Chapter 3949 "Slander?" Harvey looked calmly at Finley, unperturbed by the scorn he was facing. "These are Truffled Eggs of the royal family, yes?" Finley frowned. "That's right." Harvey took a step forward. "The ingredients I pointed out are all correct too, right?" Finley's eyes twitched. "That's right. Only I know this dish. Nobody else would know what's in it, other than the people who ate it!" Noemi and the others froze; they looked at Harvey with odd expressions. 'Did this country bumpkin actually have this dish before?' 'He's just a country bumpkin, though! Maybe he's attended the Empire's banquets before...' Ellen's eyes lit up; she was certain Harvey probably had another identity. "You're pretty impressive, young man." Finley called himself down after pondering for a moment. "That said, you still have to apologize." "Is that so?" Harvey replied casually. "I admit, you're pretty capable if you can recognize this dish that well." Finley crossed his arms with a distant look on his face. "But if I remember correctly, I must've made this exact dish when I retired a few years ago; a TV station did interview me about this." "If I'm guessing correctly, you must've seen that." "Not only did I say the name of the dish there, I even pointed out every single ingredient that went in it." "It's a shame I can't explain the taste to the public since it's confidential." Finley put on a pitiful look. "You just got lucky you happen to know the ingredients! This means nothing! It's just a coincidence." "Since you're able to point out the name of the dish and its ingredients, I don't need you to kneel. All I want is an apology!" After hearing Finley's explanation, the guests looked at Harvey with growing disdain. 'So he was just lucky enough to see the dish being shown on TV!'

'People who don't know might just think that he actually ate the dish before!'

'How can someone like him have such an exquisite dish in the first place?'

'Even us elites need to wait our turn!'

A lot of women were glancing seductively at Finley.

'As expected from a man of the Empire's royal family! What a gentleman...'

'This country bumpkin keeps being so disrespectful. He's even saying that Mr. Finley's dish will kill people

'But Mr. Finely doesn't even care! All he asked was an apology. How sophisticated and graceful he is!'
Harvey only smiled.

"Are you really that sure your dish won't kill?"

Finley frowned; he was getting a little mad.

"The Queen ate this exact dish dozens of times already! If she died from this, I would've been shot to death!"

"Enough nonsense, Harvey!"

Noemi managed to calm down.

"We have nothing against Mr. Finley. In fact, we all respect him very much! Why would he hurt us in the first place?"

The others nodded; they were sure that Harvey was just some clown trying to show off.

'He's just saying all this to impress us so he can get together with Ellen!'

Yet, Harvey seemed so ridiculous and naive to them.

Ellen couldn't hold back her feelings any longer.

"You should really apologize, Harvey. Don't anger Mr. Finley!" she exclaimed after a moment's hesitation.

"You won't get another chance later!"

Noemi couldn't help but shoot a deathly glare at Ellen, she thought her daughter was completely blind for helping Harvey.

Finley was a bit angry as well; he believed he had already given the young man in front of him another chance, and yet...

Harvey clearly didn't know how to cherish it.

Once again, Harvey smiled.

"Mr. Finley, your Truffled Eggs should be ingested in three minutes as soon as the lids are opened, right?"

"That's right. The taste is the most mysterious at that timing," Finley replied coldly.

"You say that, but it's actually not as mysterious as it seems."

"The egg would explode in the mouth, and everything inside would then turn powder-like without any chewing. This is the refreshing and unique taste you were talking about, right?"

Finley froze; he couldn't believe what he had just heard.

This was exactly why the dish was special. Nobody would know this without tasting it beforehand...

Yet, Harvey managed to figure it out.

"For other people, this is indeed an exquisite feast. In fact, it's a rare delicacy. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call it food for the gods."

"But what does this dish mean for a person with tuberculosis?"

"The food will instantly spread throughout that person's mouth and airways."

"The congealed butter will clog the organs."

"What a patient with tuberculosis needs first and foremost is fresh air."

"Once your dish does all that, the lungs will be in the most danger..."

"Tell me, do you think that person's going to die after that?"

Finley's expression changed the moment he heard that. He instinctively looked at Noemi.

"Do you have tuberculosis, Mrs. Moreno?"

"It's not a problem..." Noemi replied, though her eyes twitched.

