't look bad herself. She was wearing a pair of tight jeans and a white bodycon tshirt. She may look younger than Brandon, but the maturity was definitely there.

'No wonder this guy was into her.'

Alex was puzzled and said, "Well, that's great. Your mom has been single for quite a few years, right? She's so bored that she has to pick fights with me. Maybe getting a date would redirect her energy towards love instead of yelling."

Dorothy was infuriated. "How old is he anyway? Do I have to call him 'Dad'?"

Beatrice joined in on their conversation as well. "I don't care, I just won't agree to this! Look at that guy, he looks oddly cunning. He's definitely up to no good. He lent Mom money just so he could force her into marriage. Hey, Rockefeller, aren't you quite the fighter? Kick them out now!"

Alex took a glance at Beatrice and decided that it was a waste of energy and time to even speak to her.

“Your mom went stone gambling? Did she mention anything when she came back?” Alex asked. He was concerned about his emeralds, there was a lot of Chi stored in them after all. If he were to absorb all the Chi within them, he would be able to strengthen his core.

Strengthening his core was the first step to mastering the Force.

“Not really!”

At this moment, Claire rejected Lucia’s offer. She might be greedy and might not have a lot of savings, but she still had high standards for men. This Brandon guy was nothing compared to Felix, why would she be into him?

Realizing that his proposal had failed, Brandon showed his true colors. “You’re rejecting me? Fine then, give me my money back!”

Claire pointed towards Alex. “I don’t have any money. If you guys want your money back, get it from him. He’s my son-in-law. You can kidnap him to become your slave or whatever, sell him to human traffickers if you will. Oh, and look at his car, it’s probably of value too right? Just don’t come for me.”

Alex was speechless.

She really was a one-of-a-kind mother-in-law.

Brandon turned to look at the car and realized that it was a BMW M8. He was shocked. He had always wanted to buy this model, but didn't have the money to.

If they were to pay him back with this car, he would be able to benefit greatly from this.

“Alright then, you guys can pay me back with this. It's mine now.” Brandon laughed as he patted the hood of the car.

“Get your hands off of it. What are you, stupid? Or do you think I'm a fool? This car costs two million, and how much does she owe you again?”

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Claire jumped up from her seat, her eyes lit up. “What? This car costs two million? Where did you get all that money from?”

Alex paid no attention to her.

All he wanted to do was resolve the issue and head home immediately. He wanted to keep researching on the alchemy stove. "Show me the IOU and give me your bank account number. I'll pay you back for the amount she owes."

Lucia stared back at him in disbelief. "Do you even have the money? Everyone knows that you begged and grovelled for 100 thousand dollars. Don't make such a bluff if you can't bear the consequences!"

Alex glared coldly at Lucia, as if he was looking right into her soul. She trembled, a chill went down her spine.

"Lucia, my mother-in-law may not be the brightest bulb, but don't you dare try to scam her. If I were to find out that you two were working together to scam both her and her money, you're dead meat. No one would save your sorry *sses." Alex said in a cold tone.

Claire stomped her feet. "Who are you calling dumb?"

Alex ignored her yells once again.

"You brat, how dare you threaten us?" Lucia's husband, who was standing next to her, raised his hand to slap Alex.

Alex slapped his hand away and grabbed him by the neck. He then lifted his whole body up, as if he was as light as a feather.

“Remember these words. No one can take advantage of my family!”

After releasing his grip, the man choked on his breath, his eyes were filled with terror.

With a light beep, the transaction was complete.

Alex had transferred 500 thousand to Brandon and destroyed the IOU.

And so the Whitneys rushed off after receiving the money.

Alex pulled Dorothy to the side and asked, “Dorothy, do you not have any money?”

Dorothy replied, “My company had just signed a few contracts recently. We didn’t have enough money to get a new batch of materials, so I used my money first and don’t have much on me now. But don’t worry, I’ll pay you back as soon as we make money from the contracts.”

Alex shook his head. "You don't have to pay me back, my money is yours too. Here, I have ten million, you can spend it however you like."

Dorothy was shocked, yet she seemed to have remembered something. "Wasn't this a gift from Mr. Carter? No, we can't use this. We might not have much money now, but we'll earn more as we go. We have to return this money to them, or else we'll always be of a lower class than them."

"Ah..." Alex had almost forgotten about the bank card that Charles gave him. He didn't even check how much was in the card.

However, Alex couldn't find a better way to explain the money he had on him as of now.

Since Dorothy insisted on not taking it, he gave up trying to persuade her.

After the Whitneys left, Dorothy scolded Claire. "Mom, what were you thinking? Do you even know anything about stone gambling? How could you just blindly follow others like that? Well, look how that turned out, we don't have much money left now."

