

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2211

Following that, Derrick whose bodyguards surrounded the group of three led the duo into the building, leaving the previous employees staring at their backs, completely stupefied. Throughout their many years working here, they had never seen their chairman being so close with anyone, not that they had many chances to see him in the first place.

Whatever the case was, the trio soon got into an elevator and headed to the top floor... The entire floor was Derrick's office, and the elevator doors opened, Gerald and Aiden were greeted by the sight of at least a dozen young individuals running here and there. From the way they were dressed, they appeared to be Derrick's secretaries...

"This way, please!" said Derrick as he gestured for Gerald and Aiden to continue following him, ignoring the chaotic scene.

Once they got to his table, Derrick took his coat off before making some tea. Before he sat at the table again, he made sure to get a pack of cigarettes that had been given to him by the Japanese royal family from the cabinet as well.

As Derek placed the cigarettes before the youth, Gerald who had noticed the pile of documents on Derrick's desk couldn't help but rub his temple as he muttered, "You know, I'm fine coming another time if you're busy..."

“I’m not busy at all! If you’re talking about those documents, my secretaries can handle those! With that said, you’re my priority here, so don’t worry about anything else! ” replied Derrick as he shook his head with a grin.

“You haven’t changed one bit, have you?” said Gerald as he shook his head with a smile.

Nodding in response, Derrick then turned to look at Aiden before cordially asking, “Speaking of which, who might this be?”

“Ah, I go by Aiden Baker, and I’m Gerald’s friend!” replied Aiden as he outstretched his hand, his earlier bad mood now completely gone due to Derrick’s enthusiasm.

“Any friend of Gerald’s is a friend of mine! Speaking of which, take my name card. If you ever face any issues in Japan in the future, just give me a ring and I’ll see to it!” replied Derrick as he shook Aiden’s hand before handing him a card.

“I’ll keep that in mind,” replied Aiden as he slipped the card into his pocket.

“Glad to hear that! Either way, I hope you two are hungry since I’m about to order some food! Don’t worry, we’ll be eating in my office! Also, between you and me, I still prefer Weston dishes even though I’ve been living here all these years,” said Derrick as he pressed a button on his desk.

Shortly after, a secretary entered the room before asking, “You called, Chairman Zima?”

“Indeed. Order the tastiest dishes you can think of and bring a bottle of good wine over too! Be snappy about it!” replied Derrick, prompting his secretary to nod before quickly leaving.

With that out of the way, Derrick then looked at Gerald before saying, “Now then... Since you came here out of the blue, I’m assuming you need help with something?”

“Bingo,” replied Gerald.

“I’m all ears! I’ve already made a number of connections within Japan in the past few years, so I’m sure I’ll be able to help!” declared Derrick who knew that he wouldn’t be enjoying all this glory had Gerald not saved him back then. Hell, he could’ve died if Gerald hadn’t stepped in!

“I’m sure you can. Before anything else, do you know about the Futabas?” asked Gerald.

“They used to be a relatively strong family here, right? In fact, I think I’ve even cooperated with them before in previous years before their business started plummeting. That’s the extent of what I know about them...” muttered Derrick after thinking about it for a while.

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“Well, I’m here today to talk about that family’s issues,” replied Gerald as he lit a cigarette.

“... Oh? You have relations with other families here?” asked Derrick who thought that Gerald only knew him in the entirety of Japan.

“The whole story is pretty complicated to explain in just one sitting, but essentially, I’m here to ask if you’re willing to lend the Futabas a hand to help them get through their current crisis,” replied Gerald.

“Well, consider it done!” replied Derrick without even thinking twice.

“Just like that? Aren’t you worried that I’ll use this against you?” said Gerald with a chuckle.

“Oh please, you saved my life back then! So what if you take me down? Hell, I wouldn’t mind giving you my position! Regardless, do tell the members of the Futaba family to come over. I just so happen to have a few suitable contracts for them. While I was initially thinking of giving them to one of my newly acquired companies, I guess the Futabas will be getting them now!” replied Derrick with a hearty chuckle.