Finley's arrogant and distant look on his face disappeared, and he quickly waved his hand. The staff quickly grabbed the dishes and left soon after.

He let out a sigh of relief; he bowed to Harvey and wiped the sweat off his face.

"I was being reckless!"

"I'm so sorry!"

"You were right!"

"When the dish was passed down to me, my teacher told me that people with tuberculosis aren't allowed to eat it."

"I was serving people from the upper social circle. Everyone seemed healthy, so I forgot about this completely!"

"If it wasn't for you, I'd be making a huge mistake!"

"I'm truly sorry about this! In the future, everything here is free if you plan to eat here!"

Finley was truly grateful.

If it wasn't for Harvey, someone would've actually died here.

If that were to happen, not only would the business be shut down...

Finley would also be chased down by the furious people from the South Sea.

He didn't want to spend the rest of his life trying to make a living for himself.

The rest of the people there looked at Harvey in surprise; they didn't expect him to actually be right.

'Maybe he actually tasted the dish before...'

'More importantly, Mr. Finley owes him a huge favor!'

'He's a great connection to have!'

Ellen was surprised as well; she didn't think that Harvey was actually this capable.

"You have a pretty good attitude. At least you can admit to your own faults."

Harvey smiled while he wrote something on paper before throwing it to Finley.

"When I ate this dish before, I knew that there was something that should've been added."

"Not only will the taste be better, but this accident also won't happen either."

Harvey turned around and left after that.

Finley lowered his head before seeing "quail eggs" written on paper; he froze before coming to his senses seconds after.

The size of the egg was smaller, but the blast of the ingredients would only remain in the mouth; the airways wouldn't be affected at all.

This was a simple change, but it was enough to deal with the problem once and for all.

Finley couldn't help but raise his thumb.

"You're amazing! Truly amazing!"

Noemi froze after hearing Finley's words; she didn't think Harvey was actually this impressive.

Ellen was stunned as well.

"Harvey! Do you actually know this dish?" she instinctively asked after going after him.

"Of course not."

Harvey turned around with a smile on his face.

"I only read the recipe on the Empire's well-known website about the dish."

Ellen stopped in her footsteps after hearing Harvey's words; a hint of disappointment could be seen on her face.

She thought Harvey actually had a hidden identity.

She thought they'd have a chance together.

But no matter how capable Harvey was, he was just a chef and medicine seller who got lucky.

The two would never be compatible...

After leaving Blackburn City Hotel, Harvey went back to the store to prepare for the opening of the business.

He got Irene to send a few disciples from Longmen's Hong Kong and Las Vegas branches who had experience with medicine to help with some samples.

Katy was struggling quite a bit because of everything that happened; she had to stay with Dean the whole time, but she still insisted on sending more men for Harvey.

Ellen, who felt extremely guilty, came to help in the store. Not only did she find journalists to advertise the place, but she even helped Harvey get a few billboards up.

Harvey declined, but Ellen thought he was just being too narrow-minded about his incident with Noemi.

Harvey sighed; he had no choice but to let Ellen do whatever she wanted.

"Come with me to the Budokan, Harvey."

The next afternoon, everything in the store was basically done and all that was left was the opening.

Ellen had nothing to do after that, so she decided to take Harvey around.

Harvey sighed.

"Why are we going there again?"

"There's something you don't know. Martial arts are very prevalent here! A lot of people like to train!"

'The Budokan here is under the Blackburn City Martial Arts Alliance."

"We should go together. Help me get a good teacher! You can teach me how to do things there, right?"

Ellen kept swaying Harvey's arm around; she looked as if she was about to cry if Harvey didn't humor her and follow her along.

After hearing the organization's name, Harvey nodded.

"Fine. I'll come along."

He wanted to decline, but after thinking about the situation for a while, he wanted to see how different the Budokans under the organization were compared to Country H.

"Great!"

Ellen was exhilarated.

"Let's go together!"

Half an hour later, Harvey and Ellen arrived at the Blackburn City Budokan.

The place was under the Blackburn City Martial Arts Alliance. Other than training their disciples here, they would also enroll some rich playboys in order to earn a few thousand more dollars every month.

A lot of Martial Arts Alliances would do such things; the things they would teach were all basics that the entire world would know.

