

Chapter 2051

Zeke announced, "They want my life, but let's see if my Life-Bound Worm would grant their wish! Come on, Life-Bound Worm!"

Buzz! Buzz!

A loud buzz sounded not far away.

Everyone was shocked to realize that Zeke was in possession of a Life-Bound Worm.

Is he from the Muraco Clan?

That didn't come as a surprise, for there were many Muraco Clans across Eurasia. Both the Black Muraco Clan and the White Muraco Clan were branches of the main clan.

Thus, they assumed Zeke had come from other Muraco Clans.

The buzzing sound grew louder until it was deafening. The crowd was shocked and wondered how strong his Life-Bound Worm was to create such a huge commotion. Finally, Zeke's Life-Bound Worm appeared in sight.

It was a white, parasitic worm as thick as an adult's arm, glowing brightly in the sky.

Its appearance was so scary that the LifeBound Worms belonging to both the Black Muraco Clan and the White Muraco Clan started shivering in fear.

Clearly, this Life-Bound Worm was Progenitor.

Erwen stared at Zeek's Life-Bound Worm and muttered, "What a strong Life-Bound. Worm. It is comparable to the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor!"

Suddenly, something occurred to her. She yelped, "No! The scent's familiar. This is the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor!"

"Zeke, isn't this the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor? How did it become your LifeBound Worm?" Erwen's words sent another ripple of shockwave unfolding through everyone.

What? The White Muraco Clan's Progenitor? Isn't it dead? Its death was the reason why Our Life-Bound Worms grow weaker day by day! If Erwen's right and Zeke's Life-Bound Worm is the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor...

They knew Erwen didn't have a reason to lie to them.

Even if they could accept the fact that the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor was alive, they refused to believe it had become Zeke's Life-Bound Worm.

After all, it would mean that Zeke was their elder.

Everyone's gazes fell on Andres, prompting him to explain what was going on.

In response, Andres merely flashed a smirk without saying anything.

His smirk was mysterious and cold.

Slowly, Cain's expression fell. Something seems off. I knew the White Muraco Clan wouldn't have submitted to us easily!

He glared at Zeke and declared, "Zeke, what the hell is this? No matter what you are trying to achieve, you are no match for my Myriad Worm Formation. Besides, I've gotten more power from the people from the White Muraco Clan. The Myriad Worm Formation is stronger now. My advice for you is to admit defeat. Otherwise, my Myriad Worm Formation will take your life right this second!"

Zeke smiled. "You're wrong. I just wanted to pledge allegiance to the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor."

With that, he ordered his Life-Bound Worm to pledge allegiance to the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor.

Cain couldn't stop him in time.

Besides him, everyone else was stupefied. They had no idea what Zeke was trying to achieve.

Is he pledging allegiance to the Black Muraco Clan for real? His expression suggests otherwise.

Cain grinned. "Young man, that was a foolish decision. You're now Progenitor's slave. If Progenitor wants you dead, you must die at once."

"Progenitor, Zeke isn't one of us. Please spare him and his Life-Bound Worm!" Erwen pleaded.

However, Zeke interjected, "I'm sorry. Besides King Class warriors, no one else is my match. The Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor, however, abetted the evil and committed a terrible crime. It shall receive its sentence now. Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor, your sentence is to self-destruct. Do you have any objections?"

Hearing that, Cain and the rest burst out in laughter.

Now that Zeke had pledged allegiance to the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor, it sounded ridiculous when he ordered it to self-destruct.

Chapter 2052

Cain told his Progenitor, "See that, Progenitor? He's being disrespectful by ordering you to commit suicide. He deserves to die. Please take action!"

The Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor was Progenitor of all worms, and it was second in command after the Black Muraco Clan's elder.

Cain couldn't order it around and had to ask for its help.

Clearly, the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor was infuriated by Zeke's command.

It started buzzing within the sedan, about to unleash its wrath.

Cain beamed with delight.

I've never seen Progenitor this furious. Even if Zeke manages to survive, he'll get tormented badly.

Indeed, after the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor got mad, Zeke's Life-Bound Worm started withering in anguish. In the end, it dropped to the ground.

Fortunately, Zeke reached out and saved it in time.

Everyone knew the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor was strong enough to torture Zeke's Life-Bound Worm.

It would die in no time.

However, they were confused to see Zeke unfazed when his Life-Bound Worm was suffering from the torture.

After all, a human was tied to its Life-Bound Worm.

Instead of suffering from anguish, Zeke had a menacing smile hanging on his lips.

"Is that so? You're no match for me."

He turned to Progenitor and ordered, "Progenitor of Black Muraco Clan, you shall self-destruct now."

Cain guffawed and announced, "You're a slave, and Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan is your master. Only the master gets to order the servant around, not the other way. Zeke, you're a fool. I shall give you another chance to get on your knees and beg for forgiveness. I might consider granting you an easy death."

Zeke shot him a profound smile. "There are no masters and servants in the world. A determined servant with enough mental energy will become a master one day."

"Huh? What do you mean?" Cain was puzzled.

Zeke told him. "See for yourself."

With that, he injected a powerful spurt of mental energy into the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor.

The mental energy was then transferred from Progenitor to the other White Muraco Clan's Life-Bound Worms.

Zeke's mental energy was strong enough to dispel the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor's mental energy from the White Muraco Clan's Life-Bound Worms before slowly taking over.

In just a blink of the eye, Zeke's mental energy successfully controlled the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor through the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor and LifeBound Worms.

Gradually, the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor ended up writhing and gasping in pain inside the sedan.

Cain leaped to his feet and demanded, "What happened? What's wrong with our Progenitor?"

Jeremiah, who was among the first villagers to submit to the Black Muraco Clan, felt a chill go down his spine. "Your Highness, the enemy's mental energy is too powerful. He had controlled our Progenitor and it is in danger."

Everyone was shocked to hear that. How strong must Zeke's mental energy be to destroy his master?

There was no way Gain could sit back and do nothing about it.

Suddenly, he charged toward Zeke like a madman. "Stop it! B*stard, stop what you're doing!"

Before he could get any closer to Zeke, a figure descended from the sky.

The impact of his landing created a huge crater that caused the earth to shake.

Cain was knocked over by the man.

The newcomer was none other than Sole Wolf, also known as the General North!

The sedan was flipped as a cause of the earthquake. A black thing rolled out of the sedan.

It was Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan.

The Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor was as big as an adult's thigh. It had a thick black shell that was impenetrable. Its ugly and savage-looking exterior was a stark contrast to the White Muraco Clan's pure and glowing body.

The black creature was hissing and writhing in pain as it rolled around on the ground. The black shell came into contact with the ground to create terrifying high-pitch noises.

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Chapter 2053

Zeke went forward and stepped on Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan. "Now, I shall announce your judgment. The Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor committed evil deeds and killed innocent lives. You are to self-destruct right this second!"

"No..." Before Cain could finish his sentence, his Progenitor had already taken its life.

Its armor broke into bits and pierced through several wooden buildings nearby.

The self-destruction of the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor had destroyed the confidence of their people.

They were terrified out of their wits, for Progenitor's death would lead to their doom.

What should we do?

The people from the Black Muraco Clan panicked and burst into tears.

"Oh, no. We're doomed!" "What should we do? Without Progenitor, our clan will be wiped out!"

"Your Highness, save me. I don't want to die yet..."

They gazed at Cain earnestly.

Alas, Cain was in greater despair. He was on the verge of breaking down.

Without Progenitor, he was almost useless for no amount of power would be of help.

It's all Zeke's fault. I want to rip him apart!

The White Muraco Clan was in chaos, too.

"We pledged allegiance to the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor. As it had died, we would be..."

"Oh, are the heavens going to exterminate us?"

"Don't be a fool. Look, our Progenitor is still alive. We can pledge allegiance to it!"

"Oh, yes. How could I have forgotten about that? Ha! The White Muraco Clan has always been kind, so the heavens had spared our lives."

"Mr. Andres, there is hope for us. Hurry, let us pledge our allegiance."

Andres nodded. "Form a line and take turns to pledge allegiance to the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor."

Seeing that, the people of the Black Muraco Clan began discussing among themselves.

"Now that our Progenitor is dead, it's impossible to raise another Progenitor."

"Why don't we pledge allegiance to Progenitor of the White Muraco Clan?"

"Well, that's the only way."

They turned to Andres and asked, "Mr. Andres, we want to pledge allegiance to the White Muraco Clan. Please allow us to do so."

Andres paid no heed to them.

The elder of White Muraco Clan is here. I dare not take things into my own hands, for I have to listen to his orders.

Cain was close to exploding in rage.

The sight of his people switching camp before him was too much to bear.

He barked, "Get the h*ll over here! How

dare you betray our ancestors? If they find out about it, they will never forgive you!"

His people merely gazed at him calmly. "Your Highness, we have no other choice. If you are capable of saving us, we will support you for sure. Now that Progenitor is dead, do you have a way to protect us?"

"I... I..." Cain was at a loss for words.

He wasn't capable enough of raising another Progenitor. It meant that he was powerless and couldn't even protect himself.

"There must be a way. There must be another choice..." Cain refused to give up.

His people ignored him, for it was clearly an empty promise.

No one was silly enough to trust him.

Instead, they proceeded to bawl even louder and even groveled at Andres' feet.

"Please, Mr. Andres. Please take us in."

"We might've wronged you previously, but we had no other choice. It was Cain who forced us to go against our wishes."

"Even if you refuse to forgive us, our children are innocent. Please allow the children to pledge allegiance to the Progenitor of the White Muraco Clan."

Andres couldn't help but sympathize with their plight.

He turned to Zeke to get his opinion.

Chapter 2054

"Elder, what do you think?"

Zeke said, "Let them pledge allegiance for now to save their lives. I have a mission for you, Andres."

Andres responded hastily, "Say it, Elder. I shall do my best."

"The crime committed by the people of the Black Muraco Clan wasn't serious enough to warrant their deaths, but they must be punished for their evil deeds. Run an investigation. If you discover anyone breaking the law, punish them severely. I shall give you the right to execute someone on the spot and report the matter later," he commanded.

Andres nodded. "Your wish is my command. I won't let you down."

The crowd exchanged confused and surprised looks.

What is going on? Why is Andres addressing Zeke as his elder? Is Zeke the elder of the White Muraco Clan? That's ridiculous. He's too young to be an elder!

Andres knew why they were bewildered.

He parted his lips to explain, "Did you remember how our elder mentioned a good friend he had known for years?"

Everyone nodded emphatically.

Andres continued, "In fact, Mr. Williams is that friend of our elder. He trusted Mr. Williams enough to give him the pendant he had kept for years. Mr. Williams was powerful enough to force our Progenitor into submission. That reason alone is enough for him to be our elder. Besides, Mr. Williams saved our lives and helped us out of the grim situation that had been plaguing us for years. Are there any objections to him becoming our elder?"

"We have no objections!" the crowd responded unanimously.

"The heavens have sent Mr. Williams to save us, so we're honored for him to be our elder."

"Mr. Williams, we didn't mean to offend you. Previously, we didn't know your identity. Please don't take it to heart."

"Mr. Williams, we hereby pledge our allegiance to you! We will do anything for you from today onwards!"

Everyone patted their chests and pledged their loyalty to Zeke.

Erwen, however, was rooted to the ground.

Despite knowing Zeke was a capable man, she had no idea he was the White Muraco Clan's elder.

I can't believe I was thinking about protecting him. Looking at it in hindsight, it was definitely a mistake.

Erwen glanced at Andres before turning to Yazmin. "Yazmin, did you know Mr. Williams is our elder and that Progenitor is still alive?"

Yazmin bobbed her head. "Yes."

Erwen was pissed. "Why didn't you tell me then?"

"Without Mr. William's approval, I dare not reveal anything," Yazmin responded, "It was all his plan. If too many people find out about it, his plan might be affected and cause our clan to be doomed forever."

Erwen nodded thoughtfully.

He's powerful enough to come out with a large scale scheme.

It was obvious to Cain that he was done for.

He didn't want to submit to the White Muraco Clan.

Even if he was willing to concede defeat, the White Muraco Clan would take his life after what he had done to them.

I still have the immortal clan's support. Zeke, I might not be your match, but the immortal clan will punish you!

Chuckling, he fled the scene quietly when no one noticed him.

At once, Sole Wolf glanced at Zeke.

Zeke sent a message using his energy: Go after him and find out the Netherworld's hiding place.

He knew Cain was leaving to ask for the Netherworld's help.

All the while, the Netherworld remained in hiding and refused to show themselves. Thus, he wanted to uncover them this time.

Got it!

Sole Wolf nodded and went after Cain silently.

After dealing with the Black Muraco Clan, Zeke spun on his heels and returned to his room.

Both Erwen and Yazmin followed behind him.

Chapter 2055

Before Yazmin could leave, Claus went after her. "Yazmin, I-"

He was cut short by Yazmin's slap that landed on his cheek.

Instantly, a red mark appeared on his face.

Instead of flying into a fit of rage, Claus gazed at her affectionately. "I'm glad you slapped me. Yazmin, I know you're mad at me. You thought I was using you as a pawn. That isn't true. I love you, Yazmin. Besides, you lied to me that the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor is dead and used me too. That's a lie."

Yazmin barked, "F*ck off! I don't want to see you ever again. Get lost right now! Otherwise, I'll strip you of your right to pledge allegiance to the Progenitor of the White Muraco Clan."

