

OPEN

Chapter 872 Edmund Harvey From The West

How can I help you?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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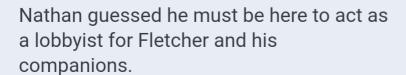
Chapter 881 Elderly Relative Keith Cross

Nathan felt like his relatives were all scattered all over the country if he were to claim kinship according to the Cross's family registry.

However, Nathan had a vague impression of Keith.

Keith was quite influential as he was the former mayor of Johnstone City.

Nevertheless, Keith had never crossed paths with someone as young as Nathan in the Cross family. Hence, it didn't make sense for Keith to contact him. So why was he calling all of a sudden?



Hehe!

I didn't see you standing up for me when my father died a terrible death, nor when others conspired to get their hands on my key projects and large amounts of funds.

And now you're here to act as a lobbyist for my enemy when I'm about to avenge my father?

Nathan smiled coldly and said, "Oh, Uncle, what can I do for you?"

Keith replied arrogantly, "I need you to do something for me, but I can't tell you about it over the phone. I've reserved a room at Paramount Hotel. Come over here and we'll talk then."

With that, he hung up without even waiting for Nathan's response.

Keith was used to ordering his subordinates around as he had once been the Mayor of Johnstone City.

Moreover, Nathan was much younger than him.

He expected Nathan to be at his beck and call since he was his elder.

Penny saw that Nathan was lost in thought with a phone in hand. She couldn't help but

ask curiously, "Nathan, what happened? Who called?"

"A distant relative. He has prepared dinner at Paramount Hotel and wants me to go over for a lecture," Nathan smiled in an amused manner.

"What happened?" Penny said in surprise.

Nathan replied placidly, "I think he's either here to act as a lobbyist or to find out more about my background for the Harveys."

Kylie quickly spoke up, "I think it's fine if you don't attend his dinner since he's up to no good."

Penny said, "Right, there's no need to seek for trouble. Just ignore him."

However, Nathan smiled and shook his head. "I can't do that, he's an older relative of mine. What if I made a wrong guess about his motives and misunderstood him? I would feel so bad for him then. How about this? I'll go take a look since he's

already at Paramount Hotel."

Penny immediately piped up, "Then I'll go with you!"

Kylie also said, "Me too!"

Nathan then told Colin to prepare the car and all four of them headed to Paramount Hotel.

After half an hour, Nathan, Penny, Kylie and Colin arrived at Paramount Hotel.

They headed towards Keith's Celestial Room.

Keith, who was dressed in a gray jacket, trousers and leather shoes, sat at the head of the table. He was typical dressed like a leader.

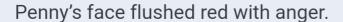
He even had a few subordinates surrounding him!

One could tell he still had it with him even though he was already in his sixties and no longer the Mayor of the West.

He snorted coldly when he saw Nathan and the others entering the room. "Nathan, how arrogant of you to make the elderly wait for such a long time."

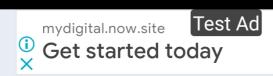
Penny couldn't help but explain, "Uncle, there was a bit of traffic on the way. Moreover, we agreed to meet at 7PM. It's only 6.50PM now, we're not late..."

Before Penny could finish speaking, Keith put on airs and scolded haughtily, "Shut up! I am talking to Nathan. As a woman, you are in no position to interrupt. Where are your manners?"



"You!" Kylie exclaimed, feeling shocked and angered.

Keith looked at Penny and Kylie and sneered, "Nathan, are you fooling around with women when your Father has just died not too long ago?"



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Chapter 881 Elderly Relative Keith Cross



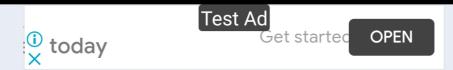
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Nathan said nonchalantly, "You're mistaken, Uncle. This is my wife, Penny, and this is my sister-in-law, Kylie."

Keith was taken aback and felt a little embarrassed upon hearing that. Nevertheless, he didn't bother to apologize to Penny and Kylie for his blunder.

"Have a seat since you're here!" he spoke without much emotion.

Nathan sat down and feeling amused, he asked, "What can I do for you, Uncle?"

