

### What?

Nathan told the FDA's director to come and meet him?

Gregory widened his eyes, utterly stunned.

Even Penny was shocked to hear her husband's claims.

She immediately asked, "Hubby, when did you inform Mr. Herman to come and meet you?"

Nathan chuckled. "Well, yesterday afternoon. After I found out he rejected our application without any reason, I called him so he can come and give me an explanation."

Penny swallowed nervously and told him in a soft voice, "Hubby, did you have a dream last night and mistakenly thought it was real?"

She added, "Don't you know who Jorge is? He's in Brimmopolis. Why would he come just because you've summoned him for an



explanation? That's totally impossible."

But before Nathan could reply, Gregory burst out laughing.

He laughed so hard until he had to hold his belly as he pointed at Nathan. "Haha! You drank fake liquor and got drunk? Or did you think your dream was reality like what your wife said? Who are you to summon Mr. Herman here? Why would he come to Channing from Brimmopolis? If you succeed in doing so, I'll kneel at your feet and eat my sh\*t!"

Nathan stared at him with a frosty look. "You can kneel at my feet, but don't eat that in front of me. That's too disgusting!"

"Fine, if Mr. Herman shows up today, I'll kneel at your feet. If he doesn't show up, you'll kneel at my feet. Deal?" Gregory suggested angrily.

Nathan nodded, "Deal,"

Gregory was utterly excited to hear Nathan agreeing to him. He thought the man was



asking for it.

Jorge was the director of the FDA. Many drug manufacturers wanted to buy him a meal to butter up to him, but they were all rejected.

There was no way Nathan would succeed in summoning him to come here from Brimmopolis with just a phone call.

Right then, Jenny knocked on the door. She came in and announced, "Mr. Cross, President Smith, a Mr. Herman from the FDA in Brimmopolis is here for you."

Mr. Herman!

Gregory's heart sank. Is it Jorge? Impossible. He can't be here.

Gregory kept denying it resolutely. Mr. Herman couldn't have come all the way from Brimmopolis just to meet Nathan.

Even Penny was surprised by the turn of events.



Nathan instructed coolly, "Tell him to come in!"

"Yes!"

After a while, Jenny returned with a slightly bald middle-aged man.

"Oh my, Mr. Herman. Why are you here?"

When Gregory saw the slightly bald middle-aged man, he yelled out in shock.

His eyes looked like they would pop out of his head as he wanted so badly to confirm that the man was really Mr. Herman.

Indeed, that man was the director of the FDA, Jorge Herman.

Jorge was close to tears at that very moment.

He didn't want to come, but the General called him yesterday and ordered him to come to Channing to explain why Cross Group's application was rejected by the FDA.



Actually, the Q.Than special meds developed by Cross Group were perfect.

However, because Jorge had received a bribe from his friend, Morris, he deliberately put their application on hold so that he could reject it later.

When Jorge found out Nathan was the real owner of Cross Group, he was scared senseless and couldn't sleep for the entire night.

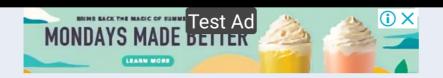
This morning, he took an early flight to Channing to come and meet Nathan.

As the General was questioning him, Jorge shivered in fear. He couldn't be bothered about Gregory and went straight to Nathan to greet him in a trembling voice. "Mr. Cross, I'm here as per your order."

What?

Gregory was dumbfounded at how Jorge greeted Nathan respectfully.

Penny was stunned, too. Did my husband



# really summon Jorge from Brimmopolis with just a phone call? How did he do that?



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Nathan knew Jorge was bribed by the Cross Clan to put the Cross Group's application on hold on purpose.

Right now, he was terribly upset at Jorge. He merely answered icily, "Jorge Herman, you're here."

Jorge felt guilty and knew the general wanted to settle the score with him.

When he stepped into the room, he saw someone from the Cross Clan standing there, too.

His heart started thumping madly as he thought the general had also summoned the Cross Clan who bribed him, so as to interrogate them together.

He stared at Nathan frightfully before saying, "Yes, Mr. Cross. You told me to come, so I came at once."

Nathan nodded. He glanced at Gregory and ordered, "Kneel!"

Nathan and Gregory had a bet that if



Nathan could summon Jorge over, Gregory would kneel at his feet.

Now that Jorge had arrived, Nathan wanted Gregory to honor the bet by kneeling down.

Gregory did not expect Nathan could make Jorge come to him with just a phone call; Jorge headed the FDA, after all. So many wealthy drug manufacturers wanted to butter him up, but Nathan managed to summon him from Brimmopolis!