Claire sat on the sofa nonchalantly and replied, "It's just 500 thousand. You're the CEO of a big company. The whole company is yours and your profit would most likely be more than millions or so. I'm your mom, how could you be so stingy with me? I thought I raised you to be better than that."

Dorothy wanted to slam her own head against a wall.

Claire then started scolding Alex again. “And you! You’re driving a luxurious car that’s worth two million, and you’re able to just give 500 thousand out like that! How much personal savings do you actually have? Hand it all over now, Dorothy must have given you that money.”

Dorothy retorted. “I never gave him any money, it’s his own savings.”

“He’s my son-in-law, his money is mine too.”

Dorothy fell speechless and changed the topic. “No, back to stone gambling. Just don’t ever go stone gambling again! You don’t know anything about gambling, do you? Sure, you might be able to hit the jackpot, but you’d lose everything with just one bet too!”

Claire replied, “It’s all just based on luck. Someone was able to get rare emeralds just today! Like, god damn, that person was insane! He bought three ores with just 500 thousand dollars and all of the ores had rare emeralds inside, they’re all priceless! I heard the market price for them would easily be over 500 million. Everyone is calling him the Stone Gambling Prince now. Do you know how amazing it would be to have him as my son-in-law? Too bad I didn’t bump into him.”

Alex rubbed his nose gently. ‘Phew, that was close. Thank god, you didn’t bump into me. That would’ve been quite a mess.’

Suddenly, Beatrice screamed excitedly. “Oh my god, Mom is telling the truth! There really is a Stone Gambling Prince! Everyone in my class group chat is going nuts about him. There’s a video of him too. Look, Sis.”

‘What the f*ck?’

Alex felt extremely uneasy.

The Pinnacle of Life – Chapter 0149

Beatrice took out her phone and opened up her class group chat. She then found the video that she was talking about.

Both Dorothy and Claire huddled closer to watch the video together.

Even the CEO of the City South Branch of Assex Constructions, Dorothy, was interested in making 500 million from 500 thousand dollars. Her heart was pounding hard. She wanted to see how great this Stone Gambling Prince was as well.

She had looked into the stone gambling industry after all.

Back then, she had a friend who loved to gamble on stones. But now they've lost everything; their debts were all over the place; and all they could do now was abandon the life they had to hide from loan sharks. They were nowhere to be seen now...

Thus, Dorothy knew how stone gambling works—it really does rely solely on luck. Even their most advanced technology couldn't tell if the ores had jadeites within before cutting them open.

However, this Stone Gambling Prince was able to get rare emeralds from all three ores he bought.

'Was this based on luck too?

'If it was, then he must really have the ultimate luck!'

Beatrice explained excitedly. "Any average person wouldn't be able to pick out three ores that all contained emeralds. My classmate's father is fairly well-known in the stone gambling community. He said that there's no way anyone could achieve this under normal circumstances. This guy either has the ultimate luck or superpowers!"

Alex stared at Beatrice, who was excitedly babbling on about 'the Prince', her eyes filled with hope.

However, Alex was mainly concerned about the video, he wanted to know if anyone had caught his face on camera.

At the end of the video, Alex let out a deep sigh of relief.

He wasn't caught on camera.

However, Waltz was.

The person holding the camera had intentionally zoomed in on Waltz as well. It was clear that he admired Waltz's beauty and body. Alex, on the other hand, was standing slightly behind Waltz, his face was blocked by the massive crowd.

Dorothy said, "Why are they recording a woman? Weren't you guys talking about a Stone Gambling Prince? Is she the prince then?"

Beatrice replied, "Of course not, Sis. Do you not know who this woman is? This woman really is something else, you'll definitely be shocked. She has a nickname—Princess Fleur."

"Princess Fleur?" Dorothy paused for a brief moment before exclaiming. "You're saying, she's Waltz Fleur from Thousand Miles Conglomerate?"

Beatrice exclaimed as well. “Yeah, that’s her! The Stone Gambling Prince is her boyfriend... What an amazing duo. If I were to get myself a boyfriend like him, I wouldn’t have to worry about anything and just enjoy life! I’ll be able to live in a big manor and go for fine dining in the best restaurants in town. I’ll get a luxurious bed to sleep on too... Ah, how I wish!”

Alex almost let out a chuckle as Beatrice continued gushing on and on about the prince.

‘You’ve been going on and on about this man, yet he is standing right in front of you. This exact man was the one you called a loser. If you were to find out about this, I wonder how shocked you will be?’

Claire was extremely fond of the prince as well.

She sighed. “Everyone said that Mr. Will’s stone gambling store had many ores that contained rare jades. So that means that he’s hit the mining jackpot this time. If there were lots of ores that were in the green, there would be a high percentage of getting such jades. Lucia persuaded me to use up all my savings, I even had to get a loan of 500 thousand from them. Yet, all I got was...”