Keith said authoritatively, "You acknowledge me as your elder since you call me Uncle. Mr. Harvey, Mr. Zane, and Mr. Donne from the West's Chamber of Commerce are good friends of mine. Your father committed suicide by jumping off a building. There is no more stories behind that so I want you to stop bothering Mr. Harvey and the others. You must listen to your Uncle."

A waiter came and took their order just as Keith finished speaking.

Chapter 882 What Do You Mean

Keith said to Nathan in an imperious manner, "Nathan, order whatever you want. I'm not picky when it comes to food. It's just that I have diabetes due to old age. Hence, the doctor said I cannot have sweet foods."

Upon hearing that, Nathan's lips quirked up in amusement.

He then told the waiter, "I'll have the honey glazed pork, honey glazed cod, chocolate waffles, strawberry ice cream, and sugar cane juice."

Everyone was dumbfounded when Nathan was done ordering.

Keith's eyes widened as he glared at Nathan in surprise and anger.

How could everything Nathan ordered be sweet when he specifically told him he couldn't have sweet food?

What did he mean?

Kylie failed to stifle her giggle and quickly

Chapter 882 What Do You Mean

covered her mouth.

She felt secretly happy about it.

She knew her brother-in-law would stand up for Penny. Moreover, Keith's attitude towards Penny just now and his supportive behavior towards Nathan's father's killers had deeply angered him.

Her brother-in-law could not bear to see Penny on the losing end. True enough, he humiliated Keith when the waiter was taking their orders.

Keith glared at Nathan in disbelief. "Nathan, what is the meaning of this?" he said, feeling vexed.

Nathan smirked and said calmly, "I don't mean anything, Uncle. You didn't stand up for me when my father died, nor did you send anyone from your side to attend my Father's funeral. It was as if we were strangers. I'm here now to avenge my Father, and yet you forbid me to get my revenge on my father's killers just because they're good friends of yours. Hehe, you're

Chapter 882 What Do You Mean

no fun!"

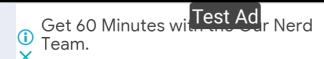
Keith yelled angrily, "How dare you speak to me like that? Don't you know how to respect your elders?"

Nathan said indifferently, "You should learn how to earn respect from others through your actions! If you have poor morals and always act like you have higher authority just because you've advanced in age, you'll never be able to earn the respect of others no matter where you go. Uncle, don't you agree?"

Keith was so mad that he felt the blood rush to his head and he almost coughed up blood.

Fury coursed through his veins as he cursed, "This is ridiculous..."

At the moment, Nathan had already stood up and was prepared to leave. He looked at Keith and said calmly, "Uncle, I know very well why you called me here today. Tell Fletcher and the others I have made my conditions very clear. Their families will



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Chapter 882 What Do You Mean

be doomed if they fail to deliver in three days."



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Keith was dumbfounded. He thought Nathan was just a kid trying to avenge Zayn out of impulse.

However, he never expected Nathan to have guessed his motives from the very beginning.

He looked at Nathan who was about to leave and bellowed, "Nathan, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Zane, and Mr. Donne are all big shots from the West. They are well connected with both government officials and their illegal counterparts. How can a kid like you go against Mr. Harvey and be his enemy? You'd better leave the West and live your life quietly so that you don't get hurt."

Nathan turned around and replied, "This is the real reason why you called me here today, right? Since Fletcher and the others are so capable, why did they send you here to find out more about me? They're obviously scared! Tell them they better watch out!

With that, Nathan turned to leave with Penny, Kylie, and Colin.



However, a tall, burly man who was beside Keith now stood in Nathan's way and bellowed, "Mr. Cross never said you can leave!"

Colin stepped forward and went head-tohead with the man, "Step aside!"

The man roared in anger, "You're looking for trouble!"

He then swung a punch at Colin.

Colin didn't try to avoid the upcoming fist as he swung a punch of his own as well.

Bam!

Their fists collided.

At the same time, the sounds of bones cracking sounded in the air.

The burly man's right arm was completely twisted. He screamed in pain and retreated

After coming into contact with Colin's fist,

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Chapter 883 Bad News

the man's right arm was rendered disabled.

Keith and the rest of his subordinates were stupefied with what they saw and they all inhaled sharply.

