

After Prison 451

[Chapter 451](#)

While Mick brought his men to the Blood-Drinker Gang, Severin drove back to the Shanahans with Diane and Megan.

At that moment, Catherine was pacing nervously in the yard along with other members of the Shanahans. Though they all appeared calm on the surface, they were feeling somewhat

anxious in their hearts and wanted to know whether the invitation card had been successfully handed out.

“They’re back!” Catherine’s eyes lit up as soon as she saw Severin arriving with Diane and Megan. She immediately walked over to them with William, George, and the others.

Felicia could not bear the suspense and asked immediately after going up to them, “How did it go? Did you manage to hand over the invitation card?”

Stanley sneered at one side. “There are probably hundreds of people who handed out invitations today, and they probably only accepted less than ten. The chances that they’ll accept our invitation card are slim, so don’t get your hopes up!”

Unexpectedly, Megan smiled the next second and said, “Well, whether or not the invitation was accepted depends on the person handing out the invitation. There’s always hope when the two people who went there are my beautiful self and my pretty sister!”

“It’s done then?” The old lady’s eyes lit up when heard that and she was a little excited.

Diane nodded. “It is! Valerian took mine, and we were really lucky too! The final invitation card he accepted was the one I handed to him!”

“Wonderful! I’m glad to hear that it was a success!” Felicia was beyond elated.

The old lady was just as excited too, and she immediately said, “You’ve both done a very good job, so I’ll reward each of you with a hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The butler will transfer the money to you soon.”

“Really? I get a reward too? Yay! Thanks, Grandma! You’re the best!” Megan did not expect to receive a reward too, and she jumped up excitedly at her grandmother’s generosity.

When Stanley heard that, he protested sourly, “Why does Megan have a share of the reward when it was Diane’s invitation card that was accepted? Isn’t it enough to reward one person?”

However, Catherine said to him, “What do you know? The two of them went together, so they must’ve been trying their best to call out to Mister Valerian and hand out the invitation card. Besides, they would’ve stood out since they were both standing together, so Megan must’ve contributed too!”

Megan immediately expressed her agreement. “Yeah! I was shouting, so I deserve some of the credit too!”

However, Stanley then added, "Grandma, he might have accepted our family's invitation, but he didn't say that he would surely come, right? Aren't we celebrating prematurely? What if he ends up not coming? Even if you want to reward them both, I think it'd be better for you to wait until Mister Valerian is here. I don't think it's appropriate for you to reward them now, especially since there's a possibility that he might not come by to visit."

Unexpectedly, the old lady said, "Credit is due to them for successfully handing it over to

Mister Valerian, so they deserve to be given the reward. If Mister Valerian does come to our home, they'll get another hundred and fifty thousand, regardless of whether he's just visiting or having a meal with us."

"Wow, Grandma! You're so generous this time!" Megan jumped up excitedly. It was a shame that she did not have much money to spend after Severin bought her the car. Although he later gave Felicia a huge dowry, Felicia merely bought her some stuff and gave her a-hundred-and- fifty hundred thousand dollars. As a result, Megan still felt that she was a little poor, and she generally had to pinch her pennies whenever she went enjoying herself. Naturally, the opportunity to get three hundred thousand dollars was an exciting prospect for her.

When Catherine heard that, her expression soured instantly and she asked, "What do you mean I'm being 'so generous this time'? Are you saying that I was stingy in the past?"

[Chapter 452](#)

Megan finally realized that she, in her excitement, had misspoken. She immediately smiled awkwardly and said, "No, Grandma, that's not what I meant! You were generous before, and I was trying to say that you're overly generous right now!"

"Haha! What a quick-witted young girl you are!" Catherine chuckled. It was not as if she did not understand Megan's implication through that initial reaction.

"Sigh, I'm guessing that Mister Valerian probably received several invitations, and it would be lucky if he managed to make time and visit one or two families. The odds of him coming to visit us are slim, I'm afraid," Stanley continued to lament.

All of a sudden, Severin remarked, "Relax. There's a good chance he'll come and visit the Shanahans, whether it is tomorrow or the day after tomorrow!"