Nodding in response, Gerald then patted Aiden on his shoulder before saying, "Contact the patriarch and tell him to come over."

"On it!" replied Aiden as he walked out of the office to make the call.

Watching as Aiden left, Derrick turned to look at Gerald before saying, "Still, it's been... what? Five to six years since we last parted ways? I never thought that I'd get to meet you again! I was seriously considering paying you a visit during the year end holidays this year!"

"About that long, yeah," replied Gerald.

"It truly has been a while... So, how have you been throughout these years?" asked Derrick.

"Things have been good, though there were a few hiccups along the way, one of them being the Futaba family's plight. If you can help them, then you're seriously helping me out," replied Gerald with a smile.

"Just leave it to me. With how powerful the Fareast Consortium is, I'm sure we can work things out!" declared Derrick as he patted his chest.

“I believe in you. Regardless, since you’re helping me with this, I’m considering your favor to be paid off,” replied Gerald as he nodded slightly.

“Hmm? Don’t be silly, this is nothing to me! Remember, you saved my life back then! If this is all I need to do to return your favor, then I’ll feel guilty about it till the day I die!” declared Derrick.

“If you put it that way... Then I guess you still owe me one...” replied Gerald as he shook his head with a chuckle.

After talking for a while longer, the secretary from before returned with multiple dishes. Seeing that, Derrick immediately cleared his table, giving the secretary room to place the dishes before opening a bottle of white wine.

Shortly after, Aiden returned as well and said, “Mr. Futaba will be coming over right away.”

Upon hearing that, Derrick who knew that Gerald would only ask for his help if the incident was a serious one was prompted to ask, “So... mind telling me what your relationship with the Futaba family’s patriarch is...?”

“I’ll share more about it if we have the time after this. Just know that by helping the Futabas, you may as well be saving my life!” replied Gerald as he sipped some white wine before smacking his lips.

Sensing how reluctant Gerald was to talk more about it, Derrick then said, "...Well, alright then!"

Following that, they began digging in. In between bites, Derrick talked about how Gerald had saved him from bandits many years prior, resulting in the boy getting seriously hurt.

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Listening as Derrick shared that old tale, Gerald couldn't help but shake his head with a smile. After all, Gerald had done plenty of similar things for others, so he didn't particularly view saving Derrick as anything special.

Regardless, it was almost an hour and a half later when they finally finished their meal. By that point, Derrick had already drunk most of the white wine, and his reddened cheek was now pressed against Gerald's thigh as he continued mumbling about that year's incident.

Despite that, Gerald wasn't annoyed by Derrick's actions. Instead, he simply continued replying to Derrick's words which were getting increasingly incoherent.

Thankfully, a secretary soon entered. Upon seeing her, Gerald gestured for her to come over before saying, "Go get more people to help your chairman up. He deserves some rest."

Nodding in response, she then left before returning with more secretaries who then helped Derrick up before moving him into another, more private room.

Once they were gone, Aiden couldn't help but look at Gerald as he asked, "... He kept repeating the same incident over and over again... And here I thought he just owed you a minor favor!"

"I just happened to be there back when I saved him, so I don't really take that incident to heart. Still, if he's that thankful about it, I don't really mind. I'm just surprised that he's still this enthusiastic about helping me after all these years. Speaking of which, when's the patriarch going to arrive?" replied Gerald as he crossed his legs.

"Probably in an hour or two. After all, even we drove for an entire morning to get here!" said Aiden as he looked at the time.

"I see... By the way, don't you need to return to the military? The competition's over, isn't it?" asked Gerald.

"As I've previously said, I'll be getting quite some time off since I participated in the competition in the first place. With that in mind, I can help you for a bit longer! You don't think I'm annoying, do you?" replied Aiden as he scratched the back of his head with a grin.

"I wonder about that," said Gerald as he patted Aiden's shoulder with a chuckle.