"No!" Claus was determined. "Yazmin, I'm willing to die for you. It doesn't matter even if I don't get to pledge allegiance to Progenitor."

Yazmin scoffed. "I'll never trust you again. In fact, I have fallen in love with someone else. I dumped you because you don't deserve to be my boyfriend!"

"Who is he?" Claus fumed. "Tell me who he is. I shall fight against him. The winner will get to protect you."

Without hesitation, Yazmin dragged Zeke over and stated, "It's him, the White Muraco Clan's elder. You can try to fight against him."

Claus gaped in disbelief.

What the f*ck? He single-handedly defeated the entire Black Muraco Clan. I'm clearly not his match!

His cheeks flushed red as he struggled to formulate a response.

On the other hand, Zeke was a little embarrassed.

After all, he had been used as an excuse too many times.

He knew what he should do.

Casting Claus an arctic look, he said, "So do you want to fight?"

Claus shivered in fear and took one step back instinctively.

What? No way!

He was about to say something, but Zeke's frosty glare scared him away.

Turning to face Yazmin, Zeke said, "I'll leave him to you."

Yazmin sighed. "Forget it. It's time to let him go. Let's just ignore him."

She changed the topic immediately. "By the way, you've been a great help to the White Muraco Clan. Mr. Williams, we've never been this happy. I shall be your loyal servant..."

She was full of praise for Zeke.

However, Erwen hung her head low and trudged forward without another word.

Zeke asked nonchalantly, "Erwen, what's on your mind?"

Huh?

Erwen snapped back to reality as her cheeks turned red. It felt like a teacher in the class had summoned her, for she was flustered.

"Oh, nothing..." came her reply.

Yazmin smirked. "Erwen, do you know what is on my mind?"

"What is it?" Erwen responded.

"I'm thinking of the same question as you," Yazmin announced.

The flush on Erwen's cheeks deepened.

"Nonsense! We didn't talk previously, so there's no way we'll think of the same question!"

"Well, let's see if I'm right. I'm wondering how you'll get along with Mr. Williams in the future," Yazmin revealed.

Zeke grew curious. "Why would you say so?"

Erwen explained, "Oh, Mr. Williams. You don't know about this rule in the White Muraco Clan. The elders of the White Muraco Clan have always been Holy Maidens' godfathers. However, Erwen is around your age. It doesn't seem right for you to be her godfather."

Zeke nodded in agreement. "Yes, that doesn't seem appropriate."

"No matter what, we have to abide by the rule," Yazmin said. "I have an idea. Why don't you marry Erwen instead? That way, we won't be breaking the White Muraco Clan's tradition."

Chapter 2056

Zeke was speechless.

He nearly choked on his saliva at Yazmin's shocking words.

Erwen's cheeks were crimson red by now.

She stomped her feet angrily. "Hey, what was that? I won't let this slip. Stand right there!"

The girls began bickering.

If the people of the White Muraco Clan were to witness this, they would be utterly shocked.

After all, the elegant and divine Holy Maiden had never acted shy or joked around this way.

Erwen looked more like her age instead.

Meanwhile, the people of the White Muraco Clan had finished pledging their allegiance to Progenitor.

After the last person completed the deed, Andres glanced at the Black Muraco Clan and ordered, "Come on. It's your turn now."

Hearing that, the members of the Black Muraco Clan dashed forward.

Some even ended up tussling, and it was a chaotic scene.

"Stop it!" Peter and Jeremiah stood out to maintain order. "Line up and wait for your turn. Those who refuse to listen will be asked to leave right away. You won't get to pledge allegiance to the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor!"

The people flinched upon hearing that.

Jeremiah might've betrayed the White Muraco Clan, but he was still a White Muraco.

The Black Muraco Clan had to bow before the White Muraco Clan or risked getting killed.

Thus, they abided by the order and lined up obediently.

Peter and Jeremiah stood at the beginning of the queue,

Jeremiah then stepped forward and offered his Life-Bound Worm to pledge allegiance to Progenitor.

Nevertheless, a hand reached out to grab his Life-Bound Worm and stopped him from doing so.

Jeremiah was about to erupt but realized it was Andres who stopped him.

He tamped down his irritation and plastered a smile. "Mr. Andres, what are you doing?"

Andres flashed a grin that caused a chill to go down Jeremiah's spine.

"I should be asking that question. What are you doing?"

Jeremiah responded, "Is that a joke? I'm pledging loyalty to the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, of course."

"Didn't you dump it for the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor?" Andres retorted. "Since you betrayed our Progenitor, why did you return to pledge allegiance to it?"

With an awkward smile, Jeremiah answered, "Well, I was a fool. Mr. Andres, please don't stoop to my level, I know my mistake now. Don't worry. I'll devote myself to the White Muraco Clan, Please give me a chance to atone for my mistake."

Andres hissed, "Scram! As a traitor of the White Muraco Clan, you'll be sentenced to plant flowers and light lamps. I was kind enough to pardon you, but you were even dreaming of getting back. Do you think the White Muraco Clan is a public restroom that you can come and go as you like?"

Despair washed over Jeremiah.

Andres' expression was firm, so it was obvious he wouldn't change his mind and forgive Jeremiah.

The others started inciting the crowd and suggested punishing Jeremiah accordingly.

Fear rose within Jeremiah. If I don't leave now, I will be locked up.

In the end, he had no choice but to flee the scene.

Andres' gaze then landed on Peter, who covered his head and slunk away.

Previously, Peter thought he could escape punishment as everyone else was focused on Jeremiah,

Alas, it was all his wishful thinking,

They could no longer return to the White Muraco Clan. Both Jeremiah and Peter ran into the Black Muraco Clan's territory and stopped to take a breather.

However, they knew that they wouldn't be safe here, too.

Shortly after, the White Muraco Clan would take over the Black Muraco Clan, so this place would become part of their land.

Panting heavily, Jeremiah asked, "Peter, are you just going to sit back after being kicked out and left alone to wait for death to befall us?"

Chapter 2057

Peter clenched his jaw. "Of course not. What else can I do though? Both clans won't take us in now."

He was furious at Jeremiah's doing.

It was all the old bugger's fault! He's the reason I ended up in this state. Otherwise, I would still be part of my clan and get to terrorize the Black Muraco Clan people.

He was mad at Jeremiah for ruining his future.

Jeremiah scoffed. "Ha! Do you think they will accept us? Nonsense."

Peter was confused. "Mr. Jeremiah, what do you mean?"

"I have a plan. We can rise through the ranks and control both the Black Muraco Clan and the White Muraco Clan. Even all the forces in Eurasia will be under our control!" Jeremiah announced.

"That's impossible," Peter blurted out in disbelief.

Jeremiah told him, "Nothing is impossible.

It all boils down to our courage. You should know that there are a few immortals in the Black Muraco Clan."

Hearing that, Peter lit up.

"You mean those devils?"

He knew what Jeremiah had in mind.

The Netherworld members were known as "devils" to the White Muraco Clan, but "immortals" to the Black Muraco Clan.

Jeremiah snickered. "Devils? They are immortals to us-immortals who can help us win the fight!"

Peter laughed along with him. "Mr. Jeremiah, I know what your plan is."

Jeremiah said, "Oh? Say it then."

"Your plan must be related to the Village of Livestock," Peter said.

"The devils... No, the immortals wasted a lot of effort planting cursed parasitic worms on the villagers of Village of Livestock. Right before the cursed parasitic worms could mature, Zeke destroyed the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor. The cursed parasitic worms in Village of Livestock had pledged allegiance to Progenitor, so they would die along with it. The immortals wouldn't let the matter slip. They would teach Zeke a lesson!"

Jeremiah nodded. "That's right. We can use the immortals to get rid of Zeke. By then, both the Black Muraco Clan and the White Muraco Clan will belong to us!"

Peter inquired, "Mr. Jeremiah, can you find the immortals?"

Jeremiah shook his head. "No. I've never seen them before, so I don't know how to contact them."

Grimacing, Peter asked, "Then how should we ask for their help?"

"Go to Cain, of course. His clan had defected, so he'll definitely ask for the immortals' help. We should go after him. I'm pretty sure he's just nearby. Let's go," Jeremiah revealed.

They increased speed and headed after Cain.

Jeremiah was right, for Cain hadn't gone far. They soon ran into him.

Since Sole Wolf broke his leg earlier, Cain escaped through sheer force of will. Thus, he couldn't go far.

He immediately tensed up at the sight of Peter and Jeremiah.

They must be here to kill me so Andres will forgive them for their sins!

"S-Stop right there!" he stammered. "Even if the entire Black Muraco Clan had pledged allegiance to the White Muraco Clan, the immortals will help me. If you dare lay a hand on me, I'm certain that the immortal clan will wipe your clan out of existence!"

Jeremiah explained, "Your Highness, you're mistaken. We're here to join forces with you." Oh?

Cain shot them a curious look. Their expressions were sincere, and it didn't seem like they were lying.

He inquired, "Why do you want to join forces with me instead of pledging loyalty to the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor like the rest?"
Oh?

Cain shot them a curious look. Their expressions were sincere, and it didn't seem like they were lying.

Both Jeremiah and Peter bristled upon hearing his words.

"Pfft! The White Muraco Clan and the Black Muraco Clan are both deemed the direct bloodlines of Muraco. How could the descendants of the Muraco Clan bow to outsiders?" Jeremiah snorted.

"Yeah! The White Muraco Clan has brought shame to Muraco. I'll surely punish them severely for humiliating Muraco if I have the opportunity!" Peter echoed.

Cain snickered inwardly. Ha! The two of them are obviously putting on a show! I bet they must have been kicked out by the clan leader of the White Muraco Clan for betraying them. Fine. Since I'm like a lone ranger now and in need of someone to give me a hand, I'll just let them stay by my side then.

"It's an honor for me since you look highly of me. Thus, I won't let you down. Don't worry. Our current dishevelment won't last long. It won't be long before this place becomes our turf again. By then, regardless of the White Muraco Clan or the Black Muraco Clan, the clan leader or the elder, all of them have to kneel and bow to us! Come on. Let me bring you to meet someone," Cain reassured them.

Jeremiah and Peter were over the moon. They had a hunch that Cain was bringing them to meet one of the immortals. Ha! I'm sure the immortal can do magic with any snap of his fingers. Who knows, we might be filthy rich by buttering him up?

Cain led both of them toward the southwest of the Village of Black Muraco Clan. There was a vast bamboo forest in the farthest corner of the direction.

By right, it was the season whereby the bamboos grew lushly. However, they were on the brink of death instead, with leaves that seemed withered and branches that had turned yellowish long ago.

Apart from that, the whole bamboo forest was engulfed by a creepy hint of death, resulting in the petrifying eeriness.

Before entering the bamboo forest, Cain said solemnly, "Mark my words. Don't make a noise even when you come across anything awry later. If not, you only have yourselves to blame if someone emerges to snatch your lives!"

Hearing that, Jeremiah and Peter felt another rush of uneasiness. Is there anything amiss in this bamboo jungle? How powerful are the so-called immortals?

Next, Cain took a deep breath and tried to calm himself down before stepping into the forest. He took every step cautiously, as though he was fearful of falling into any traps below them.

It had not been long when an icy-cold voice sounded. "The three of you, what are you doing here?"

It scared the crap out of them, and they turned to look in the direction instinctively.

There was a figure dressed in black right under a bamboo tree. Due to his dark and dry skin, it was as though his entire body blended with the bamboo forest. One might not easily make him out without taking a closer look. The ghastly dark spots around his eyes caused him to look creepy, like a dead man.

Horror-stricken, Jeremiah and Peter could not resist staggering backward.

After a while, Cain finally mustered up his courage and explained, "Mr. Lehman, I wish to see you and notify you about something important.

Freddie Lehman, the latter, sounded as creepily cold as his look. "I was about to go and look for you too. A while ago, I sensed that a cursed parasitic worm in Village of Livestock has become matured. I want you to bring it to me soonest possible."

A dejected Cain replied sheepishly, "Mr. Lehman, I'm sorry. I might not be able to do so."

"Why?" Freddie snarled with flickers of horrifying ferocity in his eyes.

Cain stammered as he explained hastily, "It's because those cursed parasitic worms could be dead!"

"D*mn it!" Freddie fumed instantly.

Hitting the roof, he emanated a massive wave of energy, uprooting some bamboos and swirling the leaves in the air.

"What happened to my cursed parasitic worms? Tell me now!" he yelled in exasperation.

Intimidated by him, Cain told him everything in detail.

As Freddie clenched his fists, there were cracking sounds from his knuckles. "D*mn it! Who's the one who killed the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor? Cut the chase! I'm going to settle the score with him now!"

Cain asked warily, "Mr. Lehman, do you still remember the tough nut I mentioned before?"

Boiling with rage, Freddie snapped, "Do you mean to say that the so-called tough nut is the culprit?"

Cain nodded, "Yeah! He's the one. Mr. Lehman, I tried to talk him out of wiping out the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor, emphasizing that it will cause you to sustain a great loss. But he turned a deaf ear to me. He's seemingly giving no hoots to you. You must punish him severely for stepping on your toes

"Get out of my way!" Freddie bellowed before he could finish his words, sending him flying with a massive punch.