Severin's confidence elicited a sneer from Stanley as he said, "Hehe. Tomorrow or the day after tomorrow? There are about ten or so invitation cards in Mister Valerian's hands, or in other words, the chances of him coming over are one out of ten. If he decides to visit two families, then our chances are one out of five. We might be a second-tier family, but we've just only started to rise in the upper-class circle. They've probably never heard of us before, so what are the odds that he'll come and visit us?"

Severin was stunned for a moment, but he soon said to Stanley, "How about we make a bet if you don't believe me?"

“A bet?” Stanley was very confident he was in his chances of winning, but as much as he wanted to bet with Severin, he could only say, “I don’t have the money to bet with you. I’m dirt poor now, so there’s no way I can get any funds.”

“Haha!” Severin could not help but laugh when he heard that. The guy who used to be such a dominant force in the family was reduced to being in such a miserable state! Seeing him like that brought joy to Severin’s heart.

“Perhaps. Let’s just hope for the best!” Catherine smiled and added, “By the way, we still need to prepare some gifts and go congratulate the Ballards. If we have the opportunity to chat with Mister Valerian then, we might be able to leave a good impression on him! That’ll boost our chances even more!”

“Yes, we have to! What sort of gift should we prepare for the Ballards, though?” George nodded and felt that his mother made a very reasonable point.

The old lady thought for a while and said, “We now have a good relationship with the Ballards, and Miss Sheila even expressed her love to Severin when she got drunk the other day! We mustn’t bring ordinary gifts when we visit them. We must prepare better gifts for them. Hmm, let’s bring that antique painting with us. Let’s throw in some jeweled hairpins or similar items too!” She finally had an idea.

“But Grandma, that painting is probably worth millions! It wasn’t easy for you to get it!” Stanley said heartbrokenly.

“Sigh, no pain, no gain. We’re investing, and our family is progressing very well right now too. “The old lady showed her determination. After making her point known, she looked at Diane. again and said earnestly to her, “You can see how much Miss Sheila likes Severin. It will bring

us many

benefits if she marries Severin. Will you stop her if she wishes to do so?”

[Chapter 453](#)

Diane could tell from the beginning that everyone in the Shanahans wanted Severin to marry. Sheila. That would essentially make the Ballards and the Shanahans one family, and it would be of tremendous importance to the Shanahans’ development. They had nothing to lose and everything to gain, for it was something that many families dreamed of having.

As a result, Diane had been feeling conflicted for the past few days. After all, she never thought that an ex-convict like Severin could still attract the affection of such a young lady. Many rich and powerful young men, especially those from upper-class families, had more than one wife and many other women outside of the home too. It seemed to be the norm for them. Diane, however, had always been an unyielding character, and she felt that Severin— being the ordinary man that he was—was already extremely lucky that he got the chance to marry her.

Little did she expect him to become more and more promising by the day, and the Shanahans’ recent rapid rise was inextricably linked to him too. After all, had it not been for him, not even the Chavezes’ assets could have fallen into the Shanahans’ hands.

After giving it some more thought over the past few days, Diane actually felt relieved in her heart. It would be enough as long as Severin loved her and protected both her and Selene. If an appropriate situation arose, then she would be fine with letting Sheila marry him. However, it still came as a bit of a shock that the old lady would ask that sort of question.

Although Diane was a little surprised, she was stunned for only a brief moment, after which she said, "Miss Sheila is a very good person. She doesn't hatch any schemes, and she's very forthright with her opinions. Anyone who meets such a woman will ultimately take a liking to her. However, I should point out that I married Severin first, so whatever happens, I must be the main wife. Even if she gets married, she can never and should never rise to the same status as me, and the issue with marrying her is whether or not someone of her status will be willing to accept that!"

Severin was completely dumbfounded because he never thought that Diane would say something like that. He became emotional the next second, because Diane was a good woman, and she was willing to endure whatever uneasiness she felt about the situation because she was looking at the bigger picture. Having such a wife made Severin feel that he had no regrets whatsoever in life!

"So you're willing, then? Miss Sheila seems to like Severin a lot, and maybe she might be willing to play second fiddle to you for Severin's sake. Mister Zachariah only has one daughter, and all his property will go to her when he grows old. That means Brookbourn Mansion will sooner end up in Severin's hands!" Felicia was elated when she thought of how much wealth she might stand to gain in the future.

Catherine nodded too. "Diane is a good child. She's always so mindful of the bigger picture and is filial in her actions. I'm right about you!"