After crippling the burly man, Colin made a polite gesture as he said to Nathan, "Master, please go ahead."

With that, Nathan turned to leave with Penny, Kylie, and Colin.

Keith roared in anger, "That insolent brat! Get the car, I'm going to meet Mr. Harvey!"

Keith soon arrived at the Harveys' estate and told him everything that had happened.

In the end, he sighed and said, "I'm ashamed to say that I have failed to find out more about Nathan. However, he looks dangerous and I don't think he's someone to mess with."

Fletcher, Mark, and Jeremiah frowned



upon hearing that.

They never thought Keith would fail to find out more about Nathan's background.

Fletcher smiled and said, "Sorry for all the trouble, Mr. Cross. I will get my butler to prepare something special as a thank you gift for you in a bit."

Keith beamed and replied, "Thank you. It's a shame I couldn't be of help to you, Mr. Harvey."

After chatting for a while, Keith excused himself.

Fletcher, Mark, and Jeremiah decided to dig deeper to find out more about Nathan after much discussion. They had to figure out Nathan's full capability before making a deadly strike.

The three of them were experienced men.

They had the patience to take down their enemies like how a hunter hunts his prey.



However, Fletcher's son, Edmund, had never been beaten up so miserably in his entire life.

He didn't have the patience to wait until they figured out Nathan's ability before striking.

As far as he knew, he was the Crowned Prince of the West. Anyone who crossed him should be dead.

Meanwhile, he was throwing a tantrum in the hospital's VIP room.

He bellowed at his subordinates, "When did my father say he's going to kill Nathan?"

His subordinates lowered their heads and replied in a low voice, "Young Master Harvey, Sir thinks Nathan is bad news. Men who have high public visibility are usually very capable. Moreover, Furies died in the hands of Nathan. Sir has decided to halt the revenge and find out more about Nathan first."



Edmund flew into a rage, "Nathan beat me up so badly and I still have to wait to get my revenge? Since when did the Harveys become such a chicken?"



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His subordinates dared not utter a word as they saw that Edmund was fuming mad now.

At the moment, two men dressed in bright colored clothes barged in with a group of lackeys.

They were from prominent families of the West: Connor and Lance, Edmund's best friends.

They also called themselves the Princely Gang.

Connor and Lance saw that Edmund was boiling with anger the moment they walked into the room.

Connor smiled and said, "Young Master Harvey, don't you think it's best to get revenge yourself?"

Lance also added, "You're right. Your dad is being more cautious now that he has grown older and he's taking his own sweet time with the revenge. I think it's better that we do it ourselves."



Edmund couldn't help but beam. He said wickedly, "Yes. It would be meaningless if I'm not the one to deliver the final blow to Nathan. Since the two of you are so supportive, I will send some people over to find out Nathan's exact location. Let's go get him together!"

The Harveys were strongest in the West. Moreover, Johnstone City was their home turf.

It took his subordinates less than 10 minutes to locate Nathan.

Edmund said to Connor and Lance, "Hehe, I found him. Nathan is having dinner at Shangrila Hotel with his wife and sister-in-law. Gather everyone and we will head there!"

Connor and Lance were worked up. They said excitedly, "Let's do this!"

• • •

Nathan, Penny, Kylie, and Colin arrived at Shangrila Hotel.



They reserved a private room, ordered some specialty dishes from the West and a white wine, and sat down for dinner.

Kylie chuckled, "Brother-in-law, what you did just now to Keith was so satisfying!"

Penny was nonplussed as she said, "Nathan, how could you? Why did you try to pick a fight with that old geezer?"

Nathan replied with a smile, "I couldn't stand him back there. Someone must give him a lesson so that he's aware there are others out there who are better than him!"

Their food was being served as they were chatting.

The table was soon filled with all kinds of delicacies. Nathan, Penny and the others were stunned.

For they had only ordered a few specialty dishes of the West, not these delicacies!

At the moment, they were being served a Beef Wellington.



Nathan called the manager over, pointed to the sumptuous meal and asked, "Did you guys get the wrong order? We didn't order any of these!"

The manager said with a courteous smile, "My most esteemed guests, we didn't get the wrong order. I forgot to inform you that these dishes were ordered by some big shots to host Mr. Cross."

