Harvey casually poured himself a cup of black tea before taking a sip.

Joseph was a man who knew how to enjoy himself; the tea itself must've cost a few thousand dollars per pound.

"People outside have been saying that you only got this far because of the women you cling to."

"But I have to admit, you're quite the capable man."

Joseph put his utensils down, glancing at Harvey with admiration.

"Not only are you skillful at fighting, but you're extremely scheming as well."

"You already knew I'd have no way out when you did this, didn't you?"

"Other people would think you're just using my brother against me..."

"But I can't help but be impressed by your tricks!"

It wasn't Joseph's first time suffering in Harvey's hands, but he could clearly tell just how much of a nuisance Harvey was after this battle.

That was why he stopped his meaningless efforts to fight back.

He would only cause himself to be more passive, and eventually suffer from it.

Harvey replied with a faint smile.

"Thank you for your compliment. Courtesy goes both ways, yes?"

"I wouldn't have done something like this had you given up."

Joseph narrowed his eyes.

"Right. You're the one who wanted to talk. What did you want to talk about?" he asked coldly.

"Simple: if you promise me one thing, I'll bury the hatchet between us right now."

Harvey gulped down his tea and smiled.

"I've calculated everything this morning. You must have around nine thousand properties that you haven't sold in Flutwell's new district, right?"

"And judging from your fixed price of 1.5 million per property, this must cost about one billion three hundred and fifty million total."

"I'm a nice person. I love solving troubles for other people."

"If you're willing to sell the properties to me, I'll give you a number you can't decline: one hundred and fifty million dollars."

"That way, not only will you not have the need to worry about Flutwell's new district anymore..."

"But you'll also have that money and a good friend supporting you: me."

"What do you say?"

Joseph's face twitched. Then, he laughed coldly.

"You're trying to buy the entire new district with just ten percent of the price?"

"I worked so hard for so many years-I put all of my blood, sweat, and tears into this, and you expect me

to just hand it over?!"

"Do you think I'm stupid?!"

"No deal!"

"No?"

Harvey smiled again.

"Flutwell's business alliance's stock is already down by ten points. Judging from today's trends, it might just drop by twenty..."

"You'd need at least hundreds of millions of dollars to try bottom-fishing, right?"

"Do you have any other sources to raise that much money? Do you really not want my money?"

"If that's the case, I can only throw that money in just to lower the stock prices even more."

"For the sake of the stock market and our friendship, I suggest you sell everything to me."

"I can even get you a room there if you want. You can visit anytime to look at the scenery when you're in a bad mood. How does that sound?"

"B*stard!"

Joseph slammed the table, furious.

"Dream on, Harvey!"

"Even if Flutwell's new district rots... Even if I die, I'll never sell it to you!"

"Fine. I won't buy it."

"So, are you selling the chain Budokans?"

Harvey gave another friendly suggestion, not at all angry at Joseph's outburst.

"Your chain Budokans are getting smashed up every single day, anyway. There's no way you'll be able to do business using them. Your reputation's dead in the water as well."

"I'll give you a hundred and fifty million if you give all the chain Budokans to me. I'll take your instructors and all the other workers with me too!"

"See? I'm doing all this just for you! That's one less burden for you. You'll have money to do some of your other businesses, too!"

"Ireally am a good friend, right?"

"You b*stard!"

Joseph changed expressions.

"My chain Budokans got into this mess because of your shameless tricks! Yet you're here trying to buy them?!"

Ruby and the others were in an uproar as well; they were fiercely glaring at Harvey, as if they were planning to kill him.

They thought that Harvey was clearly crossing the line, taking advantage of the situation!

"I'd rather use the Budokans as storage space than sell them to you!"

"Stop dreaming already!"

Joseph wanted to beat Harvey to death, but he had no choice but to hold his feelings back since he wouldn't dare.

Harvey looked at Joseph bitterly.

"Since you wouldn't sell that too, what about the office buildings and the shopping malls you own?"

"Flutwell's business alliance is crumbling, anyway. Sooner or later, the office buildings won't be of much use."

"If you sell all of those, it'll probably be worth seven hundred and fifty million dollars at most."

"As your good friend, I'll even double the price for you-I'll buy the buildings for 1.5 billion dollars."

"You should be able to feel my sincerity at this point, right?"

"You..."

Joseph's calm was long gone when he saw Harvey's small smile.

"Forget the surface structures, the land alone is worth more than that!"

"Those buildings are all mine!"

"I won't sell those to you, no matter what! I'll leave them to rot if I have to!"

"Please leave this instant!"

Joseph took a deep breath, forcing himself to calm down.

He only wanted to be involved in the Jean family's ninth branch through Mandy...

He wanted to raise his strength with the branch before expanding his authority and influence to the other branches afterwards.

But before he could complete his plan, all this happened...

Had he known Mandy's husband was this hard to deal with, he would've never touched her in the first place!

A shame there was no medicine for regret.

At this point, there was no way for both sides to bury the hatchet anymore.

Ruby and the others took a step forward, glaring coldly at Harvey.

"Please, Sir York."

Harvey stood up with a smile. He walked toward Joseph and tapped the latter gently on the face.

