Chapter 1534
Hubert was anxious.
"Alright, that's enough. I'm tired. You guys can leave first."
Yeshua turned his back around as he raised his hand to give them the order to leave.
What Burnard had said was right. Hubert was actually asking him to go and meet this young kid? That
was indeed a joke!
At the same time, Yeshua also felt slightly dissatisfied with Hubert. It seemed as though Hubert was acting a little too frivolously at this point, and that was the reason why he did not want to continue
talking to him anymore.
Hubert could only nod as he glanced coldly at Burnard before retreating directly.
Burnard also left the office quickly.
"Captain Jole, do you think that this guy named Gerald Crawford is actually a helper that Hubert has
hired? After all, the election for the vice chief caption of the Dragon Squad will be coming up soon.  Perhaps Hubert knows that he's not your opponent at all, and that is the reason why he called him
here?"
Burnard's deputy asked in a low voice at a secluded place at this time.
"Pfft! Who cares about who Gerald Crawford is? So, what could Hubert possibly do even if he invites him here? Do you think Hubert could even be my opponent?! Let me tell you something. I'll not pay any
attention to him at all! In contrast, what worries me even more is the Soul Arch Compass! Did you hear

what Hubert said just now?" Burnard frowned as he spoke softly with his hands behind his back.

"You'll be gaining the controlling rights of the Soul Arch Compass soon, but Hubert just had to find someone to come asking for the Soul Arch Compass at this time. I feel that there must be some hidden intentions and motives behind this!" The deputy said.

"That's right. So, we have to get rid of all our obstacles. I, Burnard Jole, will turn anyone who dares to stand in my way into a corpse directly on the spot! Hmph!"

At this moment, Burnard beckoned his deputy to his side as he whispered a few instructions into his ear.

After that, the deputy nodded before he retreated immediately to get things done, leaving behind Burnard, who had a ruthless expression on his face.

As for Gerald, after he had arrived with Master Ghost, they were immediately brought to a reception room.

Gerald had initially thought that he would be able to meet with the leader of the Dragon Squad, Team Leader Yeshua Lock, very soon.

Unexpectedly, as they waited, one hour had already passed by.

At this time, Hubert walked in with an apologetic look on his face.

"Sigh. I'm truly sorry, Mr. Crawford..." Hubert sighed as he shook his head.

"I'm guessing Team Leader Lock did not directly agree to the matter regarding the Soul Arch Compass, right?" Master Ghost said as he smiled and shook his head.

"Cough, cough. Well, there is truly nothing I can hide from you, Master Ghost. That's right. This was originally supposed to be a very easy matter. The chief captain would never refuse this kind of request from me. Yet, I do not know what happened to the chief captain, and he seemed to be a little unhappy, choosing to listen to that Burnard Jole instead!" Hubert said as he hammered his fist on the table in anger.

"Master Ghost already told me about this end result just now. So, Mr. Younger, you do not need to blame yourself too much. I think that it's simply because Team Leader Lock does not believe in my strength. So, why don't you help me gather some of the students for the trial training in the afternoon? I will help you conduct a trial training first!" Gerald said as he laughed.

Master Ghost had given Gerald a lot of advice in many matters.

The other party's intention was already very obvious. He wanted to see Gerald's ability and strength for himself.

Since that was the case, Gerald did not mind exposing his abilities.

"Okay. It'd be best as long as you're not angry, Mr. Crawford. Why don't we do this, then? Since it is already noon, we can just eat at the base first. I'll gather all the students immediately after we're done eating. I'll send someone to deliver the food here!" Hubert said as he smiled.

"I don't think that it is necessary for you to go through so much trouble. I've only heard of the Dragon Squad before, but I've never seen the Dragon Squad's base for myself. So, since I have the opportunity to look around and see what the Dragon Squad's base in Weston is like, we could just head to the cafeteria in the base to have our lunch there, right? I wonder if it would be convenient for you, Mr. Younger?"

Master Ghost asked as he smiled mysteriously at this time.

"Ah? Yes, it would be convenient for me. After all, Mr. Crawford will be a chief instructor at our base in

the future. So, I can also introduce some of the facilities at the Dragon Squad base to Mr. Crawford and Master Ghost along the way!" Hubert said as he smiled.

Gerald did not know what Master Ghost was up to this time, but since Master Ghost wanted to take a look around the Dragon Squad base, he certainly had his own reasons for doing so.

So, the three of them began walking toward the cafeteria in the Dragon Squad base...

Chapter 1535

At this moment, in the cafeteria.

There was a member who had bruises all over his hands, trembling as he held a tray with both hands. He had just sat down at one of the seats.

"Hey! Who told you that you could sit down? Brother Yareth does not have any fruits yet. Hurry up and get some fruits for Brother Yareth now!"

Several young people who were sitting nearby spoke coldly to this young man.

All of these young people had an arrogant and domineering look on their faces, and they were obviously making fun of this young man.

Amongst these several young people, it was obvious that the person sitting in the center of the crowd was none other than Brother Yareth. At this moment, he simply narrowed his eyes, and he had a playful smile on his face as he witnessed the scene before him.

"Okay! I'll go and get it now!"

The young man bit his lip slightly. It was clear that this was very humiliating for him, but he stood up anyway as he went to get some fruits before placing them beside Yareth.

As soon as he sat down again, the young man at the side just now shouted again, "What kind of fruits did you bring here?! Change it to a smaller one! Hurry up!"
The young man sneered.
As soon as he was done speaking, the few people around him could not help but cover their mouths to stifle their laughter.
Finally, that young man could not stand it anymore.
"Finnick Mackrill, have you guys had enough?! All of us are trial members of the Dragon Squad. So, why do I have to listen to all of your commands and demands?!"
The young man slammed his hands on the table.
"You're yelling? You actually dare to talk back?! It seems as though the lessons we have given you are not enough!"
After he was done speaking, Finnick swept all of the apples on the table, and it hit the rice plate in the young man's hand directly.
There was a loud crashing sound, and the rice plate smashed and scattered all over the ground.
"You!"
The blue veins were raging on the young man's forehead.

He clenched his fists tightly, but he swallowed his rage and anger anyway.

"He's such a bully! I heard that when this kid first joined the team, he worked very hard, and he even surpassed Yareth Jole in one of the tests. In the end, he ended up in this state after getting bullied and humiliated by Yareth Jole's people every day. Just look at all of the scars on his body!"

"Sigh! What else can be done? How could he possibly have a good life after getting targeted by Yareth Jole? I believe this kid will not be able to continue staying in the Dragon Squad training team for long."

"Speaking of it, Yareth Jole has a very strong background, right? He is not only very strong and powerful, but he also comes from a very strong background!"

"That is only natural. Why don't you think about it? Yareth Jole's last name is Jole, and the last name of the captain of the Jole team is also Jole. I think that the captain of the Jole team is his biological uncle. Besides, I've also heard people saying that the Dragon Squad chief captain's granddaughter seems to have a very strong interest in Yareth Jole!"

"F\*ck! No wonder no one dares to say anything at all even though this kid is being bullied like this!"

Everyone could only keep quiet out of fear.

At this moment, they could only join in the fun as they watched the young man, who was getting bullied and humiliated at this time.

On the contrary, Yareth simply narrowed his eyes slightly as he continued eating his meal without rushing at all.

Meanwhile, Finnick walked toward the young man relentlessly.