Dorothy took a deep breath and calmed herself. “Alright, dream’s over. Let’s just treat this as any other normal news. We have to be humble and work towards our goals. There’s no way such luck exists within all of us. All you guys see is the Stone Gambling Prince making lots of money, yet don’t you see many others who lost everything to stone gambling? Mom, you yourself are an example of this, aren’t you? Haven’t you learned your lesson? I’d have to work for at least half a year to earn 500 thousand dollars!”

With this, both Claire and Beatrice snapped back to reality.

Just then, Beatrice realized that Alex was standing right behind her. He was fairly close as well. She elbowed him in the gut and nudged him away. Disgusted, she said, "What are you looking at? Are you trying to molest me? Why were you standing so close to me? Get lost! Look at Princess Fleur's boyfriend, he was able to earn a few hundreds of millions just like that. And you? You haven't earned jack sh*t! You're such a failure compared to him!"

Alex scanned Beatrice up and down and chuckled coldly. "Hmph, you look like a bamboo stick. I wouldn't want you even if you pushed yourself on to me. You're so annoying too. If it weren't for your sister, I would've pushed your face into the toilet."

"You—"

"Oh, shut up. He's your brother-in-law. If it weren't for his help, I don't know what we'd do!" Dorothy defended Alex.

She was starting to get possessive over Alex.

Cheryl was a major threat to her. Both her and her grandfather seemed to be very fond of Alex, they wanted him as family.

Marriage didn't exactly tie one down as they all said, divorce was still an option.

Dorothy felt extremely threatened. After all, the Assexes weren't exactly fond of Alex and Cheryl was gorgeous.

The Pinnacle of Life – Chapter 0150

With both Claire and Beatrice being as unhelpful as they could, it was just a disaster to Dorothy.

Claire pointed to Alex. "Go make us some dinner, we haven't cooked anything yet!"

Dorothy said, "It's quite late already, you don't have to cook. Let's just eat out, I'll treat all of you to hotpot."

Suddenly, Claire turned to Alex and said, "You may leave now, we don't treat outsiders to dinner."

Beatrice added. "Exactly, we're no charity."

Dorothy was losing her mind. 'Alex came all the way here to help us out, spending 500 thousand just because of you. How could you still say that with a straight face? Have you no shame?'

Just as Dorothy was about to speak up, Alex said, "That's alright, I have other things to tend to anyway. I'll be off now. Dorothy... don't push yourself too hard. If you don't have enough money, I'll come up with something."

Claire huffed. "You'll come up with something? And what would that be? Another fake check? All you will ever be is a loser. Get lost! I'm annoyed just from seeing your face."

Alex thought. 'This woman is literally unreasonable.'

He didn't want to waste any more energy arguing with them. Alex hopped into his car and drove off immediately.

Time flew by as quickly as it usually would.

In a flash, two days had passed.

The title Stone Gambling Prince had only trended on California social media for one night. Everyone went on with their normal lives the next day and stopped talking about

him. Only the stone gambling community would mention the prince once in a while, just to show adoration towards him.

For the past two days, Alex had not left his house as well. He had been researching on the alchemy stove with a missing leg...

After deep cleansing the stove, he realized that the stove had a carving of an ancient sigil.

The Ultimate Book of Medicine had introduced sigils as well.

Especially the Witch Doctor Series—most of their methods used sigils to utilize elements of the earth to heal the patient.

Waltz was eating a bucket of ice cream in the villa's basement. She was wearing her usual red dress outfit, sitting on a stool elegantly with her legs slightly tucked under.

As she continued to eat the ice cream, she asked Alex, "Brother, you've been looking at that shabby stove for two days. Did you manage to get anything out of it?"

"Don't rush me, I don't work well under pressure." Alex was poking his head into the stove. His voice echoed out of the stove.

Waltz stretched her legs out and adjusted her sitting position. “Do you still want ice cream? I’m going to finish it.”

“Just finish it yourself... or you could finish it outside. Don’t disturb me.”

“Are you stone-hearted? I was worried that you’d be bored, that’s why I’m here to keep you company.”

Waltz then kicked Alex on his behind.

Alex was not prepared for her sudden attack. His head collided with the base of the stove with a loud bang echoing throughout the basement.

Alex was extremely frustrated and annoyed. Standing up, he realized that he wasn’t able to take the stove off of his head. The stove was pitch black on the inside, he couldn’t see anything at all.

“Oh, f*ck...” Waltz jumped out of her stool and was ready to make a run for it.

Suddenly, Alex said, “I finally figured it out.”