Either way, since Derrick was now sleeping, the duo simply waited where they were. Occasionally, a secretary would approach them and ask if they needed anything. After all, they had seen how much their chairman respected them, so they didn't dare to neglect the duo.

Whatever the case was, Aiden got a call from Takuya just as the sky was getting dark. After relaying the information to Gerald, Gerald in turn called for one of the secretaries before saying, "The Futaba patriarch is downstairs. Please lead him up."

With that said, Takuya soon found himself entering the office.

Upon seeing Gerald there, Takuya's eyes instantly widened as he asked, "...Huh? What are you doing here, Gerald?"

Takuya was rightfully surprised. After all, the Futabas were incomparable to the Fareast Consortium! They had only been able to cooperate with them back then out of pure luck!

"Let's just say that I have an old friend here. Since I had nothing better to do today, I figured I may as well pay him a visit," replied Gerald as he handed Takuya a cigarette.

"... B-but isn't this the chairman's office...?" asked Takuya as he looked around the area.

Ignoring his question, Gerald simply gestured for a secretary to come over before saying, "Do pour him a glass of water. Also, if the chairman is still asleep, please don't wake him up."

"... Huh? But... what if he passes out for eight hours...?" asked the secretary. While the secretary would've normally prioritized Derrick's sleep, since he now knew how prestigious Gerald was, he was rightfully afraid that things would get unnecessarily delayed.

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"Just let him rest," replied Gerald with a wave of his hand.

"... Very well. I'll be waiting outside if you need me then," replied the secretary, feeling relieved that he wouldn't be blamed at the end of the day since Gerald had already told him not to wake Derrick up.

Once the secretary left, Takuya was prompted to ask, "... So... you really are acquainted with Chairman Derrick...?"

"I am, and I'm here to ask for his help," replied Gerald with a nod.

“... I see. So... why exactly am I here...? Do you need my help with something too...?” asked Takuya who was still having a hard time registering all this.

“Negative. You’re here because I told Derrick to give the Futabas a few contracts to sign. Following that, your family should be able to return to its former glory in no time at all. Don’t worry, Derrick will definitely give you the best treatment possible,” explained Gerald with a subtle smile.

“...W-what?!” exclaimed Takuya as he instantly got to his feet.

“Calm down, patriarch. He owed me a favor, so I’m simply asking him to give you a hand. It’s nothing big, honestly. With that said, once he wakes up, he’ll let you have a look at the contracts. If there isn’t a problem, then you can sign them at the end of the day,” replied Gerald as he gently pushed Takuya back onto the sofa.

“...I ...All this is simply too shocking...” muttered Takuya as he shook his head slightly. Honestly, he felt like all this was just a dream. After all, to think that he’d be able to cooperate with the Fareast Consortium again! If things went well, then their family would surely rise the ranks in three to four months! In fact, they could probably surpass their former glory!

“Again, it’s nothing too special,” replied Gerald as he lit another cigarette.

“Still... I... I really don’t know how to thank you...! You truly are my family’s savior...!” exclaimed Takuya as he held tightly onto Gerald’s hands in between sobs.

Takuya, for one, had already accepted that his family would no longer return to its former glory before this. Back then, he had told himself that as long as Fujiko could live her life safely, then nothing else mattered to him. However, now that Gerald had shown himself, Takuya was filled with hope again...!

“It’s alright, patriarch. You can save those words for later,” replied Gerald who knew that he was only doing all this for the sake of learning more about Yearning Island. With that in mind, he honestly wasn’t feeling like their savior at all.

Regardless, upon hearing that, Takuya simply nodded firmly in response...

Fast forward to two hours later, night had already fallen when a cough could be heard inside the room Derrick was in. Following that, the trio watched as a dizzy Derrick slowly made his way out of the room.

Upon seeing the trio waiting for him outside, Derrick immediately smacked his forehead a few times before asking, “H-how long was I out...?”

“About six hours,” replied Aiden after looking at his watch.