"Why be this unapproachable, Young Master Bauer?"

"You know full well how long you can last."

"Even if you hold onto your properties, who do you think is going to help you?"

"Who do you think is going to lend you the money?"

"Clyde? Or is it Elliot?"

"Do you really think they're good enough friends to get you out of trouble?"

"Don't be naive..."

"You'll sell everything sooner or later. It's only a question of who you sell them to."

"It's fine if you don't sell them to me."

"I'll just find a lot of people to buy it from you."

"Sooner or later, the properties will be in my hands."

"The longer you stall, the cheaper you'd have to sell."

"I wouldn't mind waiting; we'll see if you give up first or not."

"Anyway... I wish you all the best."

Harvey casually grabbed a pork bun on the table and took a bite before walking out, waving his hand nonchalantly as he did so.

Joseph's eyes twitched as he stared at Harvey's back.

He had a feeling that the mob wouldn't be the ones destroying him; Harvey had never intended to let him off the hook, after all.

As one of Flutwell's local powerhouses, Joseph managed to rebuild Flutwell's commercial order in just six years. Even so, he had no choice but to feel extremely resentful about the situation then.

After gritting his teeth, he exclaimed icily, "Go with Plan B, Ruby. I'd like to see if Harvey can be more ruthless than me!"

Harvey walked out of the courtyard with steady steps. After looking after a few students, he then went inside his van to rest.

Rachel, who had been maintaining order of the place, let someone else handle the situation. Inside the van, she handed Harvey a bottle of water.

"How was it? Is Joseph selling his properties?"

Harvey grinned.

"Of course not. That said, he still has a bit of strength left since he didn't get his men to gun me down yet."
Rachel chuckled

"Flutwell's new district, shopping malls, office buildings, and the chain Budokans are his hard-earned

"All these will be his source of strength if he manages to rise to power within his family."

"Without all these, he'd be an abandoned young master just like he was before."

"There's no way he'd sell them to you."

Harvey's smile widened.

"I know that."

"I went to see him exactly because of this. He thinks I'm only after his properties!"

"That's why he wouldn't sell them no matter the cost."

"If that's the case, he won't have enough capital to save his stocks."

"Simply put, Flutwell's business alliance's stocks are done for," Harvey said in a decisive tone. He then dialed a number on his phone.

"We're ready here, Sir York."

Yvonne's familiar voice echoed from the other side of the phone.

Harvey revealed a faint smile.

"Let Ray and Sky Corporation take action first. Get Kaizen Group ready as well."

"Another thing: tell Edwin to prepare himself, too."

"We'll play this by the script."

Half an hour later, the stocks of Flutwell's business alliance dropped by a dozen points.

Right as the stocks were rising, a huge amount of capital flooded into the market.

The capital went straight for the alliance, buying short stocks in an instant.

The investors were completely shocked when they saw hundreds of thousands of pending orders.

They all sold their stocks almost at the same time, afraid that they'll turn into worthless numbers.

In just a few minutes, Flutwell's business alliance's stocks plummeted from forty-four dollars to only twenty-eight dollars.

One-third of the alliance's billion-dollar market value was immediately gone.

Aside from the people in Flutwell, who were following the situation, investors from abroad were completely in the dark.

The simplest way to stop a situation like this is always to prevent it from happening.

Under these circumstances, the stock prices of Flutwell's business alliance would be completely slaughtered if people kept selling their stocks.

An hour later, the alliance was being ripped apart relentlessly.

Joseph had no choice but to take out funds from his personal treasury and the alliance's working capital to put into the stock market.

The stock price of the alliance doubled immediately after that...

Unfortunately, there was no capital left for Joseph to do anything any longer.

When he called Clyde and Elliot, Kaizen Group got involved under Yvonne's lead as well.

Yvonne was a lot more ruthless than Ray; she targeted the lowest point of the alliance's stock during the noon and forced it down by sixty percent.

The stock price turned to forty percent of its original price in just a single noon; Joseph was on the verge of coughing out blood when he begged for money on the phone.

Yet, who in the right mind would lend him money at this point?

Clyde and Elliot wouldn't do such a thing, even if they were actually idiots.

Joseph had some time to catch his breath during the afternoon, but his eyes became bloodshot after his calls were all sent to voicemail.

After taking off two of his buttons and letting out a mouthful of hot air, he gestured to Ruby to step forward.

"How are the preparations going?"

Ruby nodded.

"Everything's going as planned."

"I'll leave through the underground tunnel and proceed with the mission as soon as you give the order."

Joseph nodded before he painstakingly handed Ruby a stock contract. The contract was none other than one point of Flutwell's business alliance's original stocks.

Judging from the peak of the alliance, the contract would be worth hundred and fifty million dollars.

"You're going to meet an extremely greedy woman who has no bottom line..."

"People like that would usually work for the money."

"Tell her if she can make Harvey lose everything. If she can do as she's told..."

"Aside from the contract, I'll turn her every wish into a reality!"

"She wants to be the mother-in-law of a top-rated family, right?"

"I can give her exactly what she wants! She'll have absolute authority in the upper social circle soon enough!"

"That said, she can decide how to carry out her task, and to what extent."

"I'm excited to see what happens next..."