Gregory felt as if he was struck by thunder. He couldn't help but wonder how capable Nathan was.

Suddenly, he heard Nathan ordering him to kneel.

Trembling, he plonked onto the ground, utterly terrified.

However, he did not expect Jorge to also kneel down upon hearing Nathan's order.

Gazing at Jorge in disbelief, he thought, I



knelt because I lost the bet with Nathan. But why did you kneel too? Are you showing solidarity with me?

Penny watched Gregory and Jorge kneel at Nathan's feet. She was so stunned that her hands moved up to cover her widened mouth.

How surprising!

Both Gregory Cross of the Cross Clan and Mr. Herman are kneeling before Nathan.

Oh dear, no one would believe me if I told them about it. But it really happened before my eyes!

She then gazed at Nathan. My husband is amazing!

Nathan was taken aback when Jorge knelt together with Gregory.

He nearly burst out laughing. "Mr. Herman —"

Jorge immediately cut him off, "Mr. Cross,



Herman will do."

"Herman, I told Gregory to kneel, but why did you kneel as well?" Nathan inquired.

Jorge did not know what to say.

But this man was a sly fox. Since he had knelt down, he knew it was too late to get up.

Thus, he decided to continue kneeling because he had indeed done something to offend the General.

He could also grab the chance to apologize to him.

Otherwise, if the general dug further, he might lose his job and even end up in jail.

Lowering his head, he uttered in a low voice, "I did something wrong and felt guilty. That was why I knelt down—to apologize to you."

Again, Gregory's eyes widened in shock.



Why is Jorge so afraid of Nathan?

Who is Nathan Cross?

Nathan stretched his hand out to help Jorge up.

Jorge instantly felt a strong force pushing him upward. He couldn't resist and stood up.

After Nathan helped Jorge up, he shot him an amused smile. "Herman, what exactly did you do? Tell me in detail."

Jorge dared not disobey him. He immediately told him how the head of Cross Clan, Morris Cross, gave him a villa in Brimmopolis and asked for his help to put Cross Group's application on hold.



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Gregory was stunned that Jorge confessed without any prompting. He muttered, "Mr. Herman, you-"

Jorge did not want to confess, but the man in front of him was the general!

If the general asked him to come, that meant he already knew everything. If he confessed willingly, he might have a chance to survive.

If he continued to deny his wrongdoings, he would be doomed.

Nathan looked at Jorge coldly. "Herman, you've disappointed me. I can't believe that you took bribes and sided with evil to target the Cross Group. Don't you know the significance of the medicine? Where is your conscience?"

In a trembling voice, Jorge answered, "Mr. Cross, I know I was wrong. I've returned everything the Cross Clan has given to me. The FDA is also reviewing the approval of Cross Group's special meds. If nothing goes wrong, the results will be out,



and the medication's commercialization will be approved by this afternoon."

Nathan scoffed, "Too late. I don't think you're suitable to be the director of the FDA. When you return to your office, you'll resign by claiming that you have an illness."

## Boom!

Nathan's words struck Jorge like a bolt of lightning.

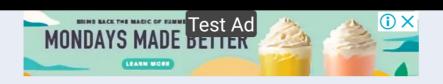
After a shudder, he lowered his head in despair and whispered, "Alright. I'll hand in my resignation for early retirement."

Nathan nodded. "You may leave now. I have other things to settle with Cross Clan."

"Yes, Sir."

Jorge fled the scene as if his death sentence had just been revoked.

Although he had lost his job, he did not



need to go to jail and Nathan had spared his life. That was already a generous act from Nathan.

When Penny saw Jorge leaving, she hurriedly said, "I'll send Mr. Herman downstairs."

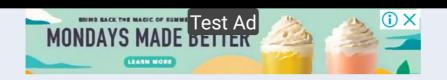
She had not expected the director of the FDA to come from Brimmopolis just with one call from Nathan.

Moreover, he even settled the approval of Cross Group's special meds!

While she was surprised, she was also curious as to how Nathan had pulled it off.

Hence, when she saw Jorge leaving, she offered to send him off. She wanted to take the chance to talk to Jorge and find out how Nathan had managed to do this.

After Penny left with Jorge, Nathan, Colin, and Gregory were the only ones left in the meeting room. Gregory was still frozen to his spot on the floor.



A few words from Nathan made Jorge lose his job.

My god, how powerful is he?

Nathan's capability was now a mystery to Gregory.

He looked at Nathan in shock and fear before asking in a shaky voice, "Who are you? Why is Mr. Herman afraid of you?"

Nathan's lips curled into a smile. With a determined gaze, he muttered, "You wouldn't want to know who I am."