Right that instant, Cain could not resist but wail inwardly. D*mn it! Zeke Williams was the one who stepped on your toes, but why did you throw a punch at me instead?

Gritting his teeth, Freddie hissed, "Didn't I ever ask you earlier if I needed to step in and finish him off, so he won't spoil my plan? But you claimed that it's easy as pie for you to get rid of him. Thus, it never occurs to me that he will become a threat; yet, you are telling me that he has dominated the Black Muraco Clan and killed the Progenitor? D*mn it! My perfect plan turns into an absolute mess because of you!"

Cain tried to speak up for himself by all means. "Mr. Lehman, it's my fault undeniably. But it never crosses my mind that he has such unrivaled power! In fact, I have a feeling that he could be as mighty as you."

Astounded, Freddie asked quizzically, "Huh? Is he a martial artist?"

Cain nodded again. "My gut instinct tells me that he must be one. Not to mention, he . has gained a certain level of fame in the martial arts world."

Clenching his fists, Freddie snorted. "Pfft! I don't give a d*mn who he is! I won't let anyone who has the audacity to spoil my plan off! Head for Village of Livestock with me now! Even though Progenitor is dead, the cursed parasitic worms in the villagers' bodies are still able to survive for another two days. Hence, we must try our best to extract them from their bodies within these two days. As long as we can get new hosts for them in time, they are still able to survive! No matter what, I won't let the cursed parasitic worms that I have cultivated painstakingly vanish! Let's go!"

Without hesitation, Freddie rushed toward Village of Livestock with Cain and the other. In the meantime, Zeke was also heading toward Village of Livestock with Erwen and Yazmin. He vowed to wipe out all the cursed parasitic worms in the villagers' bodies. If not, he foresaw Netherworld's power would be enhanced.

On the way to the village, Zeke questioned Erwen and Yazmin. "After the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor is dead, will the cursed parasitic worms inside the villagers' bodies be dead too?"

Erwen nodded. "Yes, it works that way theoretically. The cursed parasitic worms will gradually meet their ends within two days after the death of the Black Muraco Clan's Progenitor."

After pondering for a while, Zeke commented, "Since there are still two days, I bet Netherworld will surely try to save the cursed parasitic worm. Thus, we must wipe them out before they make it there to do so! Erwen, if we eradicate them now, will the hosts be affected?"

Erwen explained resignedly, "Undeniably, there will be certain side effects. However, if we don't extract the cursed parasitic worms and let them be in the hosts' bodies, I'm afraid it will be more harmful to them."

Zeke nodded approvingly. "All right. We'll proceed to wipe out the cursed parasitic worms. Do you have any milder method to do so in order to minimize the potential risks to the hosts?"

Yazmin suggested, "We can try to lure the cursed parasitic worms out from the hosts' bodies before eradicating them. I believe it's the best method with minimal side effects to the hosts."

Zeke agreed with her at once. "Okay! Let's do that!"

Moments later, they reached Village of Livestock. Sadly, it seemed to be more deserted and broken than before. 20

Most of the villagers were slumping feebly by the roadside. If not for their slight movements at times, they looked exactly like lifeless bodies.

The moment they stepped into the village, there was a strong whiff of revolting stench. Subsequently, Erwen and Yazmin could not hold themselves back from coughing.

The villagers opened their eyes gradually when they heard them coughing.

Their eyes lit up when their respectable Holy Maiden came into sight. The next moment, they struggled to their feet and darted toward Erwen. Some of them who were too weak could only wriggle on the ground as they advanced toward her.

One of the villagers rushed over and knelt in front of her. "My respectable Holy Maiden, could you please give us some food? We have been starving for days!"

The other villagers wailed piteously, "Could you please give us some food for our kids? My child is dying of hunger..."

More and more villagers knelt in front of her, pleading sorrowfully, "Holy Maiden, please help us!"

Erwen furrowed her brows. What's the matter with them? Regardless of how hungry they were previously, they had never pleaded with me to offer them food!

All of a sudden, she heard someone saying among the crowd, "We haven't eaten anything for three days!"

She tried to appease them at once. "Silent, please! So all of you haven't eaten anything for three days?"

The villagers nodded hastily. "Yeah! It has been three days!"

Erwen asked again in bafflement, "Do you mean to say that nobody has sent you any food for the past three days?"

They nodded again. "Yes, there's nothing!"

D*mn it! Erwen could not help but cuss inwardly.

Peter used to be the one sending food to Village of Livestock for the villagers. She presumed he had stopped doing so ever since news of Progenitor's death was

spread. Hmph! He must have run for his life, paying no heed to the villagers!

Meanwhile, Zeke tried to reassure the villagers by telling them, "All right. Everyone, please get up now. We're here to rescue you. We'll cure your children and send all of you out. By then, you'll regain your freedom."

The moment he opened his mouth, all the villagers eyes were on him. What's going on? How's it possible for this man to stay alive and stand alongside Holy Maiden?

They recalled how Zeke had threatened to kill their Holy Maiden previously. Thus, they could not fathom why she let him off the hook.

Lucas rebuked Zeke oppressively, "What the f*ck! How could you still stay alive? Where's my wife? Did you abduct her? Send her back to me now! Otherwise, I won't let you off!"

Earlier on, Zeke had assigned someone to bring Ava to Village of White Muraco Clan, fearing that Lucas would put her in a tight spot again.

Yazmin reprimanded Lucas in an instant, "Shut up and mind your manners! Who do you think you are to be so rude to our elder? You must be asking for trouble!"

W-What? Thunderstruck, all the villagers turned to fix their gaze on Zeke in utter disbelief.

Are we hearing things? Holy Maiden's subordinate addresses him as their elder? How is it possible for him to become the elder of Muraco? Isn't he an ordinary person in Village of Livestock, just like everyone here? Nonplussed, the villagers were at a loss for words.

Glaring at Zeke, Lucas kept mumbling, "It's impossible! He must be bluffing! All of you've fallen into his trap! He's a liar..."

Before he could finish his words, a figure descended from the sky and bumped into him.

Within seconds, Lucas passed out with half of his body buried in the ground. He did not even have the chance to make a single sound!

Surprisingly, the figure turned out to be Sole Wolf, General North.

The sudden twist scared the wit out of the villagers. They shuddered in fear and did not dare to utter any words again.

To vent his anger, Sole Wolf stomped twice on Lucas and lambasted, "D*mn it! How could you be disrespectful of Zeke! You asked for it!"

Zeke rectified the situation by asking him, "Sole Wolf, didn't I assign you to be on Cain's tail? Why are you here?"

Sole Wolf explained hurriedly, "Zeke, I've been following closely behind him and found out that he met up with someone from Netherworld. At the moment, they are on the way here for the sake of the cursed parasitic worms in the villagers' bodies!"

Ah! In an instant, alarm bells went off in Zeke's mind.

He instructed immediately, "Erwen, Yazmin, wipe out the cursed parasitic worms in their bodies soonest possible! By hook or by crook, we mustn't let those from Netherworld obtain them!"

"Noted!" Erwen and Yazmin geared up for their mission.

Erwen instructed the villagers, "Everyone, bring your children out and line up here.

I'm going to give them treatment. After they are cured, you'll be able to regain your freedom and leave this place."

What? Holy Maiden is going to treat our children's illness and even free us from this horrible place? The villagers checked with Erwen repeatedly, thinking that they must be hearing things.

"You didn't hear wrongly. I'm going to cure your children and help you leave this place." Erwen tried to convince me.

All of them were relieved and kept thanking her in snots and tears.

Chapter 2061

"Holy Maiden, thank you so much! You're indeed our benefactor."

"There's nothing we can do to repay your kindness..."

"Boo... hoo... Our torture is finally coming to an end! We haven't left this horrible place ever since my child was born..."

"After we get out of this horrible place, I'm going to bring my child to travel around the world. I wish to let him explore the beauty of the world!"

Erwen shook her head and cast a look on Zeke. "You don't have to thank me. Actually, my elder is the one who saves your lives!"

A surge of inexplicable complex emotions started to well up from within the villagers. Initially, they presumed Zeke was worthless like all of them in the Village of Livestock.

Thus, they always picked on him with oppressive mockery.

Unexpectedly, he turned into their mighty live savior despite how they had been humiliating him all this while! Thus, they turned to kneel at him, thanking him earnestly

Even Lucas, who crossed swords with Zeke previously, swallowed his pride and kept slapping his own face. "Elder, it's my fault. I shouldn't have offended you earlier. I-I'm a sc*mbag! I shouldn't have gotten on your nerves. I was indeed shooting myself in the foot! Oh! Elder, please forgive me and let me off the hook this round..."

At the same time, Erwen urged the villagers to bring their children out as soon as possible.

The villagers dispersed at once and were back again with their children one by one after a while.

As they had not eaten anything for the past three days, the pitiful children were as weak as kittens.

Without hesitation, Erwen and Yazmin started getting rid of the cursed parasitic worms in their bodies.

On the other hand, Zeke led Sole Wolf to stand guard at the main entrance of Village of Livestock.

Zeke asked him, "Sole Wolf, did you manage to find out anything about Netherworld's strategy here?"

Sole Wolf shook his head. "No, Zeke. I only saw one of them from the Netherlands. I bet the others from Netherworld could be hiding among the vast bamboo forest. Anyway, I did not investigate further, fearing that I might alert them if they happen to set up any traps there."

Zeke nodded approvingly. "Yeah! You have a point. After we get rid of this fellow from Netherworld later, let's head for Netherworld to get to the bottom of the matter."

"Oh yeah! Zeke, Ares, Nameless, and the others have reached too. At the moment, they're hiding somewhere outside on standby. Do you think we need to ask them to give us a hand here?" Sole Wolf asked again as something came into his mind.

Nonetheless, Zeke waved and replied placidly, "Just let them be. Make sure none of our foes will be able to slip away."

Sole Wolf replied respectfully, "Noted. I will relay your message now."

After half an hour later, four tiny black dots could be seen speeding toward them from a far distance away.

Zeke could finally make out their face when they were getting closer.

The four figures turned out to be Freddie leading Cain, Jeremiah, and Peter to the Village of Livestock.

Zeke could sense Freddie's negative energy even from a distance away.

He could not help but feel a prickle of disappointment. "I expect Daemonium or Warren will come to get the matter resolved. Too bad they only assign small fry!"

Temper flaring, Sole Wolf rebuked, "D*mn it! His negative energy is too weak! I bet he must be a nobody in the Netherworld. Pfft! Those from the Netherlands must be looking down on us. That's why they assign such a worthless fellow to battle against us! We must teach them a lesson later!"

After a while, Freddie and the others came to a halt about ten meters away from Zeke.

Wearing a look of sheer hostility, Cain pointed at Zeke insolently. "Mr. Lehman, he's the one who stepped in and spoiled our plan!"

After scanning Zeke from head to toe, Freddie sneered, "Hmph! What a naive punk! How dare you battle against me! You're asking for it! You'd better end your life to atone for your sins. If not, it will be too late when you die a horrible death later!"

Zeke snickered and retorted, "Pfft! I should be the one to say that to you! Where are Daemonium and Warren? How could they chicken out and refuse to show up? I'm surprised that they only assign such small fry like you!"

Freddie was stunned. Zeke's words rang out like a rumble of lightning out of the blue for him.

Daemonium and Warren were deemed their leaders of the highest ranks. Not to mention, everything about them was highly confidential. Even the Black Muraco Clan was clueless about their existence. How is it possible for him to know about it?

Chapter 2062

Freddie's heart skipped a beat. He presumed Zeke was no ordinary man.

Nevertheless, he still bottled up his emotions by putting on a brave front. No matter what, I mustn't give in to his imposing aura!

"Heed my words! These cursed parasitic worms are highly important to us. If you dare to eradicate them, the whole Netherworld will surely seek you out for payback. By then, regardless of how powerful you are, you are still not comparable to the invincible retaliation from Netherworld! You'd better instruct your people to stop right now. Don't make me say it again!" Freddie raised his voice disdainfully.

Right that instant, Erwen, Yazmin, and all the villagers felt a prickle of fear, intimidated by Freddie's threatening words. Is he the so-called immortal from the Black Muraco Clan? I bet the immortal who is able to conquer them must be no ordinary man! Will Mr. Williams be able to fight against him? Nonetheless, Zeke turned and reassured her, "Erwen, proceeded with the treatment. Don't worry. Sole Wolf and I will take charge of it."

Erwen nodded, buoyed by his words. I'm sure there's a reason for him to say so. We should have confidence in him. After all, he has never let us down.

Thus, Erwen and Yazmin continued with their treatment of the villagers.

Shortly after, Zeke stepped out and snapped at Freddie, "Stop wasting time. Let's throw punches to find out who's the real deal!"

Freddie got all worked up and gritted his teeth. "Pfft! Since you're asking for it, I'll grant your wish then!"

To butter Freddie up, Cain, Jeremiah, and Peter emphasized, "Mr. Lehman, we're willing to fight against the foes with you!"

However, Freddie replied contemptuously, "I don't need anyone's help to fight against him."

The next second, he dashed maniacally toward Zeke. "Punk, it's time for you to meet your end!"

Cain, Jeremiah, and Peter also shifted their feet into a striking stance.

When Freddie was inches from Zeke, he emanated a wave of negative energy in an instant. He planned to distract the latter's mind by engulfing his head with it. Regardless of how powerful he is, I don't think there's anything he can do when his mind is deluded!