Unexpectedly for them, Severin stood up and said to everyone. "Did you all think you could decide for me when you haven't asked me if I agree to it?"

Felicia immediately said, "What's there to disagree with? This is the Ballards' daughter we're talking about here. If she's willing to marry you, then everyone in Brookbourn will envy you! You'll be going out with pride! Why would you object to such a good development?"

Megan also chimed in, "Just be happy for yourself, Brother-in-Law. Miss Sheila is a beautiful woman, and though my sister is beautiful too, you could say that the both of them are uniquely different from each other. If you can get the chance to marry her and enjoy life with two beautiful women, I think you'll wake up every day with a smile!"

Severin could not but be dumbfounded for a moment. Sheila was pretty, and when he remembered her sexy figure as well as the close contact that he had with her when he carried her to bed the day before, it was difficult for him to control the raging passion in his heart. Despite being the calm person that he was.

Megan's words made even more sense when he thought of that.

Stanley then smiled coldly. "Yeah. You know what, I think you're secretly happy! If a beautiful woman like Miss Sheila falls in love with you, that means you're extremely lucky! Why would you say no if she wants to marry you? Besides, my cousin has already said yes. Who'd believe you if you said you refuse to marry Sheila?"

[Chapter 454](#)

Severin smiled bitterly and could not help but say, "She's too young, and she acts like a brat. I'm not short of money either, and I don't want to involve money with feelings. It would leave a very bad impression if word gets out and people think that I married Sheila for money!"

As he made his stance clear, he stepped forward and took the initiative to hold Diane's hand. I'm genuinely touched that Diane is willing to consider the bigger picture for me, but I think that having Diane as a wife is more than enough for me. I'm very satisfied, and I don't have any other plans!"

After hearing that, Diane could not help but blush slightly and felt a surge of sweetness in her heart. Since women were usually a man's weakness, she originally thought that Severin would happily accept marrying Sheila after she had conceded to it.

However, Severin was very considerate of her, and he never once considered involving feelings with money. Such was the man she loved, and her decision to marry him was the right one!

"Are you stupid, Severin? You're such an idiot for refusing the advances of someone as attractive as Miss Sheila!" Stanley stomped his foot angrily and wished that he could be the one taking Severin's place to marry Sheila. He lamented Severin's stubbornness and had a frustrated expression on his face.

"Let's leave these feelings up to fate! I don't want to be with someone for a particular purpose, which you people seem very inclined on doing. I'll only be with them if I fall in love with them. and believe that they're worthy of my love. I'll only protect them if they're worthy of my protection. I'm not going to just marry her because she's the daughter of Brookbourn Mansion. Is that so difficult for you people to understand?" Severin finally said seriously once

more.

Megan looked at Severin again and felt that her impression of him had improved greatly. Everything he said made perfect sense, for love should be out of the pureness of one's heart instead of being a tool for transactions.

"Do you

think it might be possible for you to fall in love with Miss Sheila? Or is that completely out of the question?" Catherine's lips twitched a few times and she finally looked at Severin and asked him.

Severin did not answer right away and gave it a bit of thought before explaining, "I don't know what the future may hold, but I can say for sure that I don't have that sort of feeling for her right now. I don't miss her the way I miss Diane when I haven't seen her for a few days!"

Diane felt even sweeter when she heard that and she punched Severin's shoulder lightly. Then, for the first time ever, she said coquettishly in front of everyone, "Ugh. Do you have to be so sappy?"

Severin grinned. "But I'm telling the truth, honey! I can't guarantee that I won't like other women in the future because of certain circumstances, but I can say with the utmost confidence that you're the only woman in my heart right now!"

“Hearing that from you is enough for me, honey! I don’t care about anything else!” Diane’s face turned red, and she took the initiative to say an equally as sentimental sentence too.

[Chapter 455](#)

Everyone was speechless at that moment, as they did not expect to be subject to a public display of affection between the couple.

Catherine nodded too, because Severin spoke the truth. After all, no one could guarantee what would happen in the future, but what Severin said then was undoubtedly the facts. For the moment at least, Severin had not developed any strong feelings toward Sheila.