Gregory continued to stare at Nathan.
There was something familiar with the prideful look and demeanor that Nathan had. When have I seen this before?

And then he recalled.

During one of the military parades, a handsome man in a general's uniform, standing beside the country's president, stood out among the military officers.



When the camera swept past him, many in the audience were stunned by his demeanor.

Gregory was among that audience.

Now that he was staring at Nathan, he realized that the Nathan in plainclothes was visually very different from the Nathan in uniform.

But the longer he stared, the more fearful he became. He started trembling uncontrollably.

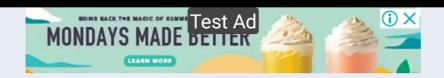
With a pale face, he stuttered, "Y-You can't be the General, can you?"

All Nathan did was smile in silence.

On the other hand, Colin sneered, "Old man, it seems like you're not completely blind. So you know he's the General."

Realization struck him hard.

When Gregory's guess of Nathan being the General of the North was confirmed, his



blood pressure skyrocketed, and he could not help spitting out a mouthful of blood. Immediately after, his vision went dark. He had passed out.



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Gregory was swiftly rushed to the hospital.

After an emergency rescue, he survived.

However, the doctor diagnosed that Gregory had suffered from cerebral hemorrhage and would not wake up for a while.

Nathan did not expect Gregory to be such a coward; he had frightened himself into this state.

After instructing Colin and the rest to send Gregory back home, Nathan warned the Cross clan, "As we both share the same last name, I will spare you once. If you do the same again, I will not go easy on you again."

After that, Nathan returned home. Penny greeted him when he stepped into the house and asked, "How was it?"

Nathan answered, "He is unlucky. He fell into a coma due to cerebral hemorrhage, so I've sent him home. I guess this must be karma."



Penny then informed him, "Cross Group's medicine has been approved by the FDA. Now we can market it."

Nathan smiled as he said, "It's been tough, but I'm glad we've succeeded."

Penny muttered, "Yes. When we visit the family grave next year, we can tell this great news to Father-in-law."

Nathan said, "People have been waiting for liver cancer medicine for many years. While it's honorable that we've come up with it, many other corporations will be targeting us. So we'll have to be extra careful as we strengthen the Cross Group. We should also give back to society."

Penny nodded solemnly. "Yes."

In Johnstone City, Northania.

Morris and Reuben led their relatives and rushed to the ICU.

When they stepped into the room, they saw Gregory lying in bed, unconscious.



Reuben's eyes were wide; sorrow and anger overcame him. "Gregory! That damned Nathan Cross. How can he hurt my brother like this? I'm going to kill him now!"

Morris stopped him, "Wait. Don't be rash. We have to find out what's going on before that."

Reuben had always been a man of fiery temper and only his older brother could rein him in. Hearing Morris's words, he stepped aside, seething.

Morris then asked the doctor about his brother's condition.

The doctor replied, "There's a blood clot in his brain. That's why he's still not awake. We'll treat him conservatively for a month first, and see if the clot will go away by itself. If it does, he'll wake. If he doesn't wake by himself after a month, we'll have to perform brain surgery to remove the blood clot. However, the surgery will be risky and you'll have to be mentally prepared."



When the members of Cross Clan heard the doctor's words, they paled.

Morris nodded somberly. "Thank you, Doctor. Please do your best for Gregory."

After his conversation with the doctor, some of the relatives stayed behind to take care of Gregory while Morris and Reuben left with their men.

After stepping out of the hospital, Morris and Reuben got into their Lincoln limousine while their men traveled in the black cars behind them. The entourage headed home.

During the trip, Morris said to Reuben, "I've just gotten the news that Cross Group's special meds have been approved by the FDA. They're able to sell to the public now."

Reuben gasped, "What? Wasn't Jorge helping us in stopping the Cross Group?"

Morris shook his head. "Jorge requested for retirement, and his superior has approved it."



Reuben's jaw was slack from surprise. "He asked to retire?"

Morris continued, "He has also returned every gift we gave him. I'd say he must have been investigated for corruption. He's afraid, so he instantly abandoned the plan. He must be scared that he might not live to old age."

Reuben finally understood what was going on. "No wonder!"

Morris muttered, "It's now impossible for him to stop the Cross Group. He's in deep trouble himself."

Reuben fumed, "Our brother is in this state because of Nathan, but he had such good luck that he managed to survive the two times we made a move against him. Morris, what do we do now?"

With narrowed eyes, Morris uttered, "Kill him!"