Nathan and the others were stunned upon hearing that.

Nathan frowned, "Who?"

Before the manager could explain further, a few middle-aged men walked into the room.

The leader was chubby yet had a majestic aura about him. He was the Mayor of Johnstone City, Johann Panz.

Behind him was Johnstone City's secondin-command, Dick Tjaden, the Commander-in-chief of Johnstone City's Special Forces, Brandon Patterson, and the



Chief of Police, Dean Zannis.

Johann used to work a desk job with the North Army. He soon developed a profession and was transferred to Johnstone City as he served as the city's Mayor.

He used to work under Nathan just a few years ago!

At the moment, he walked in with the other Johnstone City's leaders and said excitedly, "Mr. Cross, you should have told me you're here. I specially asked the kitchen to prepare these dishes for you to celebrate your return."



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Penny was shocked to see the leaders of Johnstone City welcome Nathan with open arms in such a way. My, Nathan looks like a big shot.

On second thought, Nathan was now the Master of the Cross family in Northania. It was normal for these big shots to host Nathan with open arms.

Nathan's expression softened when he saw that it was Johann. He let out a faint smile and said, "And here I was wondering who splurged on me. Turns out it's you, Johann."

Penny asked curiously in a low voice, "Nathan, you know the Mayor of this city?"

It's more than that. This guy was once under my command. Nathan thought as he looked at Johann.

However, he replied, "It's more than that. Johann used to work in Northania and has a good relationship with the Cross family."

Johann beamed upon hearing that.



He quickly introduced the group of leaders beside him to Nathan and Penny.

Nathan nodded, smiled and said, "Thank you for the warm welcome, everyone. Please, have a seat and let's have a drink."

Dick and the others were overwhelmed with happiness.

Nathan toasted to them when everyone was seated.

Then, he smiled and said, "You guys came at the right moment. I have some things to do at Johnstone City these few days and might cause you trouble in your work. I originally wanted to visit every one of you and give you a heads up, but you guys turned up first."

Of course Johann and the others were aware that Nathan came to Johnstone City to avenge his Father, Zayn.

Johann was the first to speak, "Don't worry Mr. Cross. We will support you all the way no matter what."



Nathan smiled, "Very good. Thank you, everyone."

Nathan, Johann and the leaders of Johnstone City clinked glasses and drank happily.

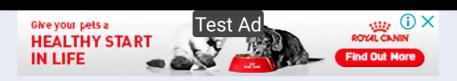
Suddenly, there was a ruckus outside the door. Sounds of fighting, cursing, and screaming could be vaguely heard through the door.

Nathan frowned.

Johann was also stunned. He instructed his secretary to find out what was going on outside.

Not long after, the secretary rushed back and said anxiously, "Mayor, we're in trouble. Edmund and the Princely Gang are ransacking the hotel with a huge number of men."

Johann said angrily, "How dare they? Is Edmund violating the law just because his father is rich and powerful?"



His secretary peeked at Nathan and said in a low voice, "It looks like they're here for Mr. Cross. I saw them beating up the waiters and manager of this hotel when I went out just now. They want Nathan to come out of his hiding place."

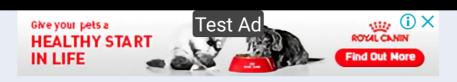
Johann flew into a rage. Edmund and his Princely Gang always had their way by bullying and intimidating people in Johnstone City.

He didn't have time to deal with them yet as he had just started serving as Mayor not too long ago.

However, he never thought that Edmund and his gang would come all the way to cause trouble in front of the General.

Nathan smiled and said, "It's okay, I'll handle it since they came for me. You guys can continue with your drinks."

Johann immediately spoke up, "Mr. Cross, what are you talking about? You don't need to do it yourself; they're just a bunch of troublemakers."



Dick added, "That's right, Mr. Cross. You guys should continue with your drinks. I will handle this."



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At that moment, the main dining area of the restaurant was a mess.

Edmund was sitting on a chair with his eyes narrowed.

His two best friends, Connor and Lance, were standing beside him.

More than a hundred men armed with metal pipes and machetes were scattered around, waiting for further instructions now that they were done wrecking the place.