"Hahaha! What's the matter? You're not convinced?"
Finnick sneered before he crushed and stepped on the rice under his feet.
After that, he grabbed a handful of the dirty rice before he brought it directly in front of the young man.
"Kid! You do not know your own place and you actually dared to overtake our boss? There will be no good rice for you today, and you can only eat this! I want you to pick it up and eat it now!" Finnick said viciously.
The young man's face flushed red.
Before the young man could even react, he had already received another blow from another one of Yareth's henchmen, and he fell to the ground directly.
Finnick grabbed hold of the young man's hair immediately before he began stuffing the rice into this young man's mouth.
"He's too ruthless!"
The other people at the scene stood up out of shock at this time, but no one dared to say anything.
"Ai Aiden?!"
However, at this moment, a somewhat trembling voice sounded from the doorway.

Who else could this person be if it was not Gerald?

Earlier, when Gerald, Master Ghost, and Hubert had walked in, they had happened to witness this scene that was unfolding in front of them.

When Hubert saw that the trial members were fighting, he was about to step in and take action.

However, he could suddenly feel a very cold intent coming from Gerald, and he was so terrified that he could only swallow his words.

Emotional. It seemed as though this person was acquainted with Mr. Crawford?

As for Gerald, his eyes were flashing red at this time.

The young man who was getting beaten up was none other than his good brother, Aiden.

Chapter 1536

If he had not gotten a clear look, Aiden, who was seriously scarred, would be almost unrecognizable.

"Hmph? So, it turns out to be Captain Younger?"

At this moment, when Finnick and the others saw Hubert coming in, they stopped whatever they were doing because they were giving him a little face.

"Mr... Mr. Crawford?"

As for Aiden, who was lying on the ground, his whole body shook violently as soon as he saw Gerald.

In an instant, his tears of grievance began pouring out like a flood that had broken through a damn.
"Mr. Crawford!"
Aiden cried as he yelled out loud.
"Aiden! Hurry up and stand up!"
Gerald hurriedly ran over to help Aiden up.
To be honest, if he was at any other location, he would have already disembodied all of these people. However, since Hubert was here, Gerald believed that Hubert would certainly give justice to his brother.
Of course, this matter would not end just like that regardless of whether justice was served or not.
This was Gerald's character now. No matter who was right or wrong, and regardless of the other party's identity, as long as anyone dared to touch his brother, the other party would have to pay a painful price as a consequence of his action, even if his brother was the one at fault.
When Hubert saw that Aiden seemed to have a close relationship with Gerald, he was also very angry.
At this time, he hurriedly reprimanded Finnick and the others.
However, Finnick and the others were not afraid of Hubert at all.
"Hahaha! Captain Younger, you have no right to lecture us. If you have the ability to do so, you should go and look for Captain Jole! We will only listen to Captain Jole! Besides, it is also none of your business

even if we decide to teach a kid from our trial team a lesson!" Finnick said as he sneered.
The person backing them up was of course none other than Yareth, and there was no need to mention the identity of the person backing Yareth up.
At this moment, Hubert was so angry that he could not say anything else.
Master Ghost hurriedly supported Aiden, and he wanted to let Aiden sit down and rest.
Unexpectedly, Finnick glanced at his buddies who were behind him.
At this time, a young man quickly took the lead as he ran to the seat where Aiden was about to sit.
"Sorry! This seat is occupied!"
After he said those words, a group of people began snickering.
"You guys"
Master Ghost's eyes were filled with rage.
Nevertheless, Master Ghost supported Aiden as he brought him to another spot to sit down.
Just as he was about to sit down
"Sorry! There's someone sitting here too!"

Another young man said as he grabbed the seat.
Gerald frowned slightly.
At this moment, he looked at Yareth, who was sitting at the side without doing anything as he continued eating his meal calmly, and he instantly understood what was going on.
"I really never imagined that this is how the people from the Dragon Squad base are!"
After supporting Aiden to a few seats which were quickly occupied and taken by these people first, one after the other, Master Ghost spoke up angrily.
At that moment, he decided to support Aiden and bring him to a seat that was located near the door instead.
As for Finnick, he laughed slightly as he placed both of his hands in his pockets.
At this moment, he hurriedly ran over
"Sorry, but"
As soon as Finnick opened his mouth after he grabbed the seat from Aiden, he was slapped directly on his face.
Finnick flew out sideways directly, smashing down a dozen tables, one after the other.

A mouthful of his teeth also scattered all over the ground, and half of his face was smashed in.
It was obvious that this slap had already deformed his face completely.
The person who had slapped him was none other than Gerald.
Gerald had one hand in his pocket as he patted the dust off his body with his other hand. After that, he looked at the audience who were all stunned as he said, "Sorry, but my hand was feeling a little itchy just now!"
Chapter 1537
"Who are you?!"
One of the young men rushed over directly as he questioned Gerald because he was instantly angered when he saw Gerald giving Finnick such a hard blow.
As for Yareth, who had been squinting his eyes all this while, he finally opened his eyes at this moment as he looked at Gerald.
"This is my brother. How are we going to settle this score since you guys actually dared to bully my brother? So, who did it just now?!" Gerald asked in a cold voice.
"Pfft! You brat! Who do you think you are? I did! So, what are you going to do about it?" A young man said.
"D*mn! I did it too!"
At this moment, about a dozen young men stood in front of Gerald.

All of them had their hands crossed in front of their chest, and some of them had even picked up their weapons.
It seemed as though they were trying to deter Gerald with their aura.
"Is that so? It seems as though you guys have no intention of repenting at all, huh?" Gerald said with an indifferent smile on his face.
"Hahaha! Repent? If you have the guts, you can deal with a dozen of us. Otherwise, we will have to take action against you and avenge our brother!" One of the young men stood and spoke up as he laughed.
What a joke! Why didn't this kid take a look around him and see whose territory this was?
Who would not know that the Jole family and the Lock family actually had a very big reputation and background in the Dragon Squad?
This kid actually dared to provoke someone who was obviously more superior compared to him in terms of power or strength?
"Avenge your brother? How are you planning to do that?" Gerald asked as he smiled coldly.
"It's very simple. We will simply remove all four of your limbs and knock out all the teeth in your mouth! Of course, you can fight back too as long as you're sure that you can handle a dozen of us!"
The young men sneered as they closed in on Gerald.
"Alright, then. Since all of you have taken action, I do not mind even if all of you end up in the same state as him!"

As soon as his voice fell, all of the young men rushed forward like a pack of wolves to attack Gerald.
As for Gerald, he did not hold back at all.
At this moment, he transformed into a shadow directly, and he transformed amidst the group of people.
The deafening sound of slaps resounded throughout the cafeteria.
Immediately after, there was a burst of screams that sounded like pigs getting slaughtered.
Very soon, these people were all looking for their teeth all over the ground.
After all, Gerald had only had to take a few short breaths from the moment he had started hitting them until he was done dealing with them.
At this moment, everyone was dumbfounded at the scene before them.
Even Hubert swallowed his saliva with a gulp.
Too ruthless. He was truly too ruthless!
As for Yareth, he finally opened his eyes completely, as the scene before him made him feel utterly incredulous.
Who the hell was this person?