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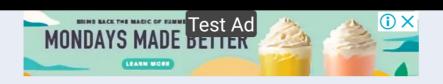


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Reuben widened his eyes. "Morris, do you mean it?"

Morris placidly said, "We have to avenge Gregory. After we kill Nathan and Penny, the only one left in the Cross family will be their daughter, Queenie. We as distant relatives of the Cross clan will claim guardianship for Queenie. That way, the Cross Group will be ours."

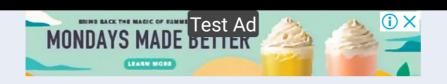
Upon hearing his brother's plot, Reuben excitedly replied, "What a great plan! It's simple and effective."

Morris instructed, "I'll leave this to you. But remember, it's best for you to look for an outsider to kill Nathan and Penny. If the public found out that we are the ones who killed the Cross couple, it'll be difficult for us to secure Queenie's guardianship."

Reuben grinned. "Understood."

• • •

Over at Cross Group, the employees were overjoyed when they heard that Q.Than



had been approved by the FDA.

Furthermore, Penny had given everyone a three-day leave and a raise in return for their hard work.

As they had three days free, Nathan, Penny, Kylie, Queenie, Benson, and Leah all went for a trip.

Their destination was the West.

They took a flight to Johnstone City before driving to the tourist town of Honeyrock Valley.



It took them hours of driving through deserted lands before reaching the town.

Honeyrock Valley was a scenic location, a paradise in the desolate West.

There were many ancient infrastructures, including temples.

As Leah was a devout Buddhist, she would pray at every temple she came across. Hence, the group's first destination upon



arriving at Honeyrock Valley was the temple.

A smiling monk welcomed them when they entered.

"Are you here to pray?"

Leah answered, "Yes!"

The monk then swiftly offered Nathan and the rest three sticks of incense and asked them to light their incense.

Only then did Nathan and the rest notice the Buddha that was enshrined in this temple was Yab-yum.

The statue depicted a man and a woman hugging while barely clothed.

After they offered their incense, the monk asked with a smile, "Alright. Now that we're done offering incense, it'll be 300 for one person and 1800 in total."

Penny and her family widened their eyes, and Leah exclaimed, "Why is it so



expensive? How can you charge 300 for one incense stick? How can you possibly ask us for 1800 in total? You're just robbing us!"

Upon hearing her words, the monk dropped his smile, and a ferocious expression appeared on his face. "The price for offering your incense in Honeyrock Valley's temple has always been the same. Why are you here if you don't have enough money? Pay now, and pay no less than what I've told you."

Once the monk finished speaking, over a dozen fierce-looking men appeared.

When Penny and her family saw them, their faces paled drastically.

Benson was an honest but cowardly man. He had heard that tourists were often cheated in small towns like these. Sometimes, if the tourists resisted, they would be beaten to death.

He hurriedly whispered to the rest, "Let's not insist on our ways. Just think of it this



way: we're paying for our safety.

Upon hearing his suggestion, Nathan smiled. "Alright, we'll pay."

At that, Nathan took out his wallet.

Kylie was furious that the temple was cheating on the tourists. She took out her phone and took a photo of the temple's interior, planning to post it on social media to warn others against coming here in the future.

However, when the monk saw Kylie taking photos, he howled, "She took photos of our Buddha. This is disrespectful towards Buddha. It'll be a fine of 2000. The total comes to 2800!"

Penny and Kylie were enraged and stunned by the monk's statement.

On the other hand, Nathan quietly took out 5000 in cash and handed the money to the monk. With a smile, he said, "Count it."

The monk regained his smile and counted



the money. He then raised his head in pleasant surprise. "It's a total of 3800. Why did you give me 5000?"

Nathan continued smiling. "The extra 1200 is for your teeth!"

Huh?

The monk was dumbfounded.

Before he could come back to his senses, Nathan had already raised his hand to land a hard slap on the monk's face.

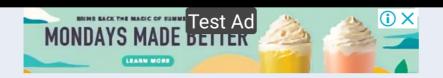
Instantly, a shadow blurred the monk's vision.

He widened his eyes a color drained from his face.

Slap!

An explosive sound echoed throughout the temple.

Nathan had slapped the monk and sent him flying. As he did so, the monk spat out



a mouthful of blood and teeth.

The scene shocked everyone present.



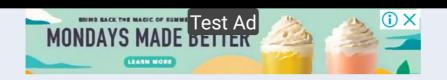
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Everyone was stunned and all heads turned to Nathan in disbelief. It was evident that they had not expected Nathan to hit the monk.

Penny and her family were simultaneously relieved and worried.

The group of fierce men, on the other hand, were frozen to their spot with jaws gaping.