Little did he realize that he had underestimated Zeke's formidability.

After all, Zeke was a warrior of the Ultimate. Class. Freddie was just like a nobody to him. How could nobody be comparable to an Ultimate Class warrior with some underhand tactics and black magic?

Not to mention, Zeke was not the slightest bit affected by Freddie's negative energy. Even so, he decided to play a trick on him.

Thus, he pretended to sway uncontrollably and look as if he was in a daze, putting on a show that his mind was affected by Freddie's negative energy.

Subsequently, Freddie was as happy as a clam. Ha! He's apparently affected by my negative energy!

Next, he lunged toward Zeke and stretched out his hand toward his head.

Right that instant, Zeke's lips contorted into a smirk. The sheer rigidity in his smile sent a shiver down Freddie's spine.

What is he laughing about? Is he smiling disdainfully at me? In a split second, a sense of inexplicit crisis loomed over Freddie.

Slap! The next second, Zeke stretched out his palm abruptly and slapped Freddie hard on the face. As everything happened in a blink of an eye, he didn't even have the time to react at all.

He was sent flying and bumped into a wall, resulting in a huge hole. Seconds later, the heavy wall tumbled down onto him.

Cain, Jeremiah, and Peter, who witnessed everything, were rooted to the spot. Their eyes widened in utter disbelief. What the f*ck! What has just happened? How is it possible for the unrivaled immortal to be defeated by only one slap? Is it because our opponent is too mighty, or this "immortal" is too weak? Now that even the immortal can't defeat him, we will only end up digging our own graves by fighting against him!

They were petrified and planned to flee, but Zeke did not give them any chance.

He continued to dash toward them at a terrifying speed.

Even Cain was not in time to dodge at all.

Bang!

Cain and the other two were sent flying simultaneously.

An instant silence ensued in the place. There were only reverberations of the villagers' gasping breathing.

Dumbstruck, they could hardly believe what they witnessed. My goodness! Are we seeing things? He's supposed to be an unrivaled warrior deemed the immortal of the Black Muraco Clan, and all of them have been bowing to him; yet, Zeke Williams defeated him with just one slap!

Chapter 2063

He's too mighty! Snippets of how they picked on him when he was in Village of Livestock previously suddenly flashed across their minds. Their hearts thumped wildly.

Meanwhile, Freddie struggled to poke his head out from the piles of debris. He looked exceptionally disheveled, with ghastly wounds all over his body.

As blood spewed out of his mouth, he glared at Zeke. "W-Who are you? I bet you must be a fabled warrior!"

Zeke smirked. "You're in no position to know my name!"

Restraining himself from groaning in excruciating pain, Cain mustered up his strength to tell Freddie, "Mr. Lehman, his name... is Zeke Williams..."

Zeke Williams! The name sent an instant shiver down Freddie's spine! My goodness! It never occurs to me that he's Zeke Williams! He has been a taboo for everyone in the Netherworld all this while!

Freddie recalled how Daemonium had warned him numerous times to stay away from Zeke if he ever bumped into him.

Apart from that, Daemonium reminded him to notify him at once if he happened to obtain any first-hand information about Zeke.

Nonetheless, it never crossed his mind that he would bump into Zeke at the moment.

Deep down, he could not resist feeling irritated amid his intense fear. D*mn it! Cain should have mentioned that the so-called tough nut is Zeke Williams. If I knew it earlier, I wouldn't have stepped on his toes! He's an unrivaled warrior with the same rank as Daemonium while I'm just a low-ranked nobody! Oh my! I'm finished!

Cain crawled frantically toward Freddie and cleared away the debris from his body. "What nonsense! How dare the b*stard beat you up! Mr. Lehman, why don't you request immediate backup? We must let him pay the price for what he has done today..."

Bang!

Unexpectedly, Freddie threw him a punch, sending him flying.

Perplexed, Cain could only rebuke inwardly.

What the f*ck! I have the same stance as you! Zeke Williams is our foe, but why are you beating me again? Have you gone nuts after being beaten up?

Meanwhile, Zeke stepped forward to drag Freddie out from under piles of debris. The latter's arm was broken in an instant.

"Let's have another round!" Zeke challenged him.

"Can we please stop? I can't fight anymore," Freddie pleaded pitifully. Oh my! He's a warrior of the same rank as Daemonium! No matter how many of us are fighting against him, we are still no match for him! I'm only digging my own grave if I continue to battle against them!

Nevertheless, Zeke tried to talk him into having another round with him. "Don't stop! Let's carry on with it. I haven't had enough fun yet! How about putting it this way. I won't fight back with one side of my arms. Or perhaps, both sides?"

Freddie shook his head anxiously, "No! No! I really can't have another round! I surrender now, okay?"

Zeke scoffed, "What a coward! You have brought shame to the Netherlands. What if I don't fight back with my arms and legs?"

Freddie shook his head again. "Can you please let me off? I would rather surrender."

Zeke snapped coldly, "Show me the way to the Netherworld's base now."

Even so, Freddie hesitated.

Zeke arched his brows and asked, "Oh! You don't seem to agree! Fine. Sole Wolf, teach him a lesson now."

"Sure!" Sole Wolf replied blissfully and was about to throw his punch.

Freddie yelled out apprehensively, "Please stop it! I'm willing to lead you there. The base is in a secluded area. You won't be able to locate it without my help. I'll show you the way now."

He took the lead and was about to leave with Zeke.

Nevertheless, the latter caught a glimpse of Cain, Jeremiah, and Peter, who were about to slip away. Needless to say, he would never let them off. The three of them are good at playing underhand tactics with their knowledge of black magic. If they manage to escape, the others will surely fall victims to them again!

Thus, he shot Sole Wolf a meaningful glance.

Sole Wolf nodded and transformed into a gust of swirling wind. The next moment, he lunged toward the trio and flung them back toward the villagers. "Did Zeke say that you may leave? It's just your wishful thinking to flee at once!"

In the twinkling of an eye, the three of them landed clumsily on the ground surrounded by the villagers, yowling in pain.

Zeke announced, "Everyone, listen to me! The three of them are the culprit of your torture all this while! They are manipulating everything in the dark, be it Village of Livestock or the illness your children are suffering from. Now it's the time for you to pay them back in their coins!"

Chapter 2064

All of them turned their vicious glare to Cain and the other two.

They looked as though they were going to eat the three alive.

"You monster! You've tormented us for too long. We won't let any of you go!"

"My child... You did all that to my child! You must pay the price for your horrible actions!"

"Kill them! We'll avenge us and our children!"

The crowd charged forward and started hitting Cain and the other two.

Cain was in a lot of pain, but he was still able to shout, "Get out of my face! Leave now! Anyone who hits me again will get a worm from me! I promise you all that you'll die very painfully when the poison kicks in!"

When they heard about the worm, all of them became afraid.

They were aware of how much pain their children went through when the worms were attached to their bodies.

Sole Wolf smiled wickedly before charging toward the three and breaking all their arms without hesitation. "Thanks for the reminder. Without your arms, you won't be able to hurt anyone with those worms ever again."

Cain broke down right then and there as he cursed out loud.

The inability to use his arms meant he wouldn't be able to take care of himself for the rest of his life.

Of course, Jeremiah and Peter were even more furious than Cain. They were exclaiming about how it was all Cain's doing and how he alone deserved punishment, not them.

Their anger toward Cain was so great that both of them began to kick him violently as well.

On the way to the Netherworld's base, Zeke asked, "Let me ask you something, Freddie. How many people from the Netherworld are there?"

Seventh Freddie answered, "Netherworld's Branch's leader, Daemonium, and Warren."

Zeke furrowed his eyebrows. "The leader of Netherworld's Seventh Branch is here too? Why is he here with Daemonium?"

Freddie stuttered, "I-I'm just an errand boy from the Fourth Branch. I don't know any confidential information-"

"Do it, Sole Wolf."

"Okay, okay! I'll tell!" He was so afraid of Sole Wolf that the moment Zeke uttered his name, he almost immediately broke down mentally. "The Netherworld's Seventh Branch is currently conducting research for a really large project. Daemonium and Warren went there because they wanted to help the Seventh Branch with their research."

"What kind of project? Tell me." Zeke's sixth sense was telling him that the big project had something to do with Pietro and the Secret Realm of Mount Kush.

As Freddie was currently their captive, he had no choice but to spill the beans. "The Netherworld had always wanted to enter the Secret Realm of Mount Kush. However,

the biological structure of a person from the Netherworld is different from that of a living human, which is why no one from the Netherworld has been able to enter that land. There's basically a natural barrier preventing us from entering. In order to go into the Secret Realm of Mount Kush, the Seventh Branch conducted all sorts of bodily experiments in order to change the biological structure of our bodies so we can pass through that barrier. To achieve that goal, the Netherworld had spent a lot of effort capturing two important research subjects. Right now, their research had finally borne fruit. With the use of a special worm, a Netherworld person will be able to change their body structure enough to step through that barrier. There are a lot of us, which was why we built the Village of Livestock. The bodies of the villagers were used as culture dishes to cultivate large batches of those worms."

Zeke hurriedly asked, "Who's the two research subjects that the Netherworld captured?"

He already guessed who the subjects were, it was probably the two members of the Northern Conquest Army that Pietro led.

In other words, they were likely Emma's father David, and Thomas' father Brantley.

He had been tracking their location for quite a long time.

David did enter the Secret Realm of Mount Kush with Pietro in the past, so he must know the situation with the secret realm and Pietro.

Chapter 2065

Zeke very much wanted to save both of them.

When he stopped walking, Freddie stopped as well and asked, "Why are we stopping?"

"Do you know what crimes you have committed and how you shall be punished?"

Freddie's nerves tensed up. He thought Zeke was going to execute him since he had given up everything that Zeke wanted to know.

He kneeled down and begged, "Y-You can't kill me, Mr. Williams. I'm telling you, I'm the only one who can bring you to the Netherworld's base."

"The crime you have committed is treason! The punishment for a traitor is the death of your entire family! However, I still need your help. If you succeed in helping me, then I promise you I won't hurt your family."

"What is it that you need my help with? I'll make sure to do my best to fulfill your request, even if it costs my life!"

Zeke pulled out a small red pouch and took out a worm from inside.

He handed the worm to Freddie. "Eat this right now."

"What is this? A worm?" Freddie appeared worried.

"That's right! It's a worm."

"What is the meaning of this, Mr. Williams?"

"I'll have you return to the Netherworld's base alone. If you betray me, I'll still be able to control you through the worm."

Freddie was shocked. "Why aren't you willing to go there with me, Mr. Williams?"

"I'm fine with going with you if the base only has Daemonium and Warren inside. I'm more than confident that I can defeat them while protecting David and Brantley at the same time. However, the people from the Netherworld's Seventh Branch are there as well. If I fight them, it's possible the situation inside will get so chaotic that the two of them may get killed by members of the Netherworld! That's why I'm going to play this safe for now. I must rescue David and Brantley first before I can fight them."

"So... What you're saying is that you want me to get David and Brantley out of there first?"

"It'll be for the best if you can sneak them out. However, if you can't... As long as you can find out the location of where they are being held and report it back to me, I'll be able to send people in to rescue them."

"Don't you worry, Mr. Williams. I won't ever betray you. Your wish is my command There's really no need for the worm."

Sole Wolf was getting annoyed. "Why are you talking so much nonsense? Stop whining and eat the worm! Zeke doesn't give second chances to people like you this easily, so you better eat it right now. If you don't want to use this opportunity to redeem yourself, I'm happy to take your life right away."

"All right! I'll eat it. I'll eat it..." Freddie gulped and swallowed the cursed parasitic worm right in front of them.

Zeke coldly ordered, "Head to the base now. We'll be waiting for your news."

Freddie nodded, took a few steps forward, and turned back to ask, "Will you spare my life if I successfully rescued them, Mr. Williams? I promise I'll do anything for you as long as I still breathe."

"I will conduct an investigation to determine your crimes and judge you accordingly. If you didn't do too many bad things, then I'll let you live. But if you did, then death will be the only outcome for you."

"Don't you worry, Mr. Williams. I swear to the heavens that I've never done anything that directly hurt anyone. I've only ever run errands for the Netherworld. In fact, I was forced to join the Netherworld. My daughter has an incurable disease, and I had no idea how to save her. It was the Netherworld that helped me and gave me hope. When I asked them for help, they told me to join the Netherworld first. I have no choice but to follow their orders to save her..."

"Did the Netherworld really treat your daughter?"

An awkward look flashed across Freddie's face.

Sole Wolf spoke with a dark expression. "You're lying, Freddie. Your daughter didn't have an incurable disease. I'm confident that your daughter's long dead, and you're asking them to revive her. You should know what it means to be revived. You allowed the Netherworld to turn your daughter into a zombie? A zombie just like yourself?"

Chapter 2066

Freddie sighed and nodded. "My daughter is more important than my life. As long as she still lives, I don't care what I need to do."

Zeke narrowed his eyes. "You don't regret turning your daughter into a zombie?"

"Not at all."

"I see." Zeke nodded. "Go and complete your mission now. Don't worry. I may not be able to promise much, but I can assure you that I'll protect your innocent daughter."

"Thank you, Great Marshal!" Freddie then turned around and entered the bamboo forest.

There were around thirty bamboo buildings deep inside the forest.