"All of us will get along and live peacefully together in the future!"
Chapter 1538
Yareth felt truly disgraced, and he was utterly humiliated today.
This was because the eyes of the crowd were all looking at him, hoping that he would make a move and fight back against this strong man.
Unexpectedly, he had actually conceded all at once.
This was indeed way too painful for Yareth.
However, there was no other way. After all, he did not want his teeth to be scattered all over the ground.
"I'm not talking about that. It seems as though you have bullied my brother a lot. So, how are you going to make it up to my brother now? If you don't, I'll abolish you on the spot, regardless of who you are or what your background is!" Gerald said as he stared coldly at him.
This made Yareth break out in cold sweat all over his body.
"Brother, why don't we just forget it?"
As for Aiden, he knew about Yareth's background very well. So, he could not help but speak up as he walked toward Gerald's side.
Gerald simply patted Aiden's shoulder before he laughed slightly.
"Aiden, have you forgotten? Do you remember that you were the one who told me that you would

make sure that people would have to pay back a thousand times more as long as anyone offended you? You told me not to be afraid of those people because you guys would always have my back! Do you still remember saying those words?" Gerald asked.
"Of course I remember that!"
Aiden bit his lip slightly.
"Yoel is my brother, and you're also my brother. The both of you lost your family and everything that you had because of me back then. I'll always remember your loyalty and love for me. I also swore that I would never allow the people around me to get hurt again. So, Aiden, you don't have to worry about anything because I've got your back!" Gerald told him.
Aiden nodded heavily when he heard this.
"So, he has to pay the price and consequences for his actions today!"
"I'll give you two options now. Your first option is that I'll abolish you and turn you into a cripple today. Your second option is to crawl under my brother's crotch in front of me. In the future, you'll also have to refer to my brother as your master when you see him! If you do not do that, I'll kill you the next time I see you!" Gerald spoke up as he stared directly at Yareth.
"What? You want me to suffer the humiliation of crawling under his crotch?!"
Yareth's eyes turned red in an instant.
He really, really wished that his uncle was by his side right now.
Yareth was simply extremely ashamed and utterly humiliated when he saw that everyone was staring at



have expected that he would actually be the one getting humiliated here today.
Moreover, the person in front of him did not seem to care at all even though he had already mentioned the Promissory Sect.
"I'll crawl!"
Yareth crawled up from the ground with much difficulty.
As for Aiden, he felt as though justice had finally been restored for him. Yareth had been bullying him so much all this while, and now that things had already come to this state, Aiden could finally trample all over Yareth's head at this time.
At this moment, Yareth slowly crawled toward Aiden's crotch.
He was moving very slowly, and he was even crying out loud in his heart.
'Uncle! Hurry up and come! I've already sent a report to you! Hurry up and come here!'
'If you don't come now, your nephew will suffer and get humiliated now! In that case, you'll not be able to face others in the future!'
'Besides, if word about this matter were to reach Fia Lock's ears, I'll not be able to become the grandson -in-law of the Lock family, then.'
'At that time, your plan will be a complete loss!'

'Uncle, hurry up and come!'
Yareth cried out loud in his heart.
And just as he was lowering his head to start crawling under
"Captain Younger, the helper that you've hired this time seems to be really domineering, right? I'd honestly like to see how incredible and powerful your so-called Mr. Crawford is!"
At this moment, a voice that carried a hint of ridicule sounded from the door.
There was a rush of footsteps.
After that, a large number of masters poured into the cafeteria as they surrounded Gerald and the others completely.
Their leader, Burnard, walked in coldly with his hands behind his back
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"I think this friend of yours here is the Mr. Gerald Crawford that Captain Younger has invited here to become the chief instructor, right?"
Burnard said with his hands behind his back as he sneered while looking at Gerald.
"That's right!"

Gerald nodded.
"Hahaha! It seems as though we really should not judge a book by its cover! I never would have imagined that you'd actually possess this kind of strength at such a young age. That is indeed admirable!"
"But I've often heard people saying that a person would often overestimate themselves when they have greater strength and abilities. I did not take good care of your brother when he was training with us. However, you cannot push all the blame entirely onto my nephew, Yareth. If you want to blame someone, you should also blame your brother for not knowing his own place! Hahaha!"
Burnard continued laughing as he waved his hand.
When Yareth saw that, he immediately got up from the ground and ran behind Burnard.
"Uncle, if you did not come in time, I'd have been" Yareth hurriedly said fearfully.
"Alright, that's enough. You don't need to say anything else. I'm already here!" Burnard said as he patted Yareth on his shoulder.
At the same time, he glanced at Yareth, signaling for him to prepare to watch a good show!
As for Yareth, he obviously knew the nature of his uncle's heart and character very well.
Since he had already been so badly insulted and humiliated, how could his uncle possibly let it go just

like that?

At this time, his uncle was simply using his words to make sure that the other party named Gerald Crawford would be completely speechless and dumbfounded. When the other party was completely at a loss for words, his uncle would then take advantage of the opportunity to launch an attack to eradicate this group of people with the help of the Dragon Squad.

Hahaha! This was not the first time his uncle had used this tactic.

At this moment, Yareth simply nodded gently as he looked at Gerald and his group from the side as he sneered.

Burnard acted as if nothing was wrong before he continued speaking as he looked at Gerald.

"Mr. Crawford, look. In the final analysis, it was a dozen of them who had bullied your brother alone. But look what you've done now? You single-handedly abolished a dozen of the Dragon Squad's talented new blood. They were supposed to be the future pillar of the Dragon Squad, but because of your selfishness, you have abolished the entire hope and future of the Dragon Squad. Don't you think that you've gone overboard this time?"

Burnard was not speaking from his own point of view, but he was using the Dragon Squad as an excuse and defense.

As for Hubert, he had already long-expected Burnard's set up.

He wanted to refute his words at this time, but he truly could not find any reasons to refute his words at all. Indeed, if he were to think about it that way, Mr. Crawford had been a little too ruthless.

What Hubert was afraid of was that Burnard would continue using the Dragon Squad as an excuse to sow discord and drive a wedge between these people.

Hubert was very anxious at this time.

"Moreover, Mr. Crawford, we naturally have our own requirements and rules at the Dragon Squad base. If your brother was humiliated, there is naturally a special place for us to deal with it. You dealt with these people so ruthlessly at the Dragon Squad base. So, does that mean that you do not have any form of respect for the Dragon Squad base at all?" Burnard continued sniping.

"That's right! Uncle is right! What did you think of the Dragon Squad base? What did you think this place is? Did you really think that you could do whatever you want to do here? You're simply lawless!" Yareth said coldly as he sneered.

As soon as he was done speaking, he looked at his uncle and smiled with a smug look on his face.

The both of them were smiling, and there was a hint of ridicule at the corners of their mouth.

It was obvious that they wanted to force Gerald into a desperate situation so that they could use the Dragon Squad to eradicate him.

"You've done him harm!"

As Gerald was faced with Burnard, who was intentionally trying to make things difficult for him, Gerald simply raised his hand and spoke to Burnard as he pointed at Yareth.

"What? What do you mean by that?" Burnard asked as he frowned slightly.

"I gave him two options just now, and one of them was a way for him to live. The way for him to live was that he simply needed to crawl under my brother's crotch! Otherwise, I would have to kill him and let him suffer a miserable death!" Gerald said indifferently.