The guests who had been dining there earlier were long gone, scared off by the stirring trouble.

Meanwhile, the security guards, waiters, and the restaurant manager were lying on the floor.

Edmund glanced at the bloodied face of the manager. Pursing his lips, he demanded, "Let me say it one more time. Go inside and tell Nathan Cross to get his ass out here right this instant."



The poor manager whimpered, "Young Master Harvey, Mr. Cross is an esteemed guest of the restaurant. A few of the city leaders are currently hosting him inside the private room! You really shouldn't disturb them, or you will not like the consequences..."

Connor lashed out with a kick, sending the manager skidding back a few meters. He swore, "Young Master Harvey told you to bring Nathan Cross out. Now! The f**k you yammering on about!"

Lance sneered, "Leaders, my ass. Even the chief of police and mayor need to defer to Young Master Harvey! He knows all the leaders in this city, yet you dare use them to threaten him?"

A smug look appeared on Edmund's face as his two best friends sang him praises. He ordered them, "Since Cross is hiding in the room like a coward, send some men in to drag him out."

He had barely finished speaking when the private room door opened with a click.



The chief of the Johnstone City Police, Dean Zannis, was the first to walk out. In a deep voice, he called out, "No need for your trouble. We're here."

Edmund and his men were obviously shocked to see Dean there.

Edmund was barely able to squeeze out his words. "Chief Zannis, why are you here?"

"If I weren't here, I wouldn't have known that I need to butter you up when I see you!" Dean snorted.

His words had Edmund and the rest gulping in fear.

Edmund hurriedly explained, "Chief, we were just joking earlier. Don't take it seriously..."

Just then, another man stepped out of the private room. It was the mayor of Johnstone City, Johann Panz.

Johann scoffed, "Impressive, Young



Master Harvey! So not only does Chief Zannis have to suck up to you, but me as well?"

When Edmund and the rest saw the mayor and various leaders standing behind him, their faces were drained of all colors.

A chill swept through Edmund and he stammered, "M-Mr. M-Mayor..."

Taking in the upturned and broken furniture, Johann shot Edmund a glare. "I'm not the mayor; you are! You're a lot more amazing than I am!"

The mayor's pointed words scared Edmund out of his wits while Edmund's friends came close to kneeling down to beg for forgiveness.

They had finally realized what deep trouble they were in this time. Inadvertently, they had managed to piss off all the influential decision-makers of the city in one go. No matter what family they came from, there were still certain lines not to be crossed.



They hastily pleaded in trembling voices, "Mr. Mayor, Sirs, we're too used to speaking without a filter. Please don't hold it against us! Just think of us as little children talking nonsense. Please let us go!"

From outside came the wailing of police sirens. Other than the normal police cars, there were also vans used by SWAT teams.

Within moments, scores of SWAT units surrounded the place.

When Edmund and his men saw this turnout, they knew the mayor was well and truly pissed this time. They turned to Johann, begging for mercy.



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Chapter 887 This Is A Real Beating

Before Johann could say anything, Nathan, Colin, Penny, and Kylie came out of the private room as well.

Nathan spoke up indifferently, "Mr. Mayor, since they say that they're children, why don't we have their parents come here to deal with this? After all, a parent needs to bear responsibility for the mistakes his child makes."

Johann instantly nodded in agreement. "You're right. Contact their parents right away!"

In less than ten minutes, Lance and Connor's fathers, Lincoln Luth and Clarence Kent, arrived with their subordinates in tow.

Furious at his son for offending the mayor, Clarence grabbed a chair and slammed it onto his son's body. The father shouted all the while, "I'm going to kill you, you little piece of sh*t!"

Taking a leaf out of the other man's book, Lincoln also snagged a chair to beat



Chapter 887 This Is A Real Beating

Lance. "You useless brat! How dare you disrespect the mayor! I should just beat you to death for causing trouble wherever you go. It would be more merciful than having you dragged in front of the firing squad!"

The two young men crouched on the floor with their hands protecting their heads.

They did not make a sound as their fathers continued to beat them.

Anyone with eyes could see that it was all an act, though. Despite raising the chairs up high, there was barely any force behind each hit as the chairs simply tapped against their skin.