Three men were drinking coffee inside the one in the middle, which also happened to be the fanciest-looking bamboo building.

Those three men were none other than the executives of the Netherworld. They were Daemonium, Warren, and the leader of the Seventh Branch, Mahazael.

Mahazael and Daemonium used to be disciples under the same master. After entering the Netherworld, both of them expanded their influence in their own ways.

Mahazael took a sip and spoke. "My right eyelid had been twitching lately, Daemonium. I wonder if this means something bad had happened."

Daemonium furrowed his eyebrows. "The base has been operating smoothly. I don't think anything bad is happening here. What's the situation with the Village of Livestock, Warren? Any incidents?"

"Freddie's the one in charge of the Village of Livestock, and he hasn't reported any abnormality. He should be harvesting the matured cursed parasitic worm in the village today," Warren answered.

Daemonium nodded. "Remember to ask him about the situation there when he returns. The Village of Livestock must remain untouched."

"Understood!"

"One more thing. I've asked you to bring me news about Zeke. How is that going?"

"After he last appeared in Corleon, I haven't been able to find him at all, Godfather. He left no clues for me to follow."

"It's not important whether you can track him. The most important thing is that he doesn't find out about our base. Our research is about to succeed. We can't let anything happen in this crucial period."

"Relax, Godfather. I know how important this project is to the Netherworld. I'll be extra careful," Warren reassured sincerely.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

All three of them abruptly tensed up when they heard a knocking on the door.

They couldn't help it. The research was in its final stages, which was why they were very sensitive to even the smallest disturbance.

"Who is it?" Daemonium asked.

"It's me," Freddie replied.

Warren let out a sigh of relief. "He's Freddie, the guy responsible for the Village of Livestock. He's probably here to give us the cursed parasitic worms."

"Let him in then." Daemonium waved.

Warren opened the door and stared at Freddie. "How did it go?"

Freddie nodded. "It went smoothly."

"Come on in." Warren stood to the side to let him in.

Mahazael asked, "How's the situation with the Village of Livestock?"

"The cursed parasitic worms in the Village of Livestock are all growing well. Only one worm matured today. Two more will be maturing in two days," Freddie replied.

"Nothing unusual happened in the Village of Livestock, I hope?"

Freddie's heart almost leaped out of his chest when he heard that. Why is he asking me that question? Is it because he knows about my deal with Zeke? No, that's impossible. They never leave the base. Any contact with the outside world is done through me. There's no way they would know what happened beyond the base. Perhaps it's just a coincidence? Okay, okay, I have to stop thinking about it now and show my usual poker face. All right, here I go.

"I've yet to find anything unusual in the Village of Livestock," he answered emotionlessly.

"Good, that's good. Where's the matured worm you brought with you?"

Freddie pulled out a small bamboo cage. "The maturity of this particular cursed parasitic worm is pretty good. Please take a look."

That cursed parasitic worm was the one Zeke personally picked off from a villager in the Village of Livestock. He handed it to Freddie so he could use it to appease his superiors.

Mahazael gave it a glance and nodded satisfactorily. "Not bad. Not bad at all. All right, Freddie. You can leave now. Keep a close eye on the Village of Livestock. If anything slightly unusual happened, tell me about it immediately."

"Understood!" Freddie then left the room.

When he was fully out of sight of his superiors, he realized that his back was full of sweat.

He had to be incredibly cautious when dealing with those three devils. If he wasn't mentally strong and capable of putting on a poker face, he would've been killed right then and there,

After wiping the sweat on his forehead away, he looked around the different buildings, "There are about thirty buildings around here. Where exactly are they kept? It's not realistic to search all the buildings one by one as it'll leave me exposed. This is such a pain in the-"

Suddenly, someone passed him by.

He recognized who that person was. That guy was the right-hand man of Mahazael, Kingsley.

There was something strange about Kingsley.

The base had a cafeteria where everyone would go to have their meals.

However, Kingsley would insist on sending meals to someone.

Freddie noticed that before. He realized that, even as everyone was dining in the cafeteria, Kingsley would continue to send meals to someone.

He wondered about who Kingsley was sending those meals to and if there were people that no one knew about on the base. After giving it some thought, he came to the conclusion that Kingsley might be sending meals to the people Zeke wanted to rescue, David and Brantley.

If he followed Kingsley, then he would be able to locate their location.

However, the chance of him being caught was too high as Kingsley was an observant fellow.

An idea suddenly flashed into his mind. If I can't follow him in secret, how about I just ask him to bring me there?

He promptly stepped forward and greeted Kingsley. "Hello, Kingsley! Pretty good morning, huh?"

Kingsley turned to look at Freddie with caution. "What are you doing here instead of at the cafeteria, Freddie?"

"I just returned from the Village of Livestock to deliver the matured cursed parasitic worm, you see. The delivery was just completed a second ago, which is why I haven't had the chance to go to the cafeteria."

"I see." Kingsley glanced at him with suspicion.

Freddie smiled mysteriously. "You're delivering meals again, Kingsley?"

"Yeah."

"Who are you delivering it to?"

Kingsley's expression darkened. "Why are you asking me that?"

"It was just a joke! I actually already knew who you're delivering these meals to."

"Oh? Then tell me who I'm delivering these meals to, then." Kingsley's breathing quickened.

"One of them is called Jones, and the other one is called Fleming. Am I right?"

Kingsley instantly grabbed Freddie's arm and dragged him to an obscure corner. "Who told you about this, Freddie? You know what? I don't care how you know about it. If you leak this info out, I can assure you that Mr. Mahazael will kill you!"

"Where do you think I've gotten this info from? He told me about it himself. In fact, he informed me about how you've applied for leave so you can visit your family. I'm actually your replacement for the next few days"

"Really? He agreed to my leave?"

"Of course! Why else would he tell me about their existence and ask me to substitute for you?"

Kingsley nodded. "That makes sense."

"I can see you're still unconvinced. How about you ask him about it yourself? He'll confirm what I just told you." Freddie betted everything on that lie.

avent to confirm his claim, then If Kingsley he was as good as dead.

However, he was forced to say that, or else Kingsley wouldn't believe him enough to let him deliver the meals to his targets. It was a gamble with his own life on the line.

Thankfully, his gamble worked out.

Kingsley believed him without a hint of suspicion.

Chapter 2068

Kingsley laughed. "Why would I doubt you, Freddie? We've been friends for years! All right then, I'll show you the path."

Freddie gave a cigarette to Kingsley before they made their way to the bamboo building that was the farthest away from the rest.

He was a little confounded. "Isn't this the firewood shed, Kingsley? I don't think anyone lives here."

Kingsley replied with a smirk as he pushed the door open. "This room is more than meets the eye. Just follow me. You'll know what I mean when you see it."

Freddie looked around and was disappointed.

Aside from mountains of firewood, there weren't anyone around or signs that humans were there. What is he doing? He's not tricking me, is he?

"All right, Freddie. You better follow me closely or you'll get lost."

Freddie was even more confused. What does he mean? How can I get lost in this one building?

Kingsley smiled mysteriously before heading to the northern wall.

He still kept walking forward even though he was about to hit the wall. Freddie couldn't help but feel anxious for him.

That anxiety transformed into shock when he saw his friend dissolving into the wall before vanishing completely.

It looked as though the wall had absorbed him.

Just as he was still confused about what was going on, Kingsley shouted from the other side, "What are you standing there for, Freddie? Come on in!"

"All right! I'm coming!" Freddie promptly headed to the wall and carefully reached his hand through it.

Something magical happened. When his hand touched the wall, it was as if he was touching nothing at all. He felt no resistance at where the wall stood.

He still felt nothing when his entire body crossed over.

"This wall is an illusion!" he concluded.

"That's right." Kingsley's voice rang out in the darkness. "This is a barrier that Mr. Mahazael and Daemonium constructed. Only a member of the Netherworld can enter."

"Ah, I see. So, where are we right now?"

Kingsley lit up a torch and illuminated the space they were walking in.

Thanks to the light, Freddie was able to see that they were standing inside a corridor.

When they reached the end, they saw multiple paths in front of them.

"You mustn't take the wrong path the next time you're here, Freddie. If you take the wrong turn, you're never going to find your way back. Understand?" Kingsley informed.

"I understand. Relax, my memory may not be the best, but I can still remember this."

"Let's go then." He led Freddie into the third path.

After reaching the end of that corridor, he stepped into the second path when they arrived at another fork.

They encountered a total of four forks before they were out of that maze.

Finally, they arrived in front of a worn-out building.

The building looked as though it was haunted and going to collapse at any second.

Kingsley pushed the door open and caused a gust of cold wind to escape. It was so cold that Freddie was trembling as he stepped into the building.

It was hard to believe that the temperature inside was colder than the outside.

The coldness appeared to have originated from the two people inside the building. Perhaps it would be more appropriate to call them prisoners.

The prisoners were wearing tattered clothing. They looked dirty and smelled like poo, Both their hands and legs were chained up to restrict their movements completely.

If it weren't for their heavy breathing, Freddie would've thought they were corpses. If my guess is right, these two people are who Zeke is looking for. I wonder which one is David and which one is Brantley.

Kingsley threw the food to the ground and spoke coldly. "Wake up. Time for your meal."

Both prisoners stayed still.

"Hmph. Seems like you two are still stubborn. We'll see how many days you can survive without eating. Let's go, Freddie. You're only responsible for delivering their meals. Whether they eat or not is none of your concern. If they die of hunger, then that's their own fault."

Chapter 2069

"Okay!" Freddie nodded.

He glanced at the prisoners again before stepping out of the room.

Kingsley reminded, "The way out is different from the way in, Freddie. You must remember the path. Don't say I didn't warn you."

"Thank you for the reminder."

Both of them soon left the firewood shed.

Kingsley stretched his body lazily and smiled. "I'll let you handle both of them for the next few days. Make sure they don't die, okay? Otherwise, both of us will get chewed out by our boss."

Freddie patted his shoulder and reassured, "No need to worry about me. Once you've returned from visiting your family, I'll treat you to a couple of drinks, eh?"

"I should be the one treating you to a drink! I'll bring you a bottle of my hometown's specialty back with me. Let's go."

Kingsley left while Freddie returned to his room.

He just left the base earlier, so it would be too suspicious for him to leave so soon again. I'll wait until the middle of the night before I report my findings to Zeke.

After hours of waiting, it was finally midnight.

He sneaked out of his room and headed toward the exit.

Thankfully, the guard at the gate was sleeping in his post, thus allowing him to leave without a hitch.

He ran as fast as he could in the bamboo forest to deliver the news about David and Brantley's whereabouts to Zeke.

Suddenly, he heard the voices of a man and a woman talking to each other.

"Stop being so naughty."

"I can't wait, Darling,"

"Stop it. I'm not ready yet."

Those two voices belonged to Warren and the Black Muraco Clan's Holy Maiden. Why are the two of them here? Freddie was starting to sweat bullets. There's a huge chance that the Holy Maiden will reveal my betrayal! I need to get out of here!

He wanted to sneak away, but it was too late.

Warren noticed him and roared, "Who is it?"

"I-It's me, Mr. Williams..." Freddie replied with a trembling voice.

"Why the hell are you doing here in the middle of the night?"

Freddie gulped. "I-I just sensed that another cursed parasitic worm had matured in the Village of Livestock. M-Matured worms should be harvested as soon as possible."

"Already? Fine! Come back as soon as possible!"

"Okay!" Freddie was about to sprint away. However...

"Wait." The Holy Maiden stopped him.

He was so terrified that his legs were about to turn to jelly. Sh*t! The Holy Maiden from the Black Muraco Clan's going to expose me!

What do I do? What do I do! I need to come up with a plan right now!

He couldn't think of anything else, so he turned around and responded, "What's the matter?"

"My Life-Bound Worm's getting weaker over the past few days, Freddie. I think something might've happened to the Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan. After you leave, can you help me find out what's going on with our Progenitor? Thanks."

His heart was beating with joy when he realized she didn't know the Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan was already dead.

It was a pleasant surprise. "You haven't been staying in the Village of Black Muraco Clan, Holy Maiden?"

Her face was flushed with red instantly. "I've been staying here to discuss important matters with Mr. Williams for the past few days."

Freddie let out a sigh of relief in his mind before he explained, "You should know that the Progenitor of the White Muraco Clan is dead. Right now, those clan members are pledging their allegiance to the Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan. The reason your Life-Bound Worm is getting weak is

probably that the Progenitor of the Black Muraco Clan is struggling to support both clans at the same time."

She nodded. "Ah, I see. Thanks for telling me, Freddie."

Chapter 2070

Freddie turned around and was about to leave, but Warren stopped him again. "Wait. You didn't see anything that happened here tonight. If anyone else finds out about this, you're dead."

"Don't you worry, Mr. Williams. I promise you that I didn't see or hear anything here... The cursed parasitic worm's about to mature. I need to go now." Freddie proceeded to sprint away as fast as he could.

Warren promptly hugged the Holy Maiden again. "Let's continue, Darling. No one's going to disturb us anymore."

The Holy Maiden pouted. "That guy ruined my mood."

"Don't worry. Once he returned to the base, I'll make sure to punish him for ruining our fun."

Freddie didn't stop running until he was out of the bamboo forest. I thought my heart was going to leap out of my chest earlier. Thank god I have a natural talent for acting. If not, I would've been dead by now.