Ellen happily told Harvey that she signed up for a crash course for a hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Harvey heard mostly everything from Ellen; those who enrolled would need to take two to three classes every week for the fundamentals of martial arts.

After that, a so-called certificate of completion would be given as proof of their training here.

Harvey was speechless; if he was willing to do something like that, the Martial Hall would be on the market in less than a year.

While Harvey was busy pitying the rich who had been tricked, Ellen dragged him into the training hall.

Dozens of rich playboys and wealthy ladies were seated there.

They were all dressed in exquisite robes, sparring or sitting on the ground while chatting.

That said, the spars looked just like children playing; there was no point to it at all.

"It's been a while, Ellen. What a coincidence."

A man in an exquisite robe walked over with a group of people.

He strutted forward as if he was the boss around the place.

When he saw Ellen, he had a tender look on his face.

"I've been thinking about you for the past few days, Ellen. Without you, my world's bleak."

"You should come back to me."

Harvey frowned, surprise coloring his face.

The tall and handsome man was none other than Eden from the Cobb family.

Valery was also standing in the crowd.

She raised her thumb up, as if Harvey was done for.

After seeing Eden showing up and saying such shameless things, Ellen's face darkened.

"You're not with your one true love, yet you're spouting nonsense in front of my face?"

"I told you! We're already done!"

Ellen looked like a princess in a fit of rage, completely ignoring the prince in front of her.

"I know what I've done wrong, Ellen."

"I got drunk and made a big mistake!"

"Come on, give me one more chance!"

"I know my mistake now!"

Eden took a step forward, reaching out to Ellen's hand with a pitiful look on his face.

"I swear in front of everyone that I'll spend my whole life loving, cherishing, and taking care of you!"

"I'll never make you sad ever again!"

"I swear by my family's name!"

"If you forgive me, you'll be the family's lady!"

"I'll give you the entire world!"

Eden had an affectionate look; along with his intentionally kempt hair and good looks...

He looked like a third-rate idol filming a sappy movie.

A lot of beautiful women watched him with bright eyes, mesmerized.

After all, his looks and background were completely outstanding.

Harvey watched calmly; he had no interest in getting involved with the two's relationship.

Eden looked at Ellen with tender affection, but Ellen instinctively moved away from his outstretched hand.

She walked toward Harvey before exclaiming coldly, "Stay away from me! We're not that close!"

"Besides, do you think I'm stupid enough to believe a double-crossing scum like you?!"

"I already have a boyfriend!"

Ellen quickly used Harvey as a scapegoat and blinked at him to signal her intentions.

"I won't leave Harvey for you!"

"I'm a loyal woman. I'm completely different from you!"

Harvey wanted to explain the situation, but he could only sigh when he saw Ellen's miserable look.

"It's been a while, Young Master Cobb."

"You?! You're Ellen's boyfriend?"

Eden's face darkened at that instant.

"Aren't you Katy's little kept man?"

"Now, you're going after the Moreno family too?"

"How shameless can you get?!"

The place fell into an uproar; the crowd stared at Harvey with a disdainful expression.

'A kept man is trying to fight for a woman against someone like Eden?'

'Even if Ellen's completely blind, she shouldn't pick a man like that!'

"Shut up! All of you!"

"I won't allow you to embarrass my boyfriend!"

"He's a real man! He's not what you think he is!"

Ellen was exhilarated when she saw the look on Eden's face.

She shot him a fierce glare while leaning provocatively onto Harvey's arm.

"I believe him!"

"We fell in love with each other at first sight. This is true love!"

"He's a good man! He wouldn't be someone else's kept man!"

"Don't even try insulting him. Even if he's really being kept by Katy..."

"I'm perfectly fine with that!"

"Katy and I are good friends! We'll just share him!"

Everyone was shocked at hearing those words.

A lot of men were starting to get jealous, and immediately glared at Harvey.

'He managed to get his own harem by just being a kept man?! He must be the king of all kept men!'

The women glared disdainfully at Ellen, thinking that she had lowered the standards of all the ladies in Blackburn City by doing this.

"We all belong in the same circle, Ellen, so stop pretending already. You're embarrassing yourself and everyone else here."