"But just now, he ignored my words completely. Just when he could have crawled under my brother's

crotch and be safe and sound, he chose to give up on this chance to live!"
Gerald shook his head helplessly.
These words made Yareth swallow a mouthful of saliva wildly.
As for Burnard, his eyelids twitched fiercely at this time.
"Mr. Crawford, you did not seem to have heard my words clearly just now, did you? I did not mean this at all"
A hint of ruthlessness flashed through Burnard's eyes in an instant.
"Regardless of whether I heard you clearly or not, it's already too late now. Did you really think that you would be able to trick me and make me feel morally inclined to give in just because you said a few words? Or did you honestly think that you're that wise or intelligent?"
"Hahaha! Unfortunately, I've already seen countless people just like you! And I, Gerald Crawford, have always had a habit of keeping my words! So, if I said that I'm going to kill someone, that person will have to die!"
Gerald sneered.
At that moment, Gerald pinched his sword finger.
In an instant, a golden glow instantly enveloped him.

The space in front of him seemed to be surging.
Chapter 1540 As soon as the golden light shot out, it pierced right through Yareth's neck in an instant, like the blade of
a knife.
Yareth's eyes were wide open, but not long after that, he fell to the ground instantly.
"Yareth!!!"
Burnard's eyes widened in shock.
His eye sockets instantly turned red.
This was because he had no way to block or stop that powerful blow just now at all.
"You killed my nephew!!!" Burnard roared angrily.
"You killed him when he only committed a slight transgression!"
Burnard never would have imagined that this person standing in front of him would actually be so ruthless.
"I had already said it very clearly. He obviously did not need to die just now. All that he had to do was crawl, but you were the one who asked him to stand up. So, he had to pay the price for his actions and decision!" Gerald said indifferently.

"You b*stard! Don't you have any respect for the Promissory Sect at all?!"
Burnard was completely heartbroken and distressed.
Everyone else also swallowed their saliva in horror.
"The Promissory Sect? I've never heard of it before!" Gerald shook his head as he laughed bitterly.
"You b*stard! I'm going to fight it out with you!"
At that moment, Burnard was filled with a murderous aura as he rushed directly toward Gerald
At the same time, at the headquarters office at the base.
"Team Leader Lock! It's not good! Something terrible has happened!"
An instructor rushed in directly.
"Hm? What is it? Why are you so flustered?"
Team Leader Lock frowned immediately, as he was practicing his writing at this time.
"There is a fight going on in the cafeteria!"
"What's the big deal? Send someone there to deal with it immediately, then!" Team Leader Lock said helplessly.

"No! No! It's Yareth Jole who got into a fight with the new chief instructor, Mr. Crawford. As a result, Yareth provoked Mr. Crawford, and he ended up getting beheaded directly by Mr. Crawford!"
"And now, Captain Jole has already started making his move on Mr. Crawford!"
"What?!"
The pen in his hand fell to the ground in an instant.
Team Leader Lock then asked, "By the way, who is this Mr. Crawford you're talking about?"
"It's the young instructor that Captain Younger invited to come over!"
"Hurry up! We'll go over there to take a look!"
As he spoke, Team Leader Lock had already led his men over there.
They only saw many people surrounding the scene outside.
However, what was surprising was the fact that everyone had already stopped talking at this time, and the scene was so quiet and silent that it was absolutely terrifying.
As for the Third Team Leader, he was also standing aside, and they did not know what he had seen, but he was completely dumbfounded at this time.
It felt as though he had turned silly from the shock.

"Third Team Leader, how is the situation here?" Team Leader Lock asked coldly.
"Chakra King!"
Third Team Leader said with a blank expression on his face.
"What did you say?" Team Leader Lock asked again in a low voice.
"The Rune Realm which is above the cultivation realm! Oh, my God! I actually saw a Chakra King for myself today!" Third Team Leader was about to cry out of excitement.
"What did you say? Chakra King?!"
When Team Leader Lock heard his words clearly, his eyes widened for a moment, and his whole body began trembling and shaking violently!!!
Chapter 1541
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Team Leader Lock then asked, "By the way, who is this Mr. Crawford you're talking about?"

"It's the young instructor that Captain Younger invited to come over!"
"Hurry up! We'll go over there to take a look!"
As he spoke, Team Leader Lock had already led his men over there.
They only saw many people surrounding the scene outside.
However, what was surprising was the fact that everyone had already stopped talking at this time, and the scene was so quiet and silent that it was absolutely terrifying.
As for the Third Team Leader, he was also standing aside, and they did not know what he had seen, but he was completely dumbfounded at this time.
It felt as though he had turned silly from the shock.
"Third Team Leader, how is the situation here?" Team Leader Lock asked coldly.
"Chakra King!"
Third Team Leader said with a blank expression on his face.
"What did you say?" Team Leader Lock asked again in a low voice.
"The Rune Realm which is above the cultivation realm! Oh, my God! I actually saw a Chakra King for myself today!" Third Team Leader was about to cry out of excitement.

"What did you say? Chakra King?!"

When Team Leader Lock heard his words clearly, his eyes widened for a moment, and his whole body began trembling and shaking violently!!!

## Chapter 1542

"...What? Are you saying that Gerald's already arrived at the Rune Realm?" asked the bewildered Yeshua as he began trembling all over.

"That's right! His strength knows no boundaries! You know, it barely took Gerald a single hit to smash Burnard into pieces! What a terrible way to die... Regardless, Gerald's currently so strong that he's probably no longer afraid of any of the challenges he has to face!" replied the third team leader while quivering in fear.

"...To think that such a powerful person was in Weston... Since it's come to this, I'm feeling rather motivated now! After all, it'd be an honor if he ends up agreeing to be our chief coach!" declared Yeshua in a now composed tone.

Yeshua was no longer taking Burnard's death to heart. After all, nothing in the world was more important than the fact that someone had actually managed to enter the Rune Realm!

Just as he was thinking that, the corner of Yeshua's eyes caught a glimpse of Gerald—who had both hands in his pockets—slowly exiting the crowd.

With that, Yesha quickly walked over to him, bowing slightly before he said, "I've treated you way too discourteously earlier, Mr. Crawford! Please, forgive me!"

"No worries, Mr. Lock! I don't take it personally at all!" replied Gerald with a subtle smile.

Quite honestly, Gerald felt little remorse for killing Burnard and his nephew. After all, both of them had acted pretty insensibly.

"Thank you, Mr. Crawford! Speaking of which, I heard Hubert say that you wished to borrow our Soul Arch Compass! Truth be told, we don't normally even reveal it to others unless we first receive orders to do so from higher authorities. After all, the compass is the Dragon Squad's most invaluable treasure. However, since you're an extraordinary person, we'll certainly allow you to use it!" said Yeshua extremely courteously.

If Mr. Crawford truly was a person who managed to enter the Rune Realm, then he was undoubtedly a rare specimen on this planet. Should Mr. Lock manage to get acquainted with him, it'd surely end up greatly boosting both the Dragon Squad's strength as well as its international name! With that in mind, the experienced and astute Yeshua definitely didn't have a problem with any of this.

"I'm well aware. However, the Soul Arch Compass is equally as important to us, which is why I resorted to coming over in the first place!" replied Gerald.

Following that, Gerald allowed Master Ghost to follow Yeshua's men into their base to use the Soul Arch Compass.

It didn't take long before Master Ghost was able to learn about some mysteries as well as the location of Yearning Island.

Around that time, Yeshua suddenly began coughing rather badly, eventually even vomiting some blood!