‘It appears Miss Sheila will have to work doubly hard now. Severin doesn’t hate her, and judging from his evaluation of her, he believes that she is a good young girl too. Looks like I’ll have to talk with Miss Sheila sometime soon!’ the old lady thought to herself.

“Mister Stanley, Mister Stanley! You and your father are going viral now!” All of a sudden, a young maid ran up to Stanley and said excitedly.

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Stanley was feeling a little upset after having to face Severin and Diane’s affectionate behavior earlier, and his expression darkened even more when he saw the maid running over to him. What’s going on? Why are you making such a fuss!”

“Sir, you and your father are all over the internet now. Didn’t the two of you run naked the other day? Some people posted it on the internet, and the number of fans on your social media account has soared! You’ve gotten four million fans in just a couple of days!” The servant girl said excitedly, “It’s a shame that no one can find the patriarch’s account because he doesn’t have one. But you are all the rage right now, sir! All the comments are talking about how funny you look when you run!”

“I’m amusing to them, now?” Stanley’s face turned even gloomier and he was a little speechless.

He could not help but frown when he saw all his fans. “Grandma, I have more than four million followers now!”

Stanley immediately took out his phone and clicked into his app. In the past, he used to upload some pretentious videos during his time as a general manager, and among them were clips of him swimming with some beautiful women, or showing off his time at upscale bars. When Diane took over his position, the funds available to him became much lesser, and he no longer had the money to act and show off, hence the dearth of videos for quite some time.

He had lost a bet with Severin the other day and was forced to go walk naked with his father, but he did not expect that the video would be posted online and his 10,000 fans would balloon to nearly 400 times the original number! Moreover, the trend seemed to suggest that his fans were still growing, and the app was beeping non-stop.

“Goodness, I’m getting really popular now. Why would these people suddenly follow me? Haha!” Stanley was a little excited and could not help but let out a laugh.

The old lady, however, had a gloomy expression when she heard that. She said petulantly, "You've gone viral? What's there to celebrate about going viral? Doesn't this mean that a lot of people now know that you and your father had to run naked? I thought you managed to save some embarrassment because not a lot of people saw it, but now it seems that millions of people know what happened! This is utterly embarrassing!"

The servant girl said again, "Ma'am, it's only his followers that are more than four million."

The number of people who have watched the video probably reached tens of millions already, maybe even over a hundred million! There are a lot of people who have watched the video!"

Catherine nearly fainted when she heard that! She smacked her thigh and said, "What did our family do to deserve this? What disaster have we brought upon ourselves? We have thoroughly made fools of ourselves!"

[Chapter 456](#)

"You don't understand, Grandma. I'm popular now! I'm an internet celebrity, or rather Dad. and I are both internet celebrities now! This is a good thing! Besides we're not fully naked in the video. We're still wearing a small piece of cloth, right? It'll be fine! Going viral is a positive thing!" Stanley immediately explained.

"Ahak!" The old lady coughed and nearly vomited blood. She lashed out at Stanley and said, "Really, now? Do you honestly think everything's fine after becoming such a huge laughingstock?"

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"Ma'am, you might not know this, but internet celebrities and influencers make lots of money nowadays. Some of them are even invited to endorse products! With the right company. marketing them, some influencers can earn tens of millions a year, and they're usually able to earn much more than that!" The servant immediately helped explain the benefits to the old lady. "You are unaware of how powerful such apps are because you've never downloaded them. nor watched any of the videos. This is the trend among young people, and Mister Stanley can earn money by being an influencer in the future. Didn't they advertise our family's newly- opened restaurant at the entrance? Business will probably be booming in no time!"

When Diane heard that, she expressed her surprise. "In fact, I was just wondering yesterday why Delight Diner is full to the brim with people! There's always a long line starting from the end of the street, and I couldn't figure out why a new restaurant would have such good business! This explains everything!"

"Is that true?" The old lady's eyes lit up as soon as she heard that. "What if the restaurant. can't cope with demand?"

Diane understood what her grandmother was implying and immediately said, "Then we'll just open another branch right next to it! Once the restaurant expands, we can hire more people to manage it! Business will thrive!"

Catherine looked at Stanley and George before saying, "Stanley, George, do go to the restaurant more often when you have the time. Make sure to upload some more videos to advertise the restaurant more!"