Valery took a step forward, her face filled with arrogance.

"I know you pretty well."

"You've always liked my brother. Harvey's just a tool here for you to get my brother angry! There's no way you'd let a country bumpkin like him be your boyfriend!"

"Even if you're willing to let that happen, your mother wouldn't think the same!"

"Even if your mother would do something like that, your family wouldn't!"

"Don't ruin your entire life just to take your anger out on someone, Ellen."

"My brother admitted to his mistakes. Just give him a chance already."

"If he makes the same mistake again, I'll take care of him for you!"

While speaking reason with a righteous expression, Valery tried to use Ellen's frail emotions against her.

"I already regret everything I did, Ellen!"

"I would never do something that stupid ever again!"

"I made a mistake every man would make after getting too drunk!"

"So, you need to forgive me!"

Eden knelt on one leg before revealing a diamond ring in his hand.

"Come back, Ellen. Come back to me!"

"Look! I even have the engagement ring ready!"

"I only want you in my arms! I'll make you the happiest woman alive if you become the family's lady!"

"What's the point of regretting everything now, you b\*stard?!"

Ellen shot him a fierce look and threw the engagement ring to the ground.

"Think about what you've done!"

"If you meet another good woman, then you better treat her properly!"

"It's no use saying anything now!"

Harvey glanced at Ellen; she seemed really adamant on not forgiving Eden.

However, he could tell by her tone and attitude that she was starting to change her mind.

That said, this was Eden and Ellen's personal problem; Harvey didn't like Eden at all, but he wasn't going to say anything about the situation either.

After all, this was Ellen's choice.

As a friend, Harvey would only help if she needed it without crossing the line.

"Harvey! It's because of you that she's treating me like this!"

"You damn kept man! Not only did you force Katy to break off from the family..."

"You're even forcing Ellen to break up with me!"

Eden pointed furiously at Harvey while screaming at him, as if he was the main perpetrator.

"For the Cobb family and Ellen, I decided to challenge you to a duel!"

"Right here, right now!"

"Do you dare?!"

"If you beat me, I swear to everyone here that I won't pester Ellen anymore! I'll even give you 1.5 million dollars!"

"But if you lose, you'll have to leave Ellen once and for all!"

Eden was burning with righteous fury.

"Do you dare, Harvey?!"

"Do you dare fight me like a real man?!"

A lot of beautiful women were completely infatuated after hearing Eden's righteous words.

"Whoa! Now, that's a real man!"

"He's giving it his all to fight for his woman!"

"Charm and dedication like this are enough to move the entire world!"

"Do your best, Young Master Cobb! We support you!"

A lot of women started cheering for Eden.

The people who were jealous of Harvey started fanning the flames as well; they wanted Harvey dead more than anything.

Ellen's face darkened at the sight.

She knew Eden wasn't trying to apologize at all; rather, she was being forced to accept his proposal.

She immediately held Harvey's hand and said, "We're leaving, Harvey! I feel dirty breathing the same air with people like these."

"I'll take you somewhere else instead."

Eden had a horrible look on his face after hearing those words.

He quickly stepped in front of the two, glaring coldly all the while.

"Do you dare or not?!"

"If you think the money's not enough, I'll double it for you!"

"Well?!"

"Are you going to step up like a man, Harvey?!"

After making such a huge fuss about everything, Harvey finally turned around and looked at Eden.

He let out a sigh. "You don't have the right to duel me."

"Forget about it."

"Think this through."

The bustling training hall was instantly dead silent.

Everyone was completely shocked as they looked at Harvey, thinking that he was the world's biggest idiot.

Eden was from one of the South Sea's great families; he had been trained by the Blackburn City Martial Arts Alliance since he was a child. Out of the younger generation, he was quite the capable fighter.

Even ordinary disciples from the organization were no match for him.

'How dare this country bumpkin even talk to Eden like that?!'

'Who gave him the courage?'

Eden froze as well; he had seen a lot of show-offs in his life, but it was rare for him to see someone acting as pompous as Harvey.

People who didn't know would think that Harvey was actually capable of something.

Valery couldn't help but chuckle disdainfully.

"You really think you're impressive just because you had the upper hand back in the Cobb family's villa?"

"We were just caught off guard last time!"