After a while of "beating" their sons, the fathers put down the chairs and looked at Johann with hopeful eyes. "Mr. Mayor, our sons are ignorant and foolish. Please forgive them this time! We'll definitely discipline them strictly when we get back."

Nathan could not help the puff of laughter that escaped him.



Chapter 887 This Is A Real Beating

His action enraged Clarence and Lincoln.

Clarence glared at Nathan and growled, "What are you laughing at?"

With his lips twitching upward in a faint smile, Nathan replied mildly, "I'm laughing at your so-called 'strict discipline'."

The two fathers exchanged confused glances before Lincoln demanded, "What do you mean?"

"Nothing, really. I just wanted to let you know how fake you guys were when you were teaching your sons a lesson. That's not how a real beating looks like," Nathan answered with a smile.

Clarence and Lincoln's eyes widened, still unsure of what the other man was getting at.

Nathan bent over, picked up a chair, and swung it at Connor's legs.

Bam!



Chapter 887 This Is A Real Beating

The chair splintered in his hands the moment it impacted Connor's legs, breaking them in the process.

The young man screamed bloody murder before he collapsed to the floor and rolled around in pain.

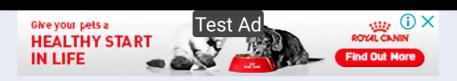
Not deterred by having only one leg of a chair left in his hands, Nathan rapped it across Lance's knees.

Crack! Crack!

His kneecaps shattered and he, too, fell to the floor, cradling his legs while writhing in pain.

Everybody's eyes were nearly popping out of their sockets as they stared at the scene before them in astonishment.

Clarence and Lincoln were also infuriated at their sons' predicament. If it were not for the presence of the mayor and the police, they would have thrown themselves at Nathan to beat the crap out of him.



Chapter 887 This Is A Real Beating

By now, all that remained in Nathan's hand was half of a chair leg. Tossing it aside, Nathan grinned at the two fathers. "Now this is a real beating!"



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Clarence and Lincoln were so furious they were about to explode!

They turned their attention on Johann and cried out, "Mr. Mayor, he——"

"I think that Mr. Cross was right in his actions. If you two are unable to discipline your sons, we can do it for you. What say you, gentlemen?" Johann interrupted calmly.

The fathers hurriedly assured, "No need! We can manage ourselves."

The mayor ordered curtly, "Then compensate the restaurant for their losses and get lost. Bring your sons with you. There had better not be a next time, or you won't be so lucky!"

"Yes, yes! Of course!"

Paying the restaurant for the damages incurred, the two men fled the scene as fast as they could with their sons.

All that remained was Edmund.



He had gotten increasingly pale given the events he had just witnessed. In fact, he was now as white as a sheet.

He had brought his two friends and a bunch of men with him to teach Nathan a lesson. Not only did that fail to happen, but his friends even had their legs broken and were whisked away by their fathers like two disobedient children.

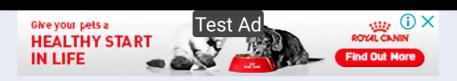
He shuddered to imagine what would happen to him.

Right then, a convoy of eight Maybachs led by a Lincoln limousine came to a stop at the entrance of the restaurant.

A man in a black suit stepped out of the limousine. It was Fletcher Harvey.

Behind him, more than a dozen men in suits got out of the Maybachs.

Fletcher swept a glance around, noting the alarming number of SWAT members stationed everywhere. Ignoring them, he strode into the restaurant with his men



close behind.

As if he had seen his savior, Edmund called out in a quavering voice, "Dad!"

In response, Fletcher raised his hand and gave his son a resounding slap across the cheeks. He chided, "Didn't I tell you to stay out of trouble?"

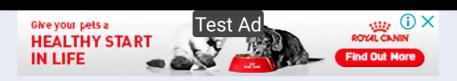
His son bowed his head, not daring to speak.

Next, Fletcher made his way to Johann and the other leaders. Apologizing to each individual, he said, "I have failed in teaching my son and caused you undue trouble. My apologies, Sirs."

"Mr. Harvey, time and again, your son has tried to cause trouble for Mr. Cross. You should be apologizing to him as well," Johann stated.

At this, Fletcher turned to look at Nathan.