Even so, Yeshua looked like he was used to this, and simply shook his head with a bitter smile before explaining, "Apologies, Mr. Crawford! It's rather embarrassing that you had to see that... It's just the result of an old illness of mine!"

"From what I can see, you've been training your martial arts skills in a way that doesn't conform to how regular martial arts are honed. Aside from that, I can also sense that you've been training your inner

skills for over fifty years. With that in mind, it's no wonder why you're suffering from internal injuries," replied Gerald with a faint smile.

Upon hearing Gerald's deduction, the shocked Yeshua couldn't help but widen his eyes as he said, "I have to say, you truly are an extraordinary person, sir! As you've said, I've trained this set of inner skills ever since I was twelve, making it well over fifty years since I've started my training! Alas, even after training for so long, I find myself unable to even attain entry to the Silver Realm! Regardless, my ancestors were the ones who had created this set of martial arts skills, and it's been passed down to all subsequent generations of the Lock family. Even so, I do wonder why you said that these martial arts skills don't conform to how regular martial arts are honed..."

Yesha was honestly surprised by Gerald's claim since he had been quite confident of his family's martial arts skills from the very beginning.

"Well, it really doesn't. With that said, I'd like to momentarily stay within the Dragon Squad in order to teach you a formation, though know that it'll take some time. In return, if it isn't too inconvenient, I'd like you to show me more of your family's inner skills and mental training techniques for observation purposes. If you do so, I'll also help cure your injuries!" proposed Gerald.

"...Oh? I'd appreciate that, Mr. Crawford!"

Following Yeshua's agreement, Gerald easily cured all his past wounds, and this surprised Yeshua yet again.

After all, not only did Mr. Crawford exhibit exceptional medical skills, but his great mastery over internal skills was also incomparable to what ordinary people could ever hope to achieve.

What more, Gerald even pointed out fifteen faults to his family's training techniques. Naturally, after performing them the way Gerald suggested, the results were nothing short of miraculous.

Due to that, Yeshua now revered Gerald greatly...

## Chapter 1543

"Mr. Crawford, the fact that you've even managed to enter the Rune Realm realm at your age is immensely admirable! With that said, I do hope you could tell me what rank you currently are within that realm...?" asked Yeshua.

"Truth be told, I'm not too sure about that either. However, I do remember one of my subordinates telling me that I needed the Sceolium of the Ringmaster of Obliteration to check for my rank," replied Gerald.

"Ah, the Dragon Squad always has Sceolium with us. If you're wondering how it's used to determine one's rank, it essentially detects the contents of a person's essential qi. With that information, one will be able to ascertain what rank they truly are. With that said, why don't you give it a try, Mr. Crawford?" asked Yeshua who almost seemed overly keen on pleasing Gerald despite having fulfilled all of Gerald's previous requests.

Following Gerald's approval, Yeshua then walked over to a bookshelf—in his office—before flipping on a hidden switch behind it. A second later, a mechanism could be heard 'clinking' as the bookshelf slowly swung open... revealing an ancient—and rather simple-looking—Sceolium.

"Please place both your hands on it, Mr. Crawford. Following that, I'd like you to direct your essential qi into the stone. With that done, we'll be able to find out what specific rank you're currently at!" explained Yeshua who was honestly eager to find out as well.

"Very well," replied Gerald who was just as eager to finally know how strong he truly was.

After doing as he was instructed, noticeable changes could be seen on the Sceolium. Before long, the results were revealed...

"...You... You've already entered the Third-rank Rune Realm...!" exclaimed Yeshua whose mouth was now agape with shock.

'By god! He's only in his twenties, no?! What a miracle!' Yeshua thought to himself.

Quite honestly, Yeshua had been skeptical when the Third team leader told him that Gerald had managed to ascend into the Rune Realm. Now, however, he had zero doubts about it.

No wonder Gerald barely had any trouble killing those masters!

From what Yeshua knew, many Ninth-rank masters found it hard to ever proceed beyond that rank, even after training their entire lives. In other words, being able to enter the Rune Realm was already leagues beyond what a Ninth-rank master could ever hope to achieve!

"I keep hearing people talk about this 'Rune Realm'... How much do you know about it, Team Leader Lock?" asked Gerald.

"...Well... From what I've heard, the only ones who have managed to enter that realm are people who've lived for over a thousand years! What more, only very few have managed to enter the Rune Realm, and you're now among those people, Mr. Crawford!" replied Yeshua, filled with even more admiration than before.

Upon hearing that, Gerald frowned as he fell deep into thought. If what Yeshua was saying was true, then did that mean that Finnley—his master—and his grandfather had already entered the Rune Realm? If that truly was the case, then it would explain a lot.

After all, while Gerald already knew that Finnley had terrifying strength—that Gerald wasn't even able to measure at the time—, he now realized that he hadn't doubted his grandfather's true strength when they were still together. Being able to conceal his true strength so perfectly was proof that his grandfather was probably in the same league as Finnley was.

What more, his grandfather had managed to take down that giant anaconda with great ease. With that in mind, Gerald was now pretty certain that his grandfather had to have entered the Rune Realm to be able to perform that feat.

Gerald had been aware of how great his power truly was for quite some time now, though his only way of measuring that was through the fact that the masters he had come across were all nothing more than ants to him.

While he now knew that he had entered the Third-rank of the Rune Realm, he was careful to remind himself that he was probably nowhere close to being the strongest in the world.

After all, he still didn't know how strong Finnley, Daryl, and the King of Judgment Portal were.

With that in mind, he was sure that the Rune Realm wasn't the highest point of training...

Fast forward to seven days later, Master Ghost finally exited the secret room, seemingly having found a major discovery.

## Chapter 1544

In the past few days, Master Ghost had been busy using his Nine Dragons Calculation Technique—together with the Soul Arch Compass—in order to obtain the most accurate information possible.

Throughout his time using the compass, Master Ghost truthfully felt like he was the main character in some martial arts novel. After all, he was able to gain access to information about strange incidents—that had been recorded in detail within the Soul Arch Compass—that had taken place over the years.

For example, Master Ghost was able to find out that the Dragon Squad had existed for well over ten thousand years, though it naturally didn't bear the name it currently did back them. Even so, the important thing was that it still derived from the same bloodline. He found out that the Dragon Squad back then mostly did underground dealings as well.

Either way, with that in mind, he was able to accurately confirm the readings he made—through the Nine Dragons Calculation Technique—by fact-checking the detail's historical accuracy with the recorded

information within the compass.

After that long week, not only was Master Ghost able to learn of Yearning Island's location, but he also managed to gain information about the master of that island, the person who started the whole issue regarding the Crawford family's origins.

Upon hearing that, Gerald then said, "...You know, I heard Lady Gunter mention back then that the Crawfords were once a very powerful family when it came to training... However, due to a certain incident, the family ended up getting ruined in a single night! However, grandpa..."

Momentarily hesitant to continue, Gerald shook his head before adding, "...From what Lady Gunter said, grandpa was the only one who managed to make it out alive back then... Following that, he attempted to have his revenge on the Gunters by stealing a magic artifact from them. Unfortunately, his plan ultimately failed. In order to avoid getting hunted down, he then began living in seclusion on Yearning island. He apparently had a major secret with him by then too. Regardless, it was then when he established the other Crawford family. Sometime later, he would then proceed to create the Crawfords I lived with! Is that the whole story...?"