Before he finished panting, a large hand suddenly landed on his shoulder.

It spooked him so much that he jumped and shrieked, "Who is it?"

It was Sole Wolf. "Why are you jumping so high up? Are you that much of a scaredycat?"

Seeing how the person was his ally, Freddie let out a sigh. "Oh, it's you. You surprised me. I thought it was someone from the Netherworld."

"Tell me what you encountered earlier that was making you all jittery."

He told Sole Wolf everything about his encounter with Warren earlier.

Sole Wolf was quite pissed off after listening to the whole story. "That dog! I was spending so much effort and time just to deal with him while he was flirting with the Black Muraco Clan's Holy Maiden! This is unfair! Unfair, I say! Once I catch him, I'll tear him to pieces!"

"Where's Mr. Williams? I need to tell him what I've found."

"Follow me." Sole Wolf led him to a bamboo building not too far away from their spot.

Zeke was casually drinking coffee inside the building.

When he saw Freddie, he placed his cup down and stared at him with anticipation.

"Greetings, Mr. Williams." Freddie bowed slightly.

"How's the job I asked you to do?"

"I've located the targets' location, Mr. Williams."

"Tell me."

"They're kept inside a firewood shed at the western corner of the base." Freddie paused before continuing, "There's a mechanism in the firewood shed that'll prevent us from rescuing the targets. Only I know the path through that mechanism."

He was worried that Zeke would immediately try to kill him after he revealed the location of the targets.

That was why he emphasized that he still had value alive than dead.

Zeke and Sole Wolf's expression shifted.

Freddie had a bad feeling when he saw that.

Sole Wolf questioned, "Are you sure you're telling the truth, Freddie?"

"Of course I am."

"If we discover that you're lying to us, I can assure you that you'll experience the most painful punishment the world has to offer. Now, I'll ask you again, are you certain you're telling us the truth?"

"Yes. I promise you I'm not lying. Why are you questioning me like this?"

"That's because your intel is different from someone else's."

"Who is it?" Freddie's pupil constricted.

Zeke and Sole Wolf glanced at each other before Sole Wolf nodded and dragged someone else from a nearby room.

When Freddie saw who it was, he was shocked.
Now, I'll ask you again, are you certain you're telling us the truth?"

"Yes. I promise you I'm not lying. Why are you questioning me like this?"

"That's because your intel is different from someone else's."

"Who is it?" Freddie's pupil constricted.

Zeke and Sole Wolf glanced at each other before Sole Wolf nodded and dragged someone else from a nearby room.

When Freddie saw who it was, he was shocked.

That person turned out to be the righthand man of Mahazael, Kingsley!

He didn't expect Kingsley to be captured. "How did you catch him, Mr. Williams?"

Zeke answered, "When he stepped out of the bamboo forest earlier, he noticed something was going wrong with the Black Muraco Clan. He was about to head back to report his finding before I stopped him."

Chapter 2071

Freddie nodded. "Thank goodness that you stopped him in time or your plan and my identity would've been busted."

Sole Wolf poured a bucket of cold water on Kingsley to wake him up.

The moment he opened his eyes, he began to shout, "Who are you f*ckers? How dare you attack me! Do you know who I am? Are you from the Black Muraco Clan? I'm telling you, I'm friends with the Saint of Black Muraco-"

"Shut up!" Sole Wolf gave him a kick. "Stop your useless threats!"

The kick was apparently quite powerful, as Kingsley felt all his internal organs had just been reshuffled. He promptly kept his mouth shut.

"Tell us again where Brantley and David are being held currently."

"I told you. Both of them were kept inside a crypt underneath the forest. It's a place where only I know where to find them. Who are you people? Why do you want to know where they are?" Kingsley glared.

Sole Wolf glanced at Freddie. "Hear that? The location that you two are describing is different. Who's telling us the truth, then?"

It was then that Kingsley noticed Freddie was there too. "Freddie? Why are you here? Are you captured by them as well?"

Freddie nodded.

"Wait a minute. If that's the case, then why aren't they binding you to a chair? Are you working with them, Freddie? Did you betray the Netherworld?"

"I... have no choice but to do this."

Kingsley roared, "You b*stard! You betrayed the Netherworld! You'll die a horrible death, traitor! The Netherworld won't let you or your daughter go that easily! Just you wait, you son of a-"

Sole Wolf kicked him again. "Would you just shut up already? Say, how about I go into the forest first and check out who's telling the truth, Zeke?"

Zeke nodded. "Seems like that's our only option."

Sole Wolf glared at Kingsley and Freddie viciously. "You two wait here. Once I find out who's the one lying, I'll make that one regret it."

Freddie swiftly defended, "I swear on my life that I'm telling the truth, Mr. Williams."

Just as Sole Wolf turned around, Kingsley shouted, "Wait!"

He knew if Sole Wolf really did go to check, his lie would be revealed instantly. When that happened, he would be in a lot of pain.

Sole Wolf stopped and turned back. "If you have something to say, then just say it already."

Kingsley muttered slowly, "If... If I tell you guys their exact location, will you promise me that you'll let me live?"

A hideously creepy smile appeared on Sole Wolf's face. "So you're telling me you were lying earlier?"

Kingsley was so spooked that he couldn't say a word.

"Tell me where they're hidden. If the location you mention is the same as Freddie's, then we'll, of course, reward the one who spoke the truth first and punished the one who spoke the truth last."

Gritting his teeth, Kingsley glared at Freddie. "You tricked me, Freddie! You were lying about me getting my leave and substituting for me! I can't believe you were just trying to use me to fish out the real location of where David is hidden!"

Freddie smiled apologetically. "Sorry. I didn't expect things would turn out this way. I was really going to let you return home to visit your family and avoid this whole mess entirely. It was unexpected to me as well that you were captured by Mr. Williams."

"What good does your apology do now? I'm going to murder you!"

"Enough! Shut your mouth!" Sole Wolf exclaimed. "So you're admitting that you're lying, right? Hehe, it's time for you to have a taste of my special punishment. You should feel lucky. I don't show this to many people."

Sole Wolf smiled menacingly as he approached Kingsley.

Kingsley was terrified. "Please don't do it! You can't kill me! You can't kill me because... because I'm still useful!"

"And what are you useful for?"

"Uhm, uhm, you want to know where David and Brantley are to save them, right? Right?"

"Of course. Why else would we want to find out where they are?"

Kingsley let out a sigh. "Freddie may be able to lead you inside, but he won't be able to help the two of them escape. I'm useful because I can do just that."

"Are you looking down on us? We'll definitely be able to save them unless they're kept in hell."

"Then let me tell you that the place they're kept in is no different from hell. They're locked inside a barrier, and that barrier is designed to make sure both of them can't leave. It'll try to repel them if they get too close. Unless the barrier is shattered, they can't leave. Are you two certain that you can break the barrier?"

Zeke stared at Kingsley. "Barrier, eh? Are you telling the truth?"

"Yes."

"I can confirm that they are both indeed kept inside a barrier within the firewood shed, Mr. Williams," Freddie added.

Zeke stayed silent.

If they're kept inside a barrier, then this is going to be difficult to deal with. Sure, I can break it fairly easily, but it'll no doubt alert everyone in the Netherworld that we're there. If they surround us, I'm not confident I can protect both of them while busting them out.

He turned to Kingsley. "How do you suggest we break them out of the barrier?"

"From what I can tell, there's a hole inside the barrier. They can escape the prison there without anyone noticing."

"Very well. We'll do what you say. Let's go right now." Zeke nodded and stood up.

"Wait a second!" Freddie lifted his hands. "If all of us just walk in like that, people will get suspicious!"

"Then it's up to you two to think of something."

Kingsley slapped his forehead. "I just remembered that our branch leader asked me to find a few subjects to conduct experiments on. Perhaps we can disguise the two of you as research subjects."

"Sure," Sole Wolf agreed.

Zeke nodded before taking out a pouch from his pocket and removing a cursed parasitic worm hiding inside before handing it to Kingsley. "Swallow it."

Kingsley stared at the worm with goosebumps. "A worm? I-I don't want it. I promise you all that I won't betray you. Please, don't give me the worm. I have a phobia of them-"

A bitter smile appeared on Freddie's face. "I suggest you just eat the worm, Kingsley. It'll save you a lot of pain. Why else do you think I'm following their orders this obediently?"

"You ate a cursed parasitic worm too?"
Despair was written on Kingsley's face.

Freddie nodded.

Seeing how there was no other way for him to escape, Kingsley gritted his teeth, closed his eyes, and swallowed the worm.

After staying silent for a while, he slowly spoke up. "Let's go. The two of you must follow us very closely and don't make any moves. If we encounter any issues, just let us handle it."

"Wait a second." Sole Wolf spoke up. "You mentioned that you came across Warren when you're making your way here, right, Freddie?"

Freddie nodded. "I did."

"Warren knows what we look like, Zeke. I think it'll be better if we cover our face and find a chance to get rid of him."

Zeke nodded and used a veil to hide his appearance.

Kingsley and Freddie brought the two of them into the bamboo forest.

The forest had a dead atmosphere to it. Everywhere they went, they could see decay all around. It looked as though it was hell on earth.

Chapter 2073

After walking on a narrow path for about half an hour, they heard the moaning of a man and a woman.

They didn't have to guess to know that it was Warren and the Holy Maiden from the Black Muraco Clan doing the deed.

Sole Wolf was pretty pissed off when he heard that. "That son of a b*tch. We're working our ass off trying to take the Netherworld down while he's here having his fun... I really want to kill him right now, Zeke. I can't hold by my hatred for him any longer."

Zeke patted his shoulder. "He's still useful alive to us right now."

Sole Wolf rubbed his palms together. "Okay. Then I'll keep him just barely alive."

He intentionally made some noise as they continued on with their journey.

Warren promptly stopped his lewd act when he heard that. "Who's there?" Freddie waved. "It's me again."

"Get out of my face! Don't disturb me!" Warren was extremely annoyed and furious.

Who wouldn't after being interrupted twice when things were getting hot and steamy?

Freddie glanced at Zeke.

Zeke spoke in a low volume. "Try to lure him here."

Freddie nodded before shouting, "Please come over here, Mr. Williams! I have a small surprise for you!"

"Surprise? What kind of surprise?" Warren was intrigued.

"The surprise... The surprise is... I can't describe it properly with words. You have to see it for yourself."

"Give me a second."

A rustling sound could be heard coming from the bushes before Warren appeared fully clothed.

He entered a state of alert when he saw four people standing in front of him. "Why are you here with Freddie, Kingsley? And who are those two behind you?"

Kingsley explained. "These are the test subjects that Mr. Mahazael asked for."

Warren nodded, unaware that those two were Zeke and Sole Wolf, before turning to Freddie. "Where's your surprise? If I'm not surprised. I'll kill you.*"

"I promise you that this surprise will really shock you." Freddie then pointed at Zeke and Sole Wolf. "These two are the surprise I mentioned."

Warren's eyebrow furrowed intensely. These two are test subjects. What do they have to do

Just as he was about to scold Freddie, he took an extra glance at Zeke and swallowed his words back.

He studied Zeke and asked. "You look familiar. Have we met before?"

Zeke nodded.

"Take off your veil. Let me see your face."

Sole Wolf smiled. "Don't you think I look familiar too?"

Warren shuddered when he heard that voice. He sounds... familiar. It can't be him, can it? No, this is impossible. Why would they be with Kingsley and Freddie right now?

"Take off that veil right now!" He pointed.

Sole Wolf and Zeke did as he said.

It was as though a bomb was dropped on his mind when he saw their faces. This is a conspiracy! Kingsley and Freddie are traitors to the Netherworld!

He immediately tried to run, but Zeke was faster at restricting him with energy.

Warren might be good, but Zeke belonged to the Ultimate Class, perhaps even Celestial Class.

Warren was powerless in front of Zeke's might.

Insults were hurled toward Freddie and Kingsley from his mouth. "You b*stards! You two have some balls to betray the Netherworld! A painful death awaits both of you!"

Freddie smiled. "I'm sorry, Mr. Williams. We're forced to do this. Besides, didn't you say you wanted a surprise from me? Is this surprise good enough?"

Chapter 2074

Warren gritted his teeth, infuriated.

Surprise? Of course, I'm surprised! You almost gave me a heart attack!

Even though Warren was completely under restraint, he did not stop cursing.

Sole Wolf was not having it and slapped Warren all of a sudden. "Just shut up! I don't want to hear a sound from you!"

The force from the swing of his arm sent Warren crashing to the floor, causing him to see stars.

That said, that did not stop him from cursing at the top of his lungs. There was only anger in his mind.

At that moment, Sole Wolf was worried that all that noise Warren was making would attract the people from Netherworld. So, he decided to knock Warren out with a kick.

"Let's move on," Zeke said. "He won't wake up any time soon."

"Wait," Freddie said. "What about the other one, Mr. Williams?"

He pointed to where Warren came out, right at Warren's companion, Holy Maiden from the Black Muraco Clan.

"I don't beat women. Sole Wolf, you handle it."

"Alright."

Sole Wolf immediately turned into a gust of wind and whooshed towards the girl.

After that, the group went on their way.

When they got nearer to the entrance, Kingsley suddenly stopped. "Wait, we need to talk about how we're going to fool Zellar, who's on duty."