Stanley immediately smiled. “No problem, Grandma, but will I get anything in return? I’m an influencer now, and I’m worth a lot, so the least I should get is a fee for making an

appearance, don’t you think? Look at me. I haven’t been able to go drinking recently, and I don’t even have a better car to drive now that I’m famous!”

The old lady smiled and said, “Then the two of you can manage the restaurant in the future, and divided among yourselves as your assets. Whatever money you earn will be yours to keep, but of course, you still need to pay back the initial investment. Will that be acceptable?”

George and Stanley looked at each other, inhaled sharply, and had an ecstatic looks on their faces.

Even though a new branch was merely part of many industries under the Shanahans’ name and was therefore not that big a deal for the family, it was important to both Stanley and George because the restaurant was theirs from then on. Based on the current situation, they would definitely be able to earn a lot of money in one month, and by then, they would at least have some money to spend!

“You’re too kind, Grandma!” Stanley was so moved that he was on the verge of tears. Despite all the grief and depression he had to go through in the past few days, he was elated that the chance to turn his fortunes over had been given to him.

“Don’t forget to make the most of it since you’re both internet celebrities now. I won’t bail either of you out again in the future if you lose money!” The old lady said with a smile.

“This is fantastic! I have fans, and I can earn money with live streams or stuff like that in the future! Maybe someone will ask me to advertise for them! Man, I’m getting excited just thinking about it!” Stanley felt even more overjoyed when he fantasized about his happy life.

in the future.

[Chapter 457](#)

Diane and Severin looked at each other and could not help but smile. It seemed to be quite easy. to satisfy Stanley, especially since he had found a way to earn a living.

“Let’s go. We need to prepare our gifts and attend the banquet at Brookbourn Mansion!” Catherine finally said with a smile.

Before long, the Shanahans had prepared their gifts and were planning to rush to Brookbourn.

Mansion.

Over at Riverson, Mus Hall’s Mick had brought several of his elders to the Blood-Drinker Gang and explained the entire situation to their leader, Tharan.

Tharan could not help but frown when he said that. “Just how bold is this Severin guy? He kidnapped your daughter, and he even threatened you and asked you to bring your men to save her?”

The great elder said, “Judging from the situation, Severin’s attainment level is far from low. Mus Hall’s Lauren is a level three profound master, and yet she couldn’t be a match for him!”

Menkel, the second elder, frowned and said, "Why do I feel like his actions defy logic? He's being targeted by Candy and Lauren, so why would he let Lauren go? Logically speaking, shouldn't he kill her after getting her to report to Mick?"

His mind was more perceptive than the rest, and he had already noticed that something was amiss. Mick was stunned for a moment, but he immediately said excitedly, "What do you mean by that, Second Elder? Are you saying that you want Lauren to be killed? Perhaps. Severin's strength is only barely higher than Lauren's, and even if she's injured, she might still be able to escape from him if she's far enough away from reach."

Mick's bloodshot eyes and emotional outlook prompted Tharan to comment, "Let's refrain from making any guesses, Second Elder. Some young guns may be strong, but they tend to be a little overconfident. Why don't you follow them if you think something fishy is going on?"

Menkel smiled wickedly. "Sure! I'm curious to see just how strong Severin is. I didn't think he'd be so unbridled as to kidnap Candy and provoke us on top of that!"

Mick's mouth twitched a few times. Severin's attainment was probably quite high if he was strong enough to defeat Lauren, and since Severin was the enemy of the Blood-Drinker Gang, he initially considered sparing Severin as long as the latter did not lay a hand on his daughter. He planned to defeat Severin and inform the latter that he was only obeying the Blood-Drinker Gang's orders.

Once Severin achieved another breakthrough in his attainment, he would find a way to get back at the Blood-Drinker Gang, thus benefitting Mus Hall because the Blood-Drinker Gang would have to face a formidable opponent.

Conversely, if Menkel-the gang's second elder-followed him, then there was no chance for Mick to spare Severin's life even if he wanted to. When Mick realized that, he immediately said, "Mister Menkel, I don't see any necessity for you to come with us. Lauren has already explained to me that his attainment isn't very high, so I'm sure I'll be able to kill him if I bring some of my elders along. Besides, I wouldn't want you to make a move even if you came along!"