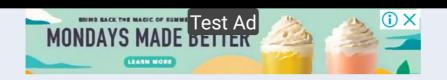
A beat later, the monk who had lost several teeth from the slap dizzily struggled to his feet.



With his hand on his swollen cheek, he shrieked, almost incoherently, "Why are you still standing there? Charge! Kill that b\*stard!"

With that, the men returned to their senses and took a step closer to Nathan.

In response, Nathan grabbed the corner of a marble table beside him and flicked his wrist. Kacha! Nathan had broken off a corner of the tough marble table.



He then squeezed the piece of loose marble in his hands.

Crack!

The marble piece was now reduced to crumbs.

Whoa.

The surrounding men gasped as terror made its way onto their faces. No one dared to make a move after witnessing the fate of the marble piece.

Nathan threw the marble remnants onto the ground before turning to smile at Penny and the rest. "There's nothing interesting in this temple. Let's leave."

Knowing that this temple was literally a tourist trap, they swiftly collected themselves and left with Nathan.

Honeyrock Valley had many other tourist attractions, such as Honeyrock Lake, Sunset Plains, and Atlantis Inn.



It was a town busy with tourists. This time, Nathan and the rest had learned their lessons: they only went to places crowded with tourists. This way, they would lower the chances of being cheated.

On that day, they ate all kinds of specialties of the West, visited the Honeyrock Lake, and watched the sun go down on Sunset Plains.

The night had arrived.

Instead of quieting down, Honeyrock Valley became livelier. In front of the ethnic tents, a large bonfire was lit.

Many local men and women sang and danced around the bonfire. They even invited tourists to join them.

Naturally, Nathan and the rest were there as well.

All around them were people barbecuing, dancing, and drinking. Many good-looking young people were wearing their traditional clothes as they danced; it was a



wonderfully lively atmosphere.

Nathan and his family sat down in front of a barbecue stall and ordered some food.

On the other hand, Benson, Leah, and Kylie opted to dance with the locals.

Nathan and his family watched their food.

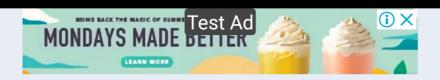
When Nathan and his family were watching their food being cooked, a middle-aged man in traditional attire walked over suddenly and handed an orange to Penny with a smile. "For you."

Penny stared at the orange, not knowing what to do with it.

Are these people that nice and enthusiastic?

However, she was not someone who took a stranger's offerings.

Furthermore, she sensed something odd about the way the man was looking at her.



Shaking her head, she rejected, "Thank you, but I don't need it."

When the stranger heard her rejection, he mumbled something under his breath with a look of dejection before leaving.

After the man left, the stall owner whispered to Nathan and Penny. "Miss, I'm glad you didn't take his fruit. Otherwise, it'll be troublesome for you."

When they heard his words, both Nathan and Penny were confused. Nathan asked, "Why?"

The stall owner murmured his reply, "This bonfire party is a one-night-stand event. If you're interested in someone here, you give him or her fruit. Accepting the fruit means the other party agrees to have sex!"



Chapter 1047 Your Sister In Law Is Mine Tonight

### What?

Both Nathan and Penny were bewildered by the new knowledge.

The stall owner then pointed to the surrounding tents and whispered, "Do you see those tents? The ones that come to an agreement will enter those tents for sex immediately. Of course, you'll have to pay to use them, and they're quite pricey."

Nathan and Penny exchanged an odd look with each other. No wonder the tourists here are mostly men.

After finding out about the nature of the bonfire event, Nathan and Penny realized that they were uncomfortable sticking around, so they stood up to tell the rest of their family to leave.

Just then, Kylie's shriek came from a distance.

Nathan and Penny swiftly took Queenie and rushed over. Once they found Kylie, they saw a bald man with a group of men



trying to drag Kylie away.

Nathan roared, "Let her go!"

When the bald man noticed Nathan's presence, he let go of Kylie. With an ambiguous smile on his face, he asked, "Who are you, brat? How dare you poke your nose into my business? Don't you know I'm Trey?"

While he spoke, Kylie quickly ran over to hide behind Nathan and Penny. Right then, Benson and Leah also came over.

The family stared at Trey and his men anxiously.

Nathan uttered coldly, "I'm her brother-inlaw. Did she do anything to offend you? What are you trying to do to her?"

Trey sneered, "She accepted my fruit. According to the local rules, she has accepted my request for sex. Naturally, I'm bringing her to bed."

Kylie anxiously protested, "Nathan, I didn't



know the local rules. He suddenly handed the fruit to me, and I subconsciously took it. Before I knew what was going on, he insisted I accepted his request for sex."