"Don't worry," Freddie assured. "Leave everything to me. I know what to do."

"If it really came down to it, we can always just settle things with brute force. Let's go," said Sole Wolf.

Upon arriving at the entrance, the guards stopped them, as expected. "Hold it right there. When the f*** did you go out, Freddie? Why didn't you report it to me?"

It was a rule in Netherworld that, no matter who it was, everyone had to report to the guards before going in and out. If not, they would suffer harsh consequences.

Hearing that, Freddie pulled out a cigarette and offered it to the guard. "Hahaha. Weren't you asleep just now? I simply couldn't bring myself to wake you up for such a small matter. Here, have a puff. Turn a blind eye just this once. Drinks' on me next time."

However, Zeller was not buying what Freddie was selling. "Take that out of my face. It's no use. A violation is a violation. I have to do things by the book and inform Mr. Mahazael about this."

"Are you sure about that. Zeller? You better think carefully." Freddie smirked.

"Is that supposed to be a threat? Are you threatening me? Ha! You and what army?" Zeller responded with a snide look on his face.

"Right," Freddie said. "How are you going to tell Mr. Mahazael? Are you going to tell him that you let me slip out because you dozed off when you were on duty? If you do, I'm afraid the punishment you'll get would be much more severe compared to what I'm getting."

"Uhhh..."

Zeller was stumped.

He's right. I can't let Mr. Mahazael know about this.

And so, after giving it some thought, Zeller

lowered his voice and said, "Forget everything I said just now. Treat it like I permitted your leave after you reported to me."

He took the cigarette Freddie offered as he spoke.

Freddie smiled. "That's more like it. Then, I'll be going now."

"Wait a second." Zeller stopped them once again. "Who are these guys?" he asked while examining Zeke and Sole Wolf.

"They're the lab rats I got for Mr. Mahazael. Do you have something to say about that?" Freddie replied.

"No. Not at all." Zeller shook his head immediately. "I was merely asking out of curiosity. That's all. You guys can go now."

"It seems like you recognize me," Zeke remarked out of the blue just as Freddie was about to head it.

As soon as Zeller heard that, he became scared. "Huh? I definitely don't. Why would I recognize you?"

Nevertheless, Zeke smiled menacingly before knocking Zeller out with an energy pulse.

Freddie and Kingsley looked at Zeke, confused. "Why did you have to attack a small fry?"

"I remember him. He's one of Warren's men. He had seen me before this," Zeke explained.

"With how he reacted, there's a high chance he recognized me. Our plan would be down the drain if he reported my location to Mr. Mahazael."

Freddie nodded in response. "Alright, let's pick up the pace then. Our whereabouts will definitely be exposed when Zeller's shift ends since someone will come and take his place."

Chapter 2075

"Let's go!"

And so, the team of four quickly made their way through Netherworld and arrived at the firewood shed.

Upon entering the shed, Zeke sensed that there was a barrier composed of negative energy.

It was a powerful barrier that was dense in negative energy. It did not seem like something Daemonium could do alone.

"How many people were utilized to make this barrier?" Zeke asked Kingsley.

"Two," Kingsley answered. "It's the combined effort of Mr. Mahazael and Daemonium."

Looks like Mahazael is actually quite strong, Zeke thought after hearing the answer.

He was not sure if he could beat them if Mahazael were as strong as Daemonium, who was a Celestial Class fighter.

Zeke was in the Ultimate Class, but his fighting prowess was comparable to that of Celestial Class, so he still had a chance if it was a one-on-one fight. Fighting two Celestial Class enemies, however, was a whole different story.

On top of that. Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf were mere Ultimate and King Class warriors. They would stand no chance fighting against a Celestial Class warrior.

Then, Kingsley guided them through the barrier and into the secret passage, heading straight toward the prison cell.

Inside the prison cell, the chained-up David and Brantley opened their eyes almost simultaneously and looked at each other with pure astonishment.

"Brantley, do you sense a familiar presence approaching?" David was the first to speak.

"You feel it too?" Brantley was a little excited. "It feels like it's Master's presence."

"Did Master come to save us? But how is that possible? I thought he was occupied with what's happening on Mount Kush," David said.

"To be honest, you might not believe me when I say this, but I actually felt Mr. White's presence from the Netherworlds who came to deliver food for us with Kingsley earlier," Brantley claimed.

"That said, it was too weak for me to make anything out of it, so I assumed I was just imagining things and shrugged it off. Now that I think of it, I might not be wrong."

Naturally, the Netherworldian that Brantley was talking about was Freddie.

Freddie was in contact with Zeke, who inherited everything from Pietro. It was no surprise that Brantley could feel a little of Pietro from the man.

"I'll be frank. I noticed it too," David said as his eyes lit up.

"And it's coming closer. Master is going to be here really soon." As soon as he finished, four men opened the door and came in.

Kingsley and Freddie were in the front while two masked men stood behind.

Immediately, both David and Brantley focused their attention on Zeke, excited and confused at the same time.

He's the one emanating Master's presence. Who is he? Why does he feel like Master? Why is he here?

Seeing the sorry state David and Brantley were in, Zeke could not help but feel infuriated and clenched his fist.

These two are the founding members of the North's army! Netherworld will pay for the suffering they were put through!

Zeke instantly rushed over to the men without a single word and broke the shackles on their arms with an energy pulse.

"I'm sorry for being late and putting you two through all that torture," Zeke said.

"Who are you?" David asked. "Who is Pietro White to you?"

"I'm the Great Marshal of Eurasia, Pietro White is my master."

Great Marshal! He's the current leader of the North's army! Our young master!

At that moment, a surge of mixed emotions welled up from within David and Brantley, and they went down on their knees without any hesitation.

"David Jones of the North greets you, Young Master!"

"Brantley Fleming of the North greets you, Young Master!"

"There's no need for such formalities, you two. Please stand up," Zeke said as he quickly picked them up from the floor.

"Young Master," David said. "Mr. White left me a message for you..."

"Let's talk about it after we get out of here." Zeke interrupted. "We need to prioritize getting you two out of here."

Chapter 2076

"But this is of utmost importance! Mr. White wanted me to inform you the second I see you that..."

"That's an order!" Zeke insisted.

The reason Zeke did not let David speak was out of worry and concern. In fact, he was curious too.

He was worried that David and Brantley might lose their lives trying to protect him if they ever got chased or surrounded by Netherworldians during their escape.

Zeke did not want the two founding members to die a death as saddening as that.

Hence, Zeke wanted David to keep that message to himself so that he would do his best to stay alive and tell him when they were all safe.

The moment Zeke uttered the word order, David went silent.

As a soldier, it was his duty to follow orders.

"Take us out of here, Kingsley," Zeke said after that.

Kingsley nodded and immediately sprawled on the ground before he started sniffing around like how a dog would.

"What are you doing, Kingsley?" Freddie was puzzled.

"I'm looking for the gap in the barrier, of course. Its position changes all the time. Luckily, I placed a bottle of whiskey in it the last time I found it. Now I can just follow the scent of the alcohol to find it," Kingsley explained.

Kingsley was taking quite a while to find the scent, so Zeke was getting a little impatient.

"If you can't find it, let me just destroy the barrier," he proposed.

"Don't," Kingsley said promptly. "It would be bad if we get surrounded by the Netherworldians after you break the barrier. Just wait a little longer. I'm almost there."

Suddenly, Brantley spoke. "Oh, an eighteen-year-old single malt whiskey finished in a sherry cask."

"How did you know that?" Kingsley asked while staring at Brantley in amazement.

Brantley laughed in response. "I have another nickname, called God of Booze. It's been decades since I had a drink. This itch is driving me nuts!"

With that, Brantley reached up above him and grabbed a bottle of whiskey out of thin air.

Then, he twisted open the cork and started gulping down on.

"Hey, save some for me!" David was also raring for a drink and started fighting Brantley for it.

It was clear that Brantley had taken the whiskey from the gap Kingsley mentioned.

It's just right above his head! "Let's go!" Zeke commanded, and everyone went jumping into the barrier's gap.

Meanwhile, a Netherworldian was walking toward the entrance with some food in hand while humming a tune.

It was time for him to change shifts with Zeller.

As it turned out, the guy was actually Zeller's twin brother who joined Netherworld with him. People call him Zell as he was younger.

It was their birthday that day, so Zell was planning on having some drinks with Zeller to celebrate.

Nevertheless, he did not see Zeller when he reached the guard post.

"This bast*rd definitely ran off to play cards again." Zell shook his head with a bitter grin and proceeded to head inside the guard post.

Immediately, he stepped on something squishy when he walked in, and his mind went numb as soon as he looked down.

What his foot was on was none other than his twin brother, Zeller.

And from the looks of it, Zeller was completely out cold.

It's an ambush!

That was the first thing that popped into Zell's head, so he quickly ran out, leaving his brother behind.

He figured he might get attacked as well if he tried to save Zeller.

By then, he would not even be able to save himself, let alone his brother.

The best option available for Zell was to inform the leader about it as soon as possible.

So, he ran like his life depended on it toward Mahazael's room.

Upon arrival, he immediately barged in without even knocking. "Trouble! We have trouble!" Zell exclaimed with whatever breath he had left in him after rushing in.

"What's this about? Where are your manners? Get out and knock before you come in."
Mahazael and Daemonium were both mad at what happened.

Zell gulped in response and said, "Something happened, Mr. Mahazael. Something happened to Zeller."

"Huh?" Mahazael knitted his brows. "You mean your twin brother Zeller? He's the guard at the entrance, right? What happened to him?"

Chapter 2077

"Zeller was attacked and knocked out! We might have enemies here!" Zell exclaimed.

Curses!

At that moment, Mahazael and Daemonium immediately stood up and turned in a gust of strong wind after their gaze met, heading straight to the entrance.

There, Zeller was still unconscious.

And the first thing Daemonium did was release a dense cloud of negative energy that shrouded them in case people were waiting to ambush them.

At the same time, Mahazael picked Zeller up and sent negative energy inside him to wake him up.

Soon, Zeller gradually opened his eyes.

"Mr. Mahazael!" He immediately got on his knees and greeted Mahazael.

"Let's cut to the chase. Tell me what happened," Mahazael said.

"Quick, Sir. Zeke Williams has sneaked in," Zeller said as his face turned pale out of horror.

"He came in with Kingsley and Freddie. You need to go chase after them."

"What? Zeke Williams is here with those two?"

"He's definitely here for David Jones and Brantley Fleming, then. Kingsley's been in charge of bringing them food. He knows where they are."

"We can't let them escape! Those two mean too much to Netherworld!"

Instinctively, both Mahazael and Daemonium wanted to run toward the shed to intercept Zeke.

"Wait, Mr. Mahazael. I have another important matter to report to you." Zeller stopped them.

"Speak!" Mahazael was getting restless.

"Before this, Mr. Warren Williams went out. I know he was meeting Holy Maiden from the Black Muraco Clan and that their meeting place happened to be near the pathway that leads to here. Is there a chance that Zeke Williams saw them when he came here? Could it be that Mr. Warren is already done for?"

"F***!"

Daemonium was outraged. "This useless son of a b**** only knows how to cause trouble! Mahazael, you go track down Zeke Williams. I'll go look for Warren Williams."

"Why do you even care about that guy at this point?" Mahazael asked. "He's not even your real son. Why bother?"

"What do you know? That man plays a vital role in the Netherworld. In fact, he might be the key to turning the tides in our favor at critical moments; therefore, nothing can happen to him."

"Alright then." Mahazael nodded. "Let's split up."

Thus, the two split up. Daemonium went to search for Warren and Mahazael to track down Zeke.

On the other hand, Zeke and the lot had been sprinting as fast as they could after they got out of the barrier.

However, the terrain of the bamboo forest was rather complex. With David and Brantley both weak and severely wounded, their progress was slow, to say the least.

After a while, they vaguely heard people shouting behind them as well a myriad of footsteps.

Everyone's heart skipped a beat as they knew those were their pursuers.

At that moment, David and Brantley got anxious after hearing that the enemies were getting closer.

Eventually, David decided to stop moving. "Mr. Williams, you guys go. I'll stay behind to cut them off. Now, the rest of what I'm telling you is from Mr. White. It's important, so listen carefully..."

"Shut up!" Zeke stopped him. "Tell me only after we get to safety."

"But there's no time left, Mr. Williams."

"You guys go. I'll handle the enemies behind us. We'll meet up tomorrow, outside," Warren said.

"Mr. Williams!" David panicked. "Master is stuck in the Secret Realm of Mount Kush and can't get out. Nothing must happen to you..."

"This is an order," Zeke said coldly. "As the general of the North's army, I order you two to escape. Right now!"

"I..."

David and Brantley were at a loss.

To them, an order was an order. So, they eventually gave in to Zeke's command and turned to run with gritted teeth.

Meanwhile, Freddie and Kingsley stared at Zeke pleadingly.

Chapter 2078

They knew death was imminent if they joined the fight that was to come.

"You two protect Brantley and David," Zeke said. "If anything happens to them, you can forget about getting the antidote."

"Yes!"

Freddie and Kingsley both left in an instant.

After the four disappeared from his sight, Zeke and Sole Wolf turned around and faced the direction the enemies were coming from.

"I've waited a long time for this fight."

"Same here. We should have done this ages ago."

Within five minutes, Mahazael arrived with hundreds of men from the Seventh Branch of Netherworld.