Nathan locked gazes with the man. Their eyes were calm, yet there was an



undercurrent of danger lurking in their depths.

At last, Fletcher spoke up, "Mr. Cross, how would you like my son to make it up to you?"

"His friends had both their legs broken," Nathan mentioned casually.

A cold glint flashed through Fletcher's eyes and his voice was hard. "You want to break my son's legs as well?"

Chuckling, Nathan replied, "Mr. Harvey, you are an influential man deserving of respect. Doing that to your son would be a little over the line. How about this; he just needs to apologize to me. However, it has to be on his knees!"

Fletcher narrowed his eyes when he heard the last sentence.

Having his son get down on his knees in front of him was a greater humiliation than having his legs broken.



Inwardly fuming, his tone was eerily placid when he said, "Nathan Cross, are you sure you want my son to do that? What goes around comes around. Burn your bridges now and you won't have a way to cross the river in the future."

Curling his lips in a smirk, Nathan answered, "Just do it and stop wasting my time!"

Fletcher gritted his teeth and instructed his son, "Edmund, kneel down and apologize to him."

"Dad?" Edmund questioned hoarsely.

"Kneel!"

Left without a choice, Edmund fell to his knees before Nathan. Bowing his head, he muttered, "Sorry."

"I accept your apology. The Harveys had better be more mindful in the future," Nathan said with a smile

Fletcher's expression was blank as he



watched Nathan. "Brat, this isn't over between us."



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When Fletcher brought his son back home, Mark and Jeremiah were already waiting for him.

They were stunned upon hearing how Nathan had been dining with the mayor and the city's other decision-makers, and how they had allowed him to do as he wished.

"It seems that Cross is so arrogant because the mayor is backing him up!" Mark mused.

Jeremiah nodded in agreement. "No wonder he's so cocky! That makes things a lot trickier."

A cold laugh burst from Fletcher's mouth; he was in disagreement. "Actually, now that I know his power comes from the mayor and leaders, I think it would be incredibly easy to deal with him!"

The other two men were surprised at his words.

"Mr. Harvey, why do you say that?" Mark



wondered.

"Yeah. Why do you think it would be easier to deal with him after knowing the mayor supports him?" Jeremiah chimed in.

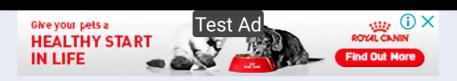
Fletcher sneered, "Since the mayor is his trump card, the method to handle him is obvious."

Their eyes lit up and they chorused, "What would that be?"

Smirking, he explained, "Since the mayor is Cross' backer, using conventional methods won't work. That's why I plan on contacting my friend in the military to ask for help. Even the mayor won't be able to protect him."

Mark exclaimed in joy, "What a great idea!"

Jeremiah was equally excited. "That's right! The military is not under the mayor's jurisdiction. They don't even need a valid excuse to arrest Cross. In fact, they could probably execute him right before the mayor's eyes without even explaining! The



best thing is, there's nothing the mayor can do about it! Brilliant!"

"My cousin, Harold, is Captain of the West Army National Guards, second only to the commander-in-chief, General Lucas Ziegler! He'll definitely help us get rid of Cross!" Fletcher had a pleased smile on his face.

With such a high-ranking officer on their side, Nathan was a dead man for sure!

Admiration was clear in Mark's eyes when he spoke, "Hahaha! Looks like the end is coming for Cross!"

Jeremiah chortled gleefully. "Hah! Cross thinks that he's our boss just because Mr. Mayor backs him up. He probably never thought that you have connections in the military, Mr. Harvey."

The decision was made, and Fletcher did not waste any time calling Harold.

He embellished his story quite a bit while telling his cousin about their run-ins with



Nathan.

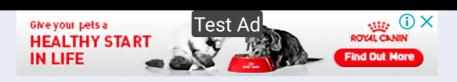
According to Fletcher, Nathan was a vile and ruthless tyrant who used his connections with the mayor to bully and humiliate them. He told Harold how Nathan had killed their men and beat up Edmund, even going so far as to force the latter to kneel before everyone else.

Fury roared through Harold when he heard the extent of Nathan's actions against the Harvey family. "That punk, Nathan Cross, is really that arrogant?"