“... I see. I’ve truly delayed things for far too long... Apologies, but I guess I’m not much of a drinker, am I... Still, why didn’t any of you ask to wake me up...?” asked Derrick, clearly feeling guilty for making them wait.

“It’s fine, we had to wait for Mr. Futaba to arrive anyway,” replied Gerald as he waved his hand.

Nodding in response, Derrick then looked at Takuya who was sitting beside Gerald before rubbing his hands and saying, “A pleasure to meet you, Mr. Futaba. I’m Derrick Zima, the chairman of the Fareast Consortium. If I remember correctly, we cooperated once in the past, right?”

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“That’s right! I didn’t expect all these years to pass by so quickly... Still, shortly after our cooperation ended, my family started to decline...” replied Takuya with a nod. Truth be told, his family’s cooperation with the Fareast Consortium was the peak moment for the Futabas.

“I see... seems that my consortium has brought bad luck to your family!” joked Derrick.

“Please don’t say that! My family only ended up that way because of internal issues. You had nothing to do with my family’s decline...!” exclaimed Takuya, who took Derrick’s joke extremely seriously.

“Don’t worry, it was just a joke... Regardless, has your family not recovered since then?” asked Derrick.

“Unfortunately not... Though truth be told, all this is only happening because ‘certain individuals’ misused their positions, pocketing the profits for themselves until all the family’s wealth was drained... Don’t worry, once the contracts are signed, I’ll be sure to kick all the troublemakers out! I won’t let history repeat itself!” replied Takuya with a sigh.

Being the patriarch of his family, Takuya felt especially ashamed that he had to call his family members out like this. Even so, it was simply the truth. Had they not done all that, then their family wouldn’t have ended up in such a state.

Nodding in response, Derrick then walked up to his office desk and looked around for a moment while saying, “Not to worry. If Gerald trusts you, then so do I. Regardless, I have two contracts that I was planning to give to one of my newly acquired companies. Since Gerald asked for my help, I’m giving them to you instead. Do have a look at the documents first. If everything’s alright with you, then just go ahead and sign them.”

Following that, Derrick walked back to the table before placing the two contracts before Takuya.

Without even considering reading through them, Takuya shook his head as he flipped to the final pages of each contract and signed his name before saying, “Aside from trusting Gerald, I don’t believe that a large consortium like yours would even want to exploit a small family like mine.”

“Oh? How straightforward! I’m definitely more comfortable doing business with you now!” replied Derrick with a hearty laugh before signing the two contracts as well.

With that done, Takuya then placed the contracts into his briefcase, knowing that his family's future depended on them.

Nodding at the sight of that, Derrick then called out, "Levon? Come in for a bit!"

"You called, chairman?" asked one of Derrick's secretaries as he entered the room.

"Ah, there you are. Allow me to introduce you to my secretary from Weston, Mr. Futaba. He's extremely competent to the point where he quickly understands whatever job I put him up against! With that said, if you ever face any problems, you can look for him. If even he can't solve your issues, then feel free to contact me!" said Derrick.

"I really appreciate all this," replied Takuya with a nod. Nodding in response, Derrick then turned to look at his watch. Realizing that it was already six, he was prompted to say, "Don't worry about it. Regardless, since I made you wait for an entire afternoon, please allow me to treat-

"Dinner's on me!" interrupted Takuya before Gerald or Derrick could say anything else.

Since Takuya said that, the duo chose not to argue, and the four of them left the office together.

As they walked on, Takuya couldn't help but smile widely. After all, he believed that the contracts would surely solve his family's problems! At the same time, he had also made up his mind that once he got back, he would start getting rid of the parasites in his family. He wasn't about to let history repeat itself!

Whatever the case was, the four soon found themselves in a high end restaurant near the building. Since Derrick was a regular there, he had a private room in the restaurant. With that in mind, the second he entered, the waiters and manager instantly came over to greet him before leading them up the elevator.

As they ascended to the top floor, Takuya clenched his briefcase tightly while whispering, "You truly have helped me a lot, Gerald... I really don't know what to say..."