Nathan turned back to look at Trey and the rest. In a calm voice, he muttered, "We're tourists, and we don't know the local rules. I hope you understand and don't put my sister-in-law in a tight spot. Why don't I buy some wine for all of you, and we'll leave it at that?"

Trey grinned maliciously. "It's your problem that you don't know the local rules. Brat, your sister-in-law is mine tonight."

Nathan replied in a lower voice, "What if I insist on taking her away?"

When Trey heard it, he shouted to the surrounding people. "This guy is trying to steal a woman from me. What do you think I should do?"

Within the crowd, someone shouted, "Fight!"



At that, many locals started chanting, "Fight! Fight! Fight!"

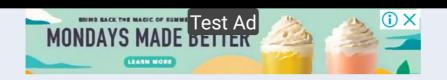
One of them even threw two scimitars in front of Nathan and Trey, urging them to resolve the matter through primitive means.

Penny and the rest of family were disturbed.

However, Nathan remained calm and collected as he looked at Trey. "Is this one of your rules, too?"

Trey picked up one of the scimitars and kicked the other to Nathan. With a sneer, he answered, "That's right. This is how we resolve the fight for women—via a duel. If you're a man, you'll pick up the weapon and fight with me. Whoever wins will get the chance to sleep with this woman. If you don't dare to fight me, then scram, and this woman would be mine."

When Kylie heard Trey's words, her face flushed red as she sneaked a glance at Nathan.



Nathan looked at the scimitar on the floor and uttered, "Vulgar."

Trey hollered, "Pick it up if you have the guts. Stop mumbling nonsense."

Nathan responded, "I don't need a weapon to deal with useless trash like you. Come at me."

Trey widened his eyes and flashed a twisted smile. He scoffed, "Since you have a death wish, you can't blame me for what happens next. Die!"

At that, he rushed toward Nathan like a flash of lightning.

The man was as swift as an eagle and his actions were precise; he was a good fighter!

In an obscure corner among the crowd, Reuben and his men watched the scene with similar sneers on their faces.

Trey was the Western King of Swords. Apparently he was hired by Reuben to



come for Nathan and his family. He had been waiting for a chance to make his move and kill Nathan.

When Reuben saw that Trey had started the fight with Nathan, a look of anticipation emerged on his face. With a delighted smile, he muttered to himself, "Nathan, I spent ten million to hire the Western King of Swords to kill you. Your death will not be in vain."



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"Hm?"

When Nathan saw Trey's move, he hummed in surprise.

A skilled observer would know whether their opponent was a good fighter in their first move.

Trey, who seemed like an ordinary ruffian, was a good fighter.

Nathan took a step back and easily dodged a deadly swing from Trey.

Trey's real name was Cohen Lester. He had been practicing with swords since young, and he was highly skilled in scimitars. To him, the scimitar was an extension of his arm.

He was titled the Western King of Swords. In his dozens of years in the West, he rarely encountered anyone who was capable of being his rival.

Nathan was surprised that Cohen was a powerful fighter.



However, he did not know that Cohen was even more surprised than he was.

Cohen had used more than half his strength in the swing earlier, as he planned to get rid of Nathan swiftly.

However, his confident swing was easily dodged by his opponent.

I'm up against someone strong!

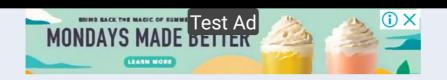
As expected, the ten million from Cross Clan isn't fast cash. Nathan is not an easy target to kill.

Suppressing his shock, Cohen quickened his footsteps and began bombarding Nathan with swings.

As if he was taking a stroll in the garden in spring, Nathan calmly avoided every attack from Cohen.

The moment he avoided all of Cohen's attacks, Nathan made his move.

Like a bolt of lightning, Nathan tapped on



his opponent's scimitar.

Clang!

A crisp, loud noise sounded.

Like glass, Cohen's eyes widened in horror as the scimitar shattered into fragments.

Nathan then raised his leg to kick right in the middle of Cohen's chest.

### Thud!

As if Cohen was a rag doll, he flew back and crashed onto the ground. With a wail, he spat out a mouthful of blood.

Nathan walked over and looked down at him. He muttered indifferently, "It seems like you're not the regular ruffian. You should be a renowned fighter. Who sent you here?"

Cohen's face became devoid of colors as he mumbled, "I don't know what you're talking about..."



Nathan continued, "If you refuse to tell me, I can only break all of your limbs. Even if you survive, you'll be crippled. It'll be tough for you to swing a sword, not to mention returning to your peak condition."