[Chapter 458](#)

"Why not? Are you not happy that I am tagging along to help you?" Menkel frowned and looked straight at Mick.

In response, Mick said, "Because I want to kill that kid with my own hands! He and I cannot live under the same sky after what he did to my daughter. I will take revenge with my own hands, and I wouldn't want anyone to do it on behalf of me!"

Unbeknownst to Mick, Menkel was suspicious by nature and felt even more drawn to going with Mick when he saw how reluctant Mick was to bring him along. Menkel smiled and said, "I'll give you my word that I won't do anything even if I go with you. I just want to see that kid with my own eyes and watch him die at your hands for kidnapping your daughter!"

Tharan nodded too. "Let Menkel go with you, Mick. He can gather information about the situation in Brookbourn if he's tagging along with you, and he can also figure out a way to destroy Draco Hall after killing Severin. By then, we will have to ensure that the underground forces in Brookbourn are held in

the palm of our hand. I heard that even a war chief like Valerian Sutcliffe has gone to Brookbourn today. What a lively day indeed!”

After giving out that order, Tharan thought for a while and said again: “By the way, this Severin chose a splendid place to be buried. It’d be easy to dispose of his body if we kill him in the woods outside the city. If it happened in the city and Mister Valerian finds out that a murder occurred there, it would be bad for us if he gets curious and decides to investigate it.”

Menkel immediately said, “Sir, someone like Valerian probably wouldn’t care much about such insignificant issues. He’ll probably just turn a blind eye to it, thinking that it’s some small -time feud between factions from different cities!”

Tharan nodded. “Even so, I’m still quite surprised that someone like Mister Valerian would visit such a small place like Brookbourn all of a sudden. He wouldn’t have had a reason to visit. that city if there was no one worth visiting there!”

Menkel could not help but laugh when he heard that. “Hehe, are you saying that strong people. exist in Brookbourn? Are you afraid of Severin?” Menkel had a determined look on his face and maintained his smile. “Haha, we don’t know the exact situation surrounding that kid, but if he was any good in the first place, he wouldn’t have been sent to jail all those years ago. The way I see it, he probably met a powerful person in prison and was lucky enough to get a chance to train himself and become a profound master. We don’t need to worry about him!”

Tharan felt that Menkel had a point, so he nodded and said, “Okay. Go with them, and make sure Severin dies tonight. There’s no need to rush back after he’s dead. Stay in Brookbourn for a couple of days, get a feel of the power dynamics and the situation there, and get more details on the city. We must not be careless with this operation, and we’ll only figure out a way to take over Draco Hall once we get a better feel of things!”

“Then that’s settled. Let’s set off immediately. Some of my men are still waiting on me at the door!” Mick knew that he could not refuse to let Menkel come along, so he had no choice but to nod and agree.

“Sigh, looks like Severin’s death is all but certain. Menkel’s attainment is the same as mine and we’re both level seven profound masters, but his combat power is much higher than mine. Guess there’s little chance of sparing Severin anymore!” Mick could not help but sigh as he sat

in the car. As the saying went, ‘the enemy of my enemy is my friend’, an

[Chapter 459](#)

By the time Mick and others set off, Severin and the Shanahans had already arrived at the Ballards.

At that moment, dozens of tables had already been set up in a large courtyard outside the house. An endless stream of people came to congratulate the Ballards, and they even gave the Ballards lots of valuable gifts. Even so, many of them could not help but feel that the painting. given by the Shanahans was an exceptionally generous move on the latter’s part, considering how expensive the painting was.

After all, such items could not be forged. “Congratulations, ma’am! You seem to be more and more energetic with age, and the Shanahans have been progressing rather well recently too!” Some wealthy

businessmen came over to greet Catherine, and they were clearly very optimistic about the Shanahans' future..

George, Catherine, and the others chatted with the many guests there. Severin, on the other hand, walked to a quiet and isolated place where he could smoke a cigarette without being in anyone's company.

After a while, a middle-aged man with sunglasses came over. He had a straight posture, and although he wore sunglasses, it was still somewhat difficult to conceal the grandeur that was oozing out of him from head to toe.

When Severin saw the man approaching him, he could not help but smile and say, "I can't believe you sneaked all the way here, you rascal!"