In response, Master Ghost simply shook his head before saying, "Let's just say that what you just told me is a simplified version of the whole story. There's a lot of other important information that you've skimmed past! From what I've learned from the Soul Arch Compass, your grandfather... He seems far from ordinary, to say the least... After all, he seems to have a great connection with an old legend that's been present on Yearning Island for the longest time!"

"A... legend?" asked Gerald, feeling slightly stunned.

"Indeed. You see, Yearning island is located in a mysterious area within Yanam's ocean. From what I've gathered, a legend emerged there around ten thousand years ago... and it was the legend of a Devil Incarnate!" replied Master Ghost as he alternated his gaze between the now curious Gerald and Yeshua.

Following that, he then continued, "While lots of fishermen supposedly fished around that area before that, strange incidents began taking place around ten thousand years ago. Apparently, large groups of fishermen simply started mysteriously going missing! At the time, some speculated that the missing

fishermen had simply lost their ways while out at sea. However, they were men of the sea. There was no way that that was the case!"

"With that in mind, more theories began popping up among the remaining fishermen. Some said that their disappearances were the work of sea monsters. Others hypothesized that the fishermen could have encountered typhoons that ended up directing them to foreign islands. Whatever the case was, many of the fishermen began constantly praying for the missing fishermen's safe return..."

"Not long after, a group of fishermen who were out at sea met with a typhoon! Eventually, they ended up being led to a desert island... The shocking thing was, not only did the fishermen find several dried corpses there, but they also managed to identify them to be the bodies of the previously missing fishermen! Understanding that their friends had to have been sucked dry by something to end up that way—after going missing for just a few days—the fishermen were rightfully terrified!"

"Thankfully, the typhoon didn't take too long to die down, and the uneasy fishermen quickly brought the corpses back with them to their fishing village. Alas, upon their return, the fishermen realized that all the others in their village had been sucked dry as well! None of the corpses they came across even had a drop of blood left in them! Deeply grieved, the fishermen refused to believe that there were truly no survivors. After searching for a long time, they did manage to find a single person who was still alive. Unfortunately, the person was a known fool within that village..."

"Upon asking him what exactly took place, the fool—who was also known to be a rather good artist—began drawing out what he had witnessed... Fully aware of his preference for communicating through pictures, the fishermen simply waited until he was done. Once the fool was done, however, the fishermen found themselves shocked by what they saw."

"Apparently, the one who had sucked all the villagers dry was a peculiar-looking person with three eyes! What more, the person had feet that were as long as half an adult male! With hair that hung down till its waist, the abnormally long-tongued monster was apparently also capable of human speech!"

"Following that, the fool explained that when he had first seen the monster, a villager had asked it what it was doing here. In response, the monster simply questioned, 'Is this Yearning Village?'"

"The second a child told the monster that it was, the monster instantly began killing everyone in the village extremely cruelly!"

After explaining all that, Master Ghost summarized what had taken place after. Essentially, the fishermen who had escaped death were extremely angry, so angry in fact, that they instantly began looking for people who possessed supernatural powers in order to deal with that Devil Incarnate. Revenge was the only thing on their minds...

Nobody could have guessed that the Devil Incarnate wasn't a mere mindless killing machine. As the fishermen would eventually come to learn, it possessed immense supernatural powers as well!

# Chapter 1545

Due to that, many great masters—that the fishermen had hired—ended up getting slaughtered by the Devil Incarnate. Even the fishermen who had survived promptly met their ends at the hands of that monster...

By the end of it all, the only one left standing was the fool...

However, after witnessing all those deaths, the fool was somehow able to regain his wits and think normally again. Now capable of registering all that had happened, he found himself equally as angered as the previous fishermen, and he soon became revenge-driven as well.

With his mental capabilities restored, the man was able to recall an incident that had happened to him when he was much younger. Essentially, he had once met up with an exceptional man who had warned him that a foreign and malicious devil-like person would come to his village one day.

With three eyes, large feet, and rather long hair, the exceptional man had also stated that upon the monster's arrival, a mass slaughtering would take place, and none of the people living on the island would be spared! According to the exceptional man, the monster's goal was to claim the island for himself for training purposes. After all, the way Yearning Island was positioned made it an extremely strategic location between heaven and earth.

Regardless, the important thing to note was that the exceptional man had told the ex-fool to light a special incense when the monster eventually arrived. Following that, the exceptional man would surely arrive to kill the demon.

Since there was pretty much nothing else he could do, the ex-fool immediately did as he had been instructed...

Before long, night arrived, and along with it came torrential rains... Amidst the thunder and lightning, the Devil Incarnate—who had noticed that someone was still alive on the island—returned to the village, ready to eat up the last person there.

However, the monster's plan was thwarted when out of the blue, a holy-looking man suddenly bolted toward it!

While a great battle ensued between the holy man and the Devil Incarnate, in the end, he was unable to fully defeat the monster. As his last resort, he sacrificed his primordial spirit to greatly hurt the Devil Incarnate, simultaneously making it weak enough to be sealed!

Even so, the Devil Incarnate was extremely cunning. Upon nearing death, it released its primordial spirit from its body before forming a demonic light that would inherit its soul. It was using a technique called the demonic incarnation, and with it, the monster was able to retain its consciousness until it found a suitable host to get reborn in.

Once the monster found a suitable host, the demonic incarnation would begin altering said person's heart, gradually causing them to start creating chaos. By that point, it wouldn't be long before a great disaster would take place.

Pausing for a brief moment when he got to this part, Master Ghost then shook his head before adding, "...Following that incident, ten thousand years would pass before anyone returned to Yearning Island. By then, the ocean surrounding the island was aptly named the Forbidden Sea. Regardless, nobody—if anyone even knew about his existence in the first place—had any idea where the ex-fool had been throughout this entire time, at least until ten years ago. It was around then when people finally realized that a cultivating family had moved there... And it was the Crawford family established by Daryl, the

master of the other Crawfords!"

Turning to look at Gerald, Master Ghost watched as the youth began trembling all over, clearly unwilling to believe what he had just heard.

Who could blame him? After all, the Daryl he knew was a kind and gentle person. How could what Master Ghost have said be true? But... if it really was true...

Just thinking about it sent shivers down Gerald's spine.

"...I'd be lying if I said I didn't find all this to be unbelievable... Either way, with how strong and secretive he is, what exactly is his purpose...?" asked the bewildered Gerald.

Shaking his head, Master Ghost simply replied, "All I can say is that the incident is rather complicated. While I can't say for sure what Daryl's exact motivation is, I did manage to recover some records about him in his earlier years that I'm sure you'll be interested in finding out about. I also believe that after hearing it, you'll start getting a much better understanding of your grandfather!"

"Go on..." muttered Gerald as he stared at Master Ghost.

"Well, you already know that the Crawfords that Daryl initially founded was completely ravaged in a single night, correct? Then do you know who it was who did the deed?" asked Master Ghost as he slowly lowered his voice.

Chapter 1546

"Who?" asked Gerald.

"...It was Daryl himself. In a single night, he completely exterminated the Crawfords—who had both birthed and raised him—with some tactic that's currently unknown... Since then, he's laid low on Yearning Island while establishing the other Crawford family. It's worth mentioning that it only took the other Crawfords a few decades to prosper. In fact, it isn't even a stretch to say that the other Crawford

family's strength is several times higher than what the previous Crawfords could ever achieve!"