Cohen's face paled further.

Beautiful women were most afraid of being disfigured, and fighters were most afraid of being crippled.

As the Western King of Swords, he loved training with his swords. To him, being crippled and unable to train would be a fate worse than death itself.

Nathan repeated, "Tell me. Who sent you here?"

Gritting his teeth, Cohen forced the words out of his mouth. "Reuben Cross. He gave me ten million to find a chance to kill you. He also instructed me that it's best if no one finds out the Cross clan is involved."

Upon hearing his words, Nathan furrowed his brows. He then relaxed a little and



calmly said, "So the Cross clan is behind this. You may leave now."

"Mr. Cross, thank you for sparing my life!"

After Cohen thanked Nathan, he held onto his injured chest and stumbled away with his men as if he were fleeing from an execution.

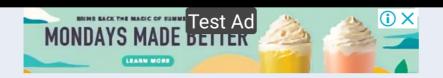
However, he had not gotten far before he was stopped by a group of people.

Cohen raised his head, and when he saw who was the one in his way, he could not help but gasp, "Mr. Reuben!"

The one who stopped him was Reuben Cross and his men.

Reuben stared at Cohen, expressionless, as he uttered, "Cohen, your title as the Western King of Swords is nothing but words. Moreover, you were being cowardly earlier. You've disappointed me greatly."

Upon hearing those words, Cohen carefully murmured, "Mr. Reuben, I..."



# Reuben continued, "Hatter, send him to hell."



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With that said, a man in a black hat and cloak with burn scars on his face made his move. On his right hand were three sharp claws, which he used to swing at Cohen.

#### Whoosh!

Cohen had no time to dodge the attack. Three deep claw marks appeared on his chest, and the front part of his torso was slashed open.

"Ah!"

With a piercing shriek, Cohen collapsed in a puddle of blood and died.

The surrounding crowd screamed and fled the scene.

Penny and her family were also startled, and their faces paled as they trembled.

Nathan instructed, "Close Queenie's eyes!"

Penny swiftly covered her young daughter's eyes.



Staring at Reuben and his men his words, Nathan spoke with a tinge of fury, "I was planning to let the Cross clan off as we share the same last name. However, it seems like you're taking a mile out of an inch."

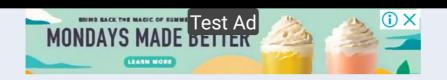
Reuben looked at Nathan as if the latter were a dead man, and mocked, "You? Letting the Cross clan off? Who do you think you are? You were the one who hurt my brother. I'm here today to avenge for Gregory! If you choose to kill yourself in penance, I'll think about letting your family go."

Nathan voiced, "You and your useless underlings are not worthy of killing me."

Reuben raised his brows. "Is that so? Hatter, send this man to hell, too."

The odd man in black hat broke into a grin. "Yes, Master."

With that said, he bent his knees like a panther and sped toward Nathan.



He swung his right hand and aimed his three sharp claws at Nathan's head.

If the blow landed on him, the three claws would be sharp enough to slice Nathan's head into pieces.

All of a sudden, Nathan raised his hand to grab his opponent's wrist.

What?

When Hatter was caught, his eyes widened in shock.

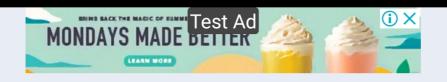
The man shrieked and raised his leg to kick Nathan's crotch in an attempt to shake off the latter.

However, instead of letting go, Nathan raised his leg in response.

The two legs clashed.

Kacha!

Hatter's leg was broken by Nathan; he could not help but groan in excruciating



pain.

Nathan then grabbed Hatter's wrist. Not allowing Hatter to escape, Nathan swung his right fist toward his opponent's face.

## Thud!

Nathan's fist landed on Hatter's face with a force so great that a depression formed on Hatter's cheek. Blood splattered everywhere.

When Nathan finally let go, Hatter slumped onto the ground, looking like he was about to draw the last breath of his life.

After witnessing the fight, Reuben gasped.

This man, the Hatter, was once known as the King of Assassins.

However, as he had gained too many enemies throughout his career, he was eventually caught in a vengeful fire set by them. That was how his face became disfigured.



However, he took the disfigurement as an opportunity to go back to his homeland and went into hiding.

As he was indebted to the Cross clan, he stayed as their guest and served as their in-house assassin.

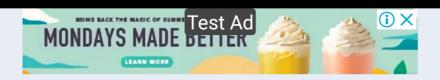
This time, Reuben had brought this King of Assassins to make sure that Nathan would be dead.