"Hehe, I have some time to spare, so I think it's good to seize this chance and come by to pay my master a visit!" Warren chuckled, took out his phone again, and stood beside Severin to take a selfie.

After snapping the photo, Warren could not help but laugh as he said, "The other three are going to be so jealous of me if they see this photo!"

Severin was speechless. "It's fine if you keep that photo to yourself, but make sure it doesn't spread. If people see me taking a photo with a famous war god, I'm worried that they might start doubting my identity!"

Warren smiled. "Oh, you jest! What do you mean by 'famous'? I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for you! By the way, which one is your wife? Can I secretly take a photo of her? I'm planning to show the other three what our master's wife looks like!"

Severin did not know whether to laugh or cry. He looked at Diane in the distance and said, "She's the one in the white dress over there!"

"What a beauty!" Warren took out his cell phone and surreptitiously snapped a photo of her before saying, "I'll be honest...I envy you quite a bit, master!"

Severin was stunned by that remark and could not help but retort. "You? Envy me? What's there to envy when you've achieved so much in life already?"

Warren said "Look at Valerian. He's being surrounded by a group of people who do nothing, but flatter him. This kind of feeling might make you feel happy in the beginning, but it gets more and more annoying with time! The only way I could come to see you is by wearing sunglasses and pretending to be Valerian's bodyguard. Had I not done that, well... I would've

been surrounded by a group of people by now too!"

"Haha!" Severin burst out laughing when he heard that. "That is why you and the other three are not allowed to let anyone know that I am your master. You'll never hear the end of it from me if you ever let that slip to the public!"

"By the way, I don't recall you and your wife having a wedding. Weddings are very important for women, you know. Have you thought of making it up to her?" Warren then added.

Severin nodded. "I have, and it's been decided already. But with eight more days until the fifteenth of August, there are still some things I have to take care of on that date. I'm afraid the wedding will have to wait until I've gotten all those things out of the way!"

[Chapter 460](#)

"Hehe, in that case, screw it, the four of us will be coming to your wedding, and you can't try to hide from us again this time!" Warren immediately said with a smile when he heard

Severin's plan.

Severin did not object to it and nodded his head instead. "You should. After all, Diane has suffered so much for me over the years, and I intend to make the wedding a grand one, to the point where she becomes the envy of everyone in the entire south country!"

"Haha, perfect! We look forward to the banquet! Remember to tell us in advance when you've decided on the date!" Warren laughed.

"Diane, look! The man with sunglasses is so handsome, and he looks cool with those shades. too!" Megan, who was chatting with Diane, soon noticed that a man was speaking to Severin.

Diane was a little taken aback when she looked over. "He seems to have a unique temperament to him. I can't describe it, but it's almost like he has a sense of superiority over everyone even though he's doing nothing but standing there!"

"If I remember correctly, this man seems to be Mister Valerian's bodyguard. Maybe he's a general too!" Megan surmised after some thought.

On Valerian's end, he heaved a sigh of relief after having to smile and greet all those people.. He glanced over at Warren and suddenly realized that the 20-something young man next to Warren was Warren's master.

"Isn't he a little too young to be the master mentioned by Mister Warren? I thought he wouldn't be that young! Guess he really is an extraordinary freak of nature!" Valerian glanced intently at Severin as the

latter smoked and felt incredibly moved by the person he saw. He would have gone over to talk to Severin had he not felt awkward to do so.

Before long, the banquet was set up, and it was expected that the Shanahans would not be arranged to sit at the same table as Valerian. Instead, Valerian sat with Zachariah, Zenoah, and the heads of three first-tier families.

Midway through the meal, Valerian said something to Zachariah, who then nodded, stood up, and said to the crowd, "Everyone, we are very grateful that Mister Valerian has come to our city this year and plans to visit some of our city's upper-class families. I have just been told of his itinerary for the next couple of days!"

Upon hearing that announcement, many of the middle-aged people became excited, especially those upper-class families who had managed to hand out their invitations to Valerian. All of them were looking forward to being in his itinerary. Catherine looked over excitedly too, and her heart became tense all of a sudden.

Severin could not help but smile a little and continued to help himself to the food with an indifferent expression.

“Mister Valerian will visit the Shanahans tomorrow morning as well as have lunch and dinner. with them. He will also spend the night at their place!” Zachariah smiled and announced it to everyone.