Fletcher laughed bitterly before he answered, "Absolutely! He also demanded that I apologize to him and that our Harvey family retire before he'll us go. Otherwise, he promised to kill us all!"

Harold roared, "That's outrageous! Don't worry, Fletcher. I'll gather my men this instant and go after him. He'll pay for his crimes!"

With that, he hung up.



Fletcher had a triumphant smirk as he informed the other two, "It's done. My cousin is mobilizing his men now to deal with Cross. That b*stard is doomed!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!





At a military base in the remote countryside of Johnstone City.

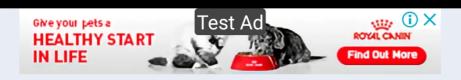
Dressed in a colonel's uniform, Harold Harvey strode out of the barracks with thirty of his men.

All the soldiers who caught sight of him stopped in their tracks to give him a crisp salute.

Although he was only a colonel - not a particularly high rank - he was Captain of the National Guards for General Ziegler. Most days, he could be seen shadowing the commander-in-chief and was practically his right-hand man.

Not only that, but he had also become a favorite of the General because of his combat skills. Whether it was marksmanship or fighting skills, he was considered to be the best among the soldiers. That was why everyone awarded him a considerable amount of respect.

Climbing agilely into the passenger seat of a military truck, Harold commanded the



driver, "To Johnstone Hotel."

At the back, his men piled into the truck before sitting down in two rows across from each other.

When they were done, the truck roared out of the gates like some metal beast.

...

At the entrance to Johnstone Hotel, Nathan, Penny, Kylie, and Colin were waving goodbye to Johann and the others.

Smiling and with a wave of his hand, Nathan said, "Gentlemen, you've already escorted us from the restaurant all the way back here. We're going back to our rooms to rest now, so you should hurry on home, too!"

Johann and his entourage nodded before preparing to leave in their cars.

At that moment, a military truck appeared at the far end of the street. Like a rampaging animal, it completely ignored



the red traffic light and charged toward Johnstone Hotel.

When Johann and the rest realized the truck was barreling towards them, their faces fell in shock and fear.

Somebody even moved in front of Johann to protect him, yelling, "Protect the Mayor!"

However, the driver slammed on the brakes when the truck was ten meters away from the stunned group.

Screeeeechl

Less than two meters away, the truck finally came to a halt, leaving two trails of tire marks on the road.

Moving forward, Dean bellowed in anger, "Who are you? What kind of driving is that? Get out here right now!"

There was a flicker before Harold jumped down from the cab that was nearly two meters above the ground.



He narrowed his eyes at Dean. "You dare order me?"

Noticing the rank on Harold's uniform, Dean was dumbfounded. His voice was weak when he said, "Captain Harvey! You -

Before he could finish speaking, Harold had already lifted his hand to give him a slap across the cheeks.

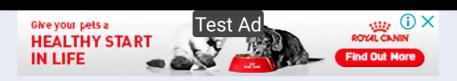
Smack!

For a moment, Dean was stupefied. Then, as his face began to redden, shame and fury welled in him.

The slap had not been very hard but it was incredibly humiliating for him.

Dean's fingers curled into fists and he shook with his rage. It took a great amount of effort for him not to lash out, but he succeeded in forcing back his anger.

After all, he really did not have any other choice. Despite the two were of the same



rank, Harold was also Captain of the National Guards.

Even if that was not the case, he was still no match for Harold. Dean would just end up getting annihilated by Harold if they were to square off each other, so Dean had to endure!

Harold glanced at Johann and the rest before snorting disdainfully. "I'm here to arrest someone. This has nothing to do with you, so you had better not interfere in military affairs. Otherwise, there will be consequences!"

Johann and the other leaders paled in response.

By this point, Harold's men had exited the truck and were arrayed behind him.

Disregarding Johann, Harold stalked toward Nathan with his men following him. "You're Nathan Cross?" he asked with a sneer.

Just by looking at their uniforms, Nathan



could tell these men were from the West Army.

Nathan quirked his lips in a smile. "Yeah."

Narrowing his eyes, Harold uttered coldly, "Good, then we have the right person. Men, arrest him!"

"Arrest me? Your rank is too low for that!" Nathan commented.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!