"If my brother really wants to, he can kill you off with a single slap across the face."

"Forget it," Harvey said while glancing at Valery.

"He'll look bad if I do that to him instead."

"Your family too."

"Do you think you can even do that to me?"

"You think I have no right to go against you?"

Eden finally came to his senses; he did suffer some losses against Harvey last time...

But after thinking about the situation a few times, he came to the conclusion that Harvey only gained the upper hand because Harvey snuck up on him.

After the incident, the prideful Eden quickly got a few experts from the Blackburn City Martial Arts Alliance to teach him a few more tricks for a few days straight.

When Harvey was showing off everything that happened last time, Eden couldn't help but feel like he heard the biggest joke of the century.

"Do you even know what you're talking about, Harvey?"

"I'm the young master of the Cobb family! I'm destined to become the head of the family!"

"I'll be taking control over billions of dollars worth of assets in the future! I'll become a top-rated figure in this city!"

"And you? What else can you do other than being kept?"

"Don't you know that you only got in here because of Ellen?"

"Without her, you can't even stand outside the front door!"

"Katy, the woman you look up to so much, is already cast aside by her own family!"

"You have no authority, nor do you have any money! How dare you say that I have no right to fight you?!" "At least use your brain when you talk!"

"Look at yourself in the mirror! How do you still not understand your worth?"

Eden glared disdainfully at Harvey.

"Ask everyone here—ask my sister or Ellen!"

"They'll tell you you're just some kept man! Compared to the successor of the Cobb family, you're just

"You're the one who's unworthy, not me!"

Harvey remained emotionless, while Eden was filled with baseless confidence.

On the other hand, Ellen quickly held Harvey back.

"Don't fight him! You're no match against him!" she whispered.

To Ellen, Harvey was completely inferior compared to Eden.

Eden was the Cobb family's young master, after all; it would be as easy as drinking water for him to take out an outsider like Harvey.

Ellen was planning to use Harvey to rile up Eden, but she didn't want to get Harvey into trouble either.

"What? You only know how to hide behind women now? You've spent too much time being kept, I see..."

"You don't even have the balls to step up!"

Eden had a disdainful look when he saw Ellen trying to protect Harvey

"No wonder people from the Island Nations keep looking down on your people!"

"I can see that now!"

Harvey's gaze turned cold after hearing those words.

He raised his head before glaring at Eden, who was acting all high and mighty, with narrowed eyes.

"You shouldn't spout nonsense like that, Eden," he hissed icily.

"I'll give you a chance for Ellen's sake. Kneel and apologize."

"I'll let you off the hook after that."

Harvey didn't mind people insulting him, but...

He wouldn't allow anyone to insult his country.

Eden froze, and his face darkened.

"Come again?"

He slowly tightened his fist before cracking the bones all over his body threateningly, as if he was ready to kill Harvey with a single punch.

Ellen was getting worried.

"Enough, Harvey! You can't beat him."

"It's not about that. It's about him apologizing," Harvey replied.

"People should admit to their own faults."

Harvey glared coldly at Eden.

"I'm giving you three seconds. Are you kneeling or not?"

"Three..."

"Two..."

"One..."

"Enough showing off already, you b\*stard!"

Eden was furious; unbridled rage filled him when he saw Harvey's cocky attitude. He instantly swung his leg right at Harvey's face without any hesitation.

His kick was extremely fast; the force was as powerful as a bullet being ricocheting out of a rifle.

The disciples of the Blackburn City Martial Arts Alliance watched from afar with shocked gazes.

They didn't think that a rich playboy like Eden would be this strong.

The kick alone could shatter a brick into pieces if it landed!

Even ordinary people with some practice would get a concussion after getting hit; that is, if they didn't die from it.

'The kept man's finished for provoking Eden like that!'

"Look out!" Ellen instinctively exclaimed.

"I told you not to go against him, Harvey!"

"Why are you like this?!"

"You..."

Harvey took a step aside before swinging the back of his palm forward.

Slap!

The slap landed on Eden's face, sending him slamming into the ground.

"Aaagh!"

Eden screamed in pain and stumbled to the ground.

He couldn't believe what had just happened; shock and disbelief filled his eyes as he stared incredulously at Harvey...