"Regardless, Daryl began executing another plan sometime later, and the plan was called the Plan of Insights. He's apparently been making preparations for that plan for the longest time, and it appears that you're closely involved with the plan's success. He also seems to be holding onto some secret that I've yet to uncover..." explained Master Ghost.

"...I see. Just to clarify, you said that many of these incidents are closely related to my grandpa, no?" asked Gerald, still slightly in disbelief.

"Indeed. Also, Daryl apparently has rather close connections with Jaellatra as well! I'm assuming that this is part of his Plan of Insights!" replied Master Ghost.

"Jaellatra? The legendary place located in the center of the earth?" asked Yeshua, already feeling enlightened just from listening to the conversation.

As Master Ghost nodded at Yeshua, Gerald—who now had a glint of determination in his eyes—said, "...I don't care what this Plan of Insights is, nor do I care who I'm facing. The only important thing to me now is that I won't allow that person to do any more harm! With that said, since you now know where Yearning Island is, I propose we set off for that island today. Honestly, after recently hearing so much about the other Crawfords, I find myself wanting to see what's so different about them compared to my own family!"

"Sounds like a fine idea, Mr. Crawford. You know, the Dragon Squad owns a special fleet of ships... What I'm suggesting is that if you'd like, I'd be happy to contribute my share of power as thanks for your counseling throughout these few days!" suggested Yeshua quickly.

After witnessing Gerald's strength and training, Yeshua simply had a gut feeling that if he could get on good terms with this powerful person, both the Dragon Squad and the Lock family's future would surely be bright. With that in mind, Yeshua wasn't about to miss an opportunity to help Gerald.

Upon hearing Yeshua's kind gesture, Gerald agreed with the idea. After all, he would now have a way to head to the island together with his exceptional men from the Sacrasolis Palace. With that, more people would be able to look out for each other.

Fast forward to the next morning, the fleet of ten large passenger ships—that Yeshua had arranged for Gerald—began departing for the southwest ocean area in Yanam.

Standing on the deck of one of the ships, Gerald found himself staring into the vast ocean. The longer he stared, the more melancholic Gerald felt until eventually, he found himself muttering, "It's been four years since we've last met, Mila... Four whole years... Though many things remained pretty much the same, the people around me have undergone vast changes... I, too, am no longer who I used to be... Mila... How are you doing...? Are you even still alive anymore...?"

While finding Mila had been a constant worry for him, he currently had greater concerns for his family who had been captured by the other Crawfords. He truly wished that they hadn't suffered too much while awaiting his rescue mission...

Truth be told, given the choice, Gerald would very much prefer to endure through all this pain on his own...

Then there was the fact that he would very likely have to face his grandfather—whom he greatly respected—in the near future.

All this simply made Gerald's mood extremely complicated.

As he continued to be vexed out of his mind, a feminine voice as sweet as an oriole's suddenly said, "Good day, sir. Are you part of this passenger ship's team?"

Turning around, Gerald was greeted by the sight of two women standing behind him.

The one who had spoken was wearing sports attire, and her hair was in a ponytail. As for her appearance, it was just as sweet and lovely as her voice was. Looking to be around the age of twenty-three, Gerald also sensed the temperament of a rich young lady within her...

### Chapter 1547

The second he turned to have a look at the other girl, however, Gerald found his eyelids instantly twitching. After all, while he had come across many, many beauties before throughout his lifetime, he still found himself amazed by how dazzling this woman looked.

Wearing a long, graceful-looking dress, the other woman had exquisite facial features and a buxom body to boot. Though she was definitely eye-catching, she was relatively more aloof when compared to the ponytailed woman.

The stunning woman herself simply straightened her hair—that had been flying all over the place due to the sea breeze—as she scanned Gerald from head to toe. After a brief moment, she averted her gaze, clearly having lost interest in him.

That, however, didn't seem to bother Gerald too much since he still hadn't recovered from his earlier grieving session anyway. Regardless, he then casually asked, "...Yes? Is there something I can help you with?"

"Well, I've been looking at you for a while now, and you seem to have quite a bit weighing your mind. You're honestly quite handsome, so I was wondering why you'd have so many woes. Regardless, did you know that the ship will be passing by one of Yanam's islands soon? Once we get to the island, my friend and I will be making a stop there since our other friends told us that a party was being held there. Putting it straightforwardly, I'm planning on inviting any new friends I've made on board to attend the party with us. That way, everyone will have companions!" replied the ponytailed woman with a smile.

"Actually, hold on, where are my manners? Haha! You can call me Sia, Sia Ticer. As for this beauty, her name is Fia Lock. I'd introduce you to our other friends, but they're all boarding another passenger ship! We'll be meeting up at the island though, so don't worry! Now then, about the party... Not to be rude, but if you're unhappy, you really should focus more on relaxing yourself! If you're constantly ill at ease, you'll never be able to do anything well!" added Sia.

Upon hearing that, Fia nudged Sia with her elbow, as though she was trying to imply something along the lines of, 'Is there really a need to talk with him that much? Let him decide on his own whether he wants to go or not!'

Looking at Fia's actions, Gerald was reminded that she was Yeshua's granddaughter.

Since he was using the power of the Dragon Squad to go about his business this time, Gerald was well aware that it would be inappropriate of him to head to Yearning Island with great fanfare. With that in mind, aside from the exceptional people from the Sacrasolis Palace and the Dragon Squad, Gerald had boarded the ship together with several regular rich young heirs and wealthy merchants to cover up his true motives.

Regardless, despite how strong he already was, Gerald honestly didn't mind joining the girls after hearing Sia's persuasion. After all, he really did need to relax a bit and he was getting rather bored anyway. While he was at it, he could probably also use the chance to inquire the rich merchants of Yanam about some things.

With that in mind, Gerald then nodded to Sia's delight.

A smile on her face, Sia then said, "I'm glad you agreed! It's always best to have a positive attitude no matter which point we're at in life!"

Not too long after, the ship ported by an island.

Though Gerald followed Sia down the ship, Master Ghost, Carlos, and a few others remained on board to make some preparations. They were right to be worried, since dangerous incidents could happen at any time once they got close enough to Yearning Island.

"Sia! Fia! Over here!" shouted a waving young man—who was part of a larger group of young people who were already waiting at the port—the second he saw the trio walk out from the ship.

From what Gerald could see, there were many other rich young people getting off the other passenger ships. His attention was brought back to the current scene when a bespectacled young man excitedly added, "The party's been scheduled for tonight, you know? In other words, it starts in ten minutes! With that said, hurry up and get in here already!"

The second that youth's sentence ended, a tall and lean young man could be seen walking toward Fia's group. Among the others within the group, both he and Fia were the most immaculately dressed.

Either way, it appeared that he wasn't really all that focused on the party. In truth, he was here because of Fia, and he had been staring at her ever since he saw her get off the ship.

After momentarily—but also rather nervously—scanning Gerald from head to toe, he eventually couldn't hold himself back as he asked, "Fia... Who is this? And why did you get off the ship together with him?"

### Chapter 1548

The young man went by the name of Beau Mabart, and he was a rich young heir with a gentlemanly temperament.

The Mabarts themselves were one of the Jenna Province's prestigious families, and they owned assets worth at least a billion and five hundred million dollars. With that in mind, it was no wonder that Beau had his education overseas, specifically in the United Kingdom and France.