Immediately, Mahazael waved his arm and gave the order. "Surround them!" With that, the Netherworldians promptly surrounded Zeke and Sole Wolf, leaving them no space to escape. At the same time, Mahazael looked around and realized that David and Brantley were nowhere to be found. "You bast*rds! Where are David Jones and Brantley Fleming? Call them out right now, and I'll consider leaving your corpses intact."

"Go f*** yourself, you son of a b****! How dare you disrespect Zeke like that! I'm going to kill you!" Sole Wolf fought back.

"Where's Daemonium?" Zeke asked. "Why are you the only one that came?"

"Ha! I'm more than enough to handle you!" Mahazael replied.

"Now, everyone! Kill them!"

Hundreds of Netherworldians immediately closed in on Zeke and Sole Wolf and attacked the two with their weapons.

"I'll leave these goons to you," Zeke said as he looked at Sole Wolf. "Roger that. I'll take care of them!" Sole Wolf nodded and immediately shot forward, lunging into the enemies like a shooting star, and started his attack.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Netherworldians were crying out while Sole Wolf sent them flying.

The fight was undoubtedly in Sole Wolf's favor as he was an Ultimate Class warrior.

Besides Mahazael, everyone in the Seventh Branch was King Class.

So, they stood no chance against someone who was Ultimate Class.

On the other hand, Mahazael was marching menacingly toward Zeke. "I'm going to kill you, you brat! I know we're both Ultimate Class, but there are different levels within Ultimate Class. And today, I'm going to show you what a real Ultimate Class looks like!"

Zeke curled his lips. "My thoughts exactly!"

"Die!"

In an instant, Mahazael released a thick fog of negative energy and formed it into an enormous skull before sending it straight toward Zeke.

But Zeke was unfazed as he sent out an energy blast with a flick of his wrist to meet Mahazael's attack.

The energy blast quickly shaped itself into the form of a dragon and proceeded to solidify into an actual dragon.

Once the dragon fully formed, it let a deafening roar and dived straight toward the Mahazael's negative energy skull.

As soon as they collided, the skull was completely destroyed.

At the same time, Mahazael suffered a massive backlash from the destruction of the skull and took a step back before he spat out a mouthful of blood.

"H-how is this possible? Are you really Ultimate Class? How can an Ultimate Class warrior possess such formidable fighting prowess?"

Mahazael was stunned.

"Did you just solidify your energy? Isn't that something a Celestial Class could do?" He was very much confused.

"No, that can't be. I can feel it. You're just an Ultimate Class fighter. What's going on?"

"It's like you just said," Zeke explained. "There are levels in Ultimate Class, and I'm

at the level comparable to that of a Celestial Class. Once I officially become a Celestial Class, I will be invincible amongst the people in the same class."

"That's impossible!"

Mahazael was in disbelief and did not want to believe Zeke. "Daemonium told me you just got promoted into Ultimate Class. You should be at the weakest level..."

Zeke laughed. "Are you sure Daemonium didn't lie to you? Maybe he was worried you might chicken out, so he deliberately told you I was weak."

Mahazael's expression quickly darkened as he knew the chances of that being true was very high.

However, he could not admit to that at the moment.

"Ha! You can stop trying to sow discord between us. That won't work. No matter how strong you are, you're still no match for a real Celestial Class. So just you wait, Daemonium will be here any minute now, and you'll be dead meat."

Chapter 2079

"Thanks for the reminder. Sole Wolf, take them down as quickly as you can. It'll be easier for you to defeat Daemonium when he's alone," advised Zeke. Daemonium, a Celestial Class warrior, is enough trouble on his own, so the last thing we want is to see him team up with Mahazael. Taking them down one by one is our best option.

"Got it," responded Sole Wolf.

Mahazael immediately cried out in frustration because he intended to buy some time for Daemonium. Now that they know I'm waiting for backup, they'll probably do everything they can to take me out as quickly as possible. Well, it doesn't matter now. I'll just have to continue to stall for time.

However, Mahazael would soon realize that he was too optimistic about his situation.

After receiving his order, Sole Wolf swiftly broke through the ranks of Netherworld goons as though they were nothing.

Many of them lost their balance and tumbled backward after being hit by Sole Wolf.

Likewise, Zeke intensified his attack on Mahazael, who could not do anything but try to withstand the assault.

However, since Zeke outmatched Mahazael, it did not take long before he sent Mahazael flying. Zeke then formed a cage with his energy to imprison Mahazael and render the man completely helpless.

"It's time to end this." With that, Zeke shrunk his energy cage, intending to squeeze the life out of Mahazael.

"No! This can't be the end of me. I refuse to die like this!" roared Mahazael before he started begging, "Please, Daemonium! You have to save me!"

Even though Mahazael was shouting at the top of his lungs, his voice could not travel so far. The man wanted to reach Daemonium by using his negative energy, but he knew it could not penetrate Zeke's energy.

Hence, Mahazael had no choice but to await his doom.

Meanwhile, Daemonium was still trying to track down Warren.

He had released his negative energy to cover a half-mile radius so that he could detect any signs of life within range.

When Daemonium sensed the presence of human beings just ahead of him, he quickened his pace.

As expected, he found Warren lying motionlessly on the ground.

The scene did nothing but cause Daemonium to pop a vein. This fool is good for nothing! If it weren't for his usefulness in the Secret Realm of Mount Kush, I would've sent him to the afterlife myself!

Furious, Daemonium gave Warren a good kick before injecting his negative energy to revive the unconscious man.

As soon as he regained consciousness, Warren instinctively shouted, "No! No! Please don't kill me! You can't do this!"

"Shut up, you idiot! Now get on your feet," commanded Daemonium impatiently.

Warren immediately calmed down when he heard his godfather's voice.

After scanning his surrounding, Warren realized that Zeke was already long gone.

The only person at the scene was his godfather, which was enough to assure Warren that he was still alive. "Godfather, there's something important you have to know. Zeke and the others-

"Zip it! I know what happened, so you listen to me. If Zeke gets away because I had to come and find you, there'll be hell to pay. You hear me?" yelled Daemonium.

In response, Warren lowered his head and remained silent, for he knew that he would only enrage Daemonium further if he talked back.

"Get moving now. We have to catch up to Zeke," ordered Daemonium. "You'd better hope that Mahazael managed to hold the man back. Otherwise, I'll hold you responsible for his escape!"

"Wait! Give me a minute," requested Warren before disappearing into a bush.

After a short while, the man walked out carrying the Holy Maiden of the Black Muraco Clan. "Please, Godfather. You have to save her."

"What do you want me to do?"

The man's anger was so intense that Warren could feel his heart skip a beat.

Chapter 2080

Daemonium could not believe what he heard. This woman is why Warren encountered Zeke, and she has almost ruined our plan! Now Warren wants me to save her? You have got to be kidding me!

Without hesitation, Daemonium then stepped forward to punch Holy Maiden in the gut.

The woman died instantaneously after vomiting a mouthful of blood.

Shocked, Warren widened his eyes at his godfather in disbelief. "Why did you-"

"I'm warning you! If you let another woman distract you again, I'll do the same thing I did to this one. Now move!"

As much as Warren wanted to speak his mind, just one stern look from Daemonium was enough to change his mind.

At that moment, Warren could not help but envy Zeke. At least he was free to pursue the woman he loved. What I wouldn't give to have a wife and a daughter waiting for me at home! Unlike Zeke, I have nothing. Godfather doesn't even allow me to see anybody.

My life is pathetic!

Daemonium, along with Warren, ran for half an hour before he heard wailings.

Curious about what was happening ahead, Daemonium sped up and soon arrived at the battlefield.

Hundreds of Netherworld goons lay wasted on the ground because of Sole Wolf's powerful skills.

Still tightly bound by Zeke's energy, Mahazael remained helpless and was on the brink of death.

"Let him go!" roared Daemonium before releasing his negative energy upon Zeke.

Boom!

The force was so strong that it not only destroyed Zeke's energy cage but also knocked the man off balance. So this is the power of a Celestial Class warrior, huh? Warren was filled with rage when he saw Zeke.

If it weren't for him, Holy Maiden would still be alive. She and I could've been together! It's all his fault that I lost my chance at happiness. I'll make him pay for it!

With his teeth clenched, Warren yelled, "You die today, Zeke! I'll make sure of it!"

However, Zeke did not even spare Warren a glance, for he knew that the man was no match for him.

"I'm glad that you came. Now I can take you all down in one fell swoop!" voiced Zeke to Daemonium.

"Such arrogance! Have you forgotten your place, Zeke? You're Ultimate Class at most, so what makes you think you can fight a Celestial Class warrior like me? On top of that, Mahazael is also one of the best in Ultimate Class. There is no way someone like you can take on the both of us."

"Is that so? I guess we'll just have to find out then."

"Patience, Zeke. I have a proposal, and I think you should hear me out first."

"Okay. What is it?"

"I know you want to enter the Secret Realm of Mount Kush as much as I do. But the Kush Clan isn't about to let you waltz in. The millennium-old clan is more powerful than you can ever imagine, so trust me when I say that neither one of us can fight them on our own. However, if we were to work together, I believe our chances of getting in would be increased significantly. That's why I suggest we set our grievances aside for the moment and take on the Kush Clan together. If you want, we can always pick up our petty quarrel afterward. What do you say?"

Zeke chuckled condescendingly before responding, "Everybody knows you're a scumbag, so why in the world would I ever work with you? That has got to be the funniest joke in the world!"

After hearing the man, Daemonium's face instantly turned grim. "So that's the way it has to be, huh? Fine. If you want to die so much, I'll gladly oblige. Give no quarter, Mahazael!"

"Understood!" Mahazael immediately nodded in response.

Sole Wolf then hurried over to Zeke. "Let me handle Mahazael. I need this. Who knows, I might just attain Celestial Class by fighting him."

After some thought, Zeke eventually accepted Sole Wolf's request, for he knew that it would be difficult for him to take on Daemonium and Mahazael at the same time. Sole Wolf might be able to keep Mahazael distracted for a moment, but it's unlikely that he'll beat the man.

After all, Sole Wolf had just attained Ultimate Class not that long ago, while Mahazael is only a step away from Celestial Class.

"Your only objective is to hold Mahazael back for as long as you can. Don't throw your life away for nothing. Got it?" reminded Zeke.

"Don't worry, Zeke. I will beat the crap out of him. You'll see," assured Sole Wolf.

"Bold claim! Let's see if you can fight as good as you brag!" Enraged, Mahazael charged at his enemy, and the two immediately started trading blows.

Likewise, Daemonium made his move against Zeke by releasing yet another wave of negative energy. When Zeke unleashed his Invincible Wave Energy to counter Daemonium's attack, the two opposing forces violently caused a deafening explosion.

The shockwave from the eruption immediately swept through the battlefield in all directions blowing the leaves off every tree within a mile.

Even those who were lying unconsciously on the ground were blown away.

After moving away from the shockwave, Sole Wolf and Mahazael continued their fight, but it eventually fell into a stalemate.

Daemonium stared at Zeke in bewilderment after how the man stood up to his assault. "How is that possible? There's no way an Ultimate Class warrior can withstand my attack! You're much more than that, aren't you?"

"You haven't even seen my full power yet. That was nothing," responded Zeke with a smirk.

"As if I'm going to believe that." "You don't believe me? Fine. Let me show you then."

With that, Zeke started charging up once again.

Somehow, the aura emanating from him seemed much smaller than that of the Invincible Wave Energy, but the sheer force it generated was just as fearsome.

Daemonium almost dropped his jaw when he realized what was going on. "That's... That's Fortuna! How is that even possible?"

"I don't see why not. Take this!" Zeke then unleashed the Fortuna in him, which turned into a dragon rocketing toward Daemonium.

For the first time in his life, Daemonium was truly afraid.

The man gave everything he had to match Zeke's Invincible Wave Energy because he never expected the seemingly inferior warrior to have a trump card like that.

Well aware that he was outmatched, Daemonium hurriedly withdrew his negative energy and intended to run away.

However, before the man could do anything, he was sent flying by the formidable move.

The power of Fortuna was so great that it almost killed Daemonium upon impact.

Unfortunately, the dragon had a mind of its own, and it was rather lazy. After only attacking its enemy once, it returned to Zeke's body.

Still, the damage it had done to Daemonium was enough to render the man helpless against Zeke.

On the other side, the battle between Sole Wolf and Mahazael continued to rage on, but it was apparent that Mahazael had the upper hand.

After all, Sole Wolf had only recently attained Ultimate Class, and he was at least twenty years younger than his opponent.

"Give it up, boy. You can only withstand my blows for so long," uttered Mahazael.

"Oh, I can do this all day! Heck, I haven't even shown you my trump card. That'll be the last thing you see before I send you to hell!"

"Is that so? Then what are we waiting for? Show me what you've got!"

"Strike him down, Fortuna!" shouted Sole Wolf.

Shocked, Mahazael inhaled sharply in response. "What the heck? This guy has Fortuna too?"

After witnessing what the powerful move could do to Daemonium, Mahazael knew he was no match for it.

Instinctively, Mahazael started stepping backward.

"Fortuna, destroy his arm!" yelled Sole Wolf as he took a swing at the man.

Staring at Sole Wolf's fist, Mahazael was ready to block the incoming punch.

Unexpectedly, no