Yet, he never expected that not only was the Western King of Swords easily defeated by Nathan, but Nathan had also killed Hatter on the spot.

Reuben's face was as pale as paraffin when he saw Nathan killing Hatter. He then bellowed at the many underlings beside him, "Charge together! Kill him!"

Right then, Colin appeared with the Elite Eight, Thunderstorm, and Waves.

They said in unison, "We apologize for coming late. Please forgive us."



Nathan nodded before calmly saying, "Cripple them all and send them back to the Cross clan. At the same time, send a message to the head of the Cross clan, Morris. Instruct the clan to go into hiding in three days; otherwise, I personally come for him."

"Yes, Sir!"

Instantly, Colin and the rest charged toward Reuben.

Soon, Reuben was lying on the floor, screaming with broken limbs.

His underlings suffered the same fate as he.



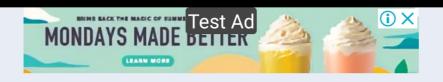
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Nathan's family trip ended miserably despite their enthusiastic start.

Very soon, they were back in Channing.

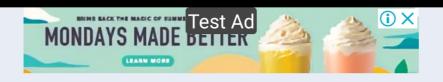
Not long after their return, Nathan brought Colin to Johnstone City in Northania.

He was planning to settle the score with the Cross clan.

If it had only been a personal grudge between him and the Cross clan, he would not have needed to pay a visit in person.

However, it was not a personal matter. He made this trip because the head of the Black clan, Peyton Black, had revealed to him that many individuals, families, and organizations in the nation had joined The Omniscience, a rebel organization which opposed the nation.

Nathan himself was already investigating this mysterious organization. He wanted to find and punish every individual, family, and group that had joined The Omniscience.



Peyton also had told him that the Cross clan had joined The Omniscience.

Therefore, Nathan decided to head to Northania this time to settle his grudge with the Cross clan and to learn more about The Omniscience through them.

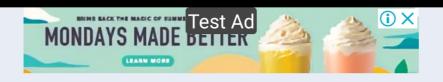
At the Cross clan's residence in Johnstone City.

Morris had gathered all his underlings and followers in fury.

Glaring at the hundreds of underlings, he fumed, "Nathan first hurt Gregory, and now he has crippled Reuben. He even told our clan to go into hiding! This is ridiculous! That's why I've gathered you all here today. We'll be preparing to kill everyone in Nathan's family to avenge Gregory and Reuben."

The hundreds of clan members roared in unison, "Kill, kill, kill!"

In an instant, the atmosphere turned heavy and murderous.



Noticing everyone's heightened emotions, Morris revealed a look of satisfaction. He raised his hand to gesture everyone to fall silent before continuing, "Nathan has said that if we don't go into hiding in three days, he'll personally come to settle our score. Three days have passed, and today is day four. I wonder if he has the guts to come."

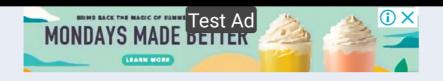
Morris's most powerful underling, Homer Richardson, laughed, "All he dares to do is to shout from the South. He wouldn't dare come to Northania. After all, he knows that he'll be walking to his grave if he comes."

"Who told you I wouldn't dare to come?"

The moment Homer's words were spoken, a loud and clear male voice came from the outside.

Morris, Homer, and the rest were taken aback as they glanced toward the doorway.

They were greeted with the sight of two men walking in.



The man who walked in front was tall; it was Nathan.

There was also a burly man behind him—Colin.

Nathan led Colin as they walked in leisurely.

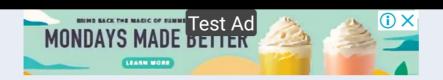
Beside them were hundreds of the Cross clan's members, and every one of them was holding onto their weapons, prepared to fight.

One of the servants hurried to Morris's side and said, "Sir, they barged in before we could tell you about their arrival."

Morris looked at Nathan and sneered, "Nathan, you really have the guts to come."

Homer grinned and mocked, "Maybe this guy knows that after hurting Gregory and Reuben, the Cross clan won't be letting him go. That's why he's come here to die, hoping that we won't hurt his family."

Morris flashed a gleeful smile upon



hearing his subordinate's words. There's no good ending for those who offend the Cross clan.

He looked downward at Nathan. "Are you here to ask for forgiveness?"

Nathan's lip curled. "Why do I need to ask for forgiveness?"

Morris was enraged. "You made Gregory fall into a coma, and you broke Reuben's limbs. If you get on your knees and beg for mercy, I might consider letting you leave alive."



With that said, Homer and the rest of the clan members roared, "On your knees!"

"Apologize!"



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