Even so, the Mabarts were naturally inferior compared to the Lock family who owned the Dragon Squad. Due to that, Beau had only been able to get aboard a minor passenger ship on his way here. After all, only those with the highest of reputations were allowed to board the main ship of the fleet.

Regardless, pretty much everyone there was aware of Beau's infatuation toward Fia. With that in mind, they began sizing Gerald up as well when they heard Beau's question, hoping to be able to enjoy his misfortune.

"I don't know him... Sia's the one who invited him to join the party on Shrine Island together!" replied

Fia with a slight frown.

Being as proud as a peacock, Fia hated the feeling of being controlled by others the most. However, between Gerald and Beau, she found Gerald to be much more unbearable. After all, despite her presence, Gerald had remained quiet throughout their journey here.

His silence had led her into thinking, 'Is he trying to catch my attention by remaining silent? Does he really think that playing cat and mouse will work on me? You clearly don't understand your target!'

The more she thought about it, the more annoyed she got.

Due to Gerald, however, she now found Beau considerably less annoying compared to how she had previously perceived him to be. Upon taking a closer look, he even seemed much more mature and solemn...

Either way, when Beau saw how Fia was treating Gerald, his heart eased up considerably as he said, "...I see! Regardless, I'm assuming he's a descendant of some prestigious family, right?"

While he was pleased to know that Fia wasn't acquainted with Gerald, it didn't change the fact that Beau had only been able to get aboard the regular ship. Gerald, on the other hand, had been able to take the main ship despite him wearing such shabby clothes. Due to that, it was no mystery why Beau was feeling so jealous. With that in mind, he felt the need to gain as much information about Gerald as soon as possible.

Realizing that Beau was trying to target Gerald, Sia quickly changed the topic by saying, "That's quite enough questions for now, Beau! I just dragged him along to have fun with us since he appeared all moody and alone earlier! Let's just try to get to know each other! Who knows, we could end up becoming friends in the future!"

Hearing that, they began talking about other topics though Gerald simply opted to stand at the side.

Observing the island's scenery, Gerald had to admit that he was now in a much better mood after following them here.

His head now much clearer, he thought about how his aloof demeanor could have given off the wrong impression that he was trying to give Sia the cold shoulder despite her being so kind to him. With that in mind, he decided to join in on their conversations with a slightly brighter mood, just to show Sia his appreciation.

Before he was able to do so, however, at least a dozen loud and simultaneous 'bangs' could suddenly be heard! Following that, confetti and streamers began fluttering down atop everyone's heads, making the port look particularly magnificent at that moment.

Shortly after, a youth wearing a suit made his way through the crowd before laughing as he shouted, "Ah, my long-lost friend! We finally get to meet again today!"

"Yosef!"

"Beau! It's truly been ages since we've last met face to face! I've been waiting for you for a while now, you know? Now then, let's get this party started!" declared Yosef Jenks—the extraordinarily dressed man who was evidently Beau's friend—as he gave Beau a bear hug.

The fact that both of them had been responsible for organizing this event's amusement had brought them closer than ever.

Following a hearty laugh, Beau then looked at Fia before saying, "Allow me to introduce Young Master Yosef Jenks to you, Fia! Actually, I think I already mentioned him to you earlier... He's the one I befriended while studying abroad in France! Regardless, his family's been living in Yanam for a few generations now, and it's even closely involved with the International Martial Arts Association! As additional information, his family owns assets worth nearly fifteen billion dollars as well!"

Upon hearing that, everyone found themselves looking at Yosef with their mouths wide open.

Everyone already knew about the Jenks family's influence in Yanam. Even so, to think that Young Master Jenks was actually close friends with Beau!

#### Chapter 1549

Fia—being someone with an extremely good family background—always had a sense of superiority over regular people. After hearing about Yosef's family background, however, her eyes instantly lit up as she snuck a peek at Young Master Jenks.

After exchanging some simple pleasantries, Yosef found himself asking, "Speaking of which, Beau, what took you so long? Didn't you promise to arrive a few days ago?"

"Ah, don't even get me started on that... You see, throughout my absence, massive and rather drastic changes have taken place within Jenna City as well as Weston's underground structure. With that in mind, I've been helping my father deal with the situation this entire time!" replied Beau.

"I think I heard some news about that as well... Sacrasolis Palace, right? Where did that large force even come from? According to what my father told me, several prestigious families and even a few underground forces in Yanam have already submitted to them! While I've been told that the palace master of the Sacrasolis Palace is a particularly vicious individual, rumor has it that by submitting to him, one's family will definitely be protected and will cease to deteriorate for as long as a million years!" said Yosef.

Due to their overwhelming wealth, it wasn't uncommon for large families to be in contact with extraordinary people. While ordinary people may find it slightly preposterous for rich families to submit to more powerful families that belonged to certain sects, it was honestly just business as usual for the wealthy.

"Speaking of which, your father's still in the Jenna Province, right, Beau? Has he managed to contact anyone from the Sacrasolis Palace?" asked Yosef.

Shaking his head, Beau then replied, "We never got the chance. After all, there were simply too many powerful families heading there to submit themselves to them at the time. Even so, it appears that the

Palace Master of Sacrasolis Palace was already pretty rich in the first place. With that in mind, many of the families there apparently didn't suit his tastes. From what I've heard, to get acquainted with them, one must first pass through a number of assessments!"

Hearing that, Fia simply shook her head slightly contemptuously before saying, "But of course mere merchant families like yours aren't worthy of getting acquainted with the Sacrasolis Palace! Do you even know how powerful the palace master truly is? How could anyone just submit themselves to Mr. Crawford like that?"

"...Oh? While we're on the topic, I've heard that your family has a relationship with the Sacrasolis Palace... Does that mean that the palace master's surname is Crawford? Also, have you met him in person?" asked Beau in a surprised tone.

"How in the world could I have met him before? Regardless, I'm extremely sure that he's an immensely powerful and awe-worthy person. After all, even his subordinates are all smart and tough. I should know since some of them are well-acquainted with my grandpa!" replied Fia, slight regret reflected in her eyes.

Thinking back, her grandfather's eyes had been filled with admiration and respect whenever he talked about Mr. Crawford to her...

Speaking of her grandfather, she remembered him advising her, 'Remember to grab the chance when you see it!' before the ships had even departed.

When she asked what 'chance' he was referring to, however, her grandfather was oddly unwilling to reveal anything beyond that no matter how much she asked.

'Was grandpa trying to indicate this party or something...?' Fia thought to herself as she allowed her gaze to fall on Yosef for a few more seconds.

In between laughs and chattering, they eventually arrived at the party's venue...

Not long after everyone left the port, an odd-looking and ghostlike ship slowly began materializing out of the blue... Skimming across the sea's surface, the mysterious passenger ship then swiftly approached the port... It was so quiet that nobody was even aware of its presence...

Once the ship docked, two women—bearing extraordinary temperaments and wearing white clothes—slowly descended the ship... Due to the light veils covering their faces, anyone trying to see what they looked like would only be able to see blurry outlines.

"Was it really a good idea for us to have gone behind Sister Mila and come here, sister...? After all, the main reason we came to earth this time around is to execute that special mission, no...?" muttered one of the women in a worried tone as she curiously looked at all the different kinds of people in the distance.

"What are you even afraid of? Don't worry, things are going to be fine! Look, lots of people are already there! Now let's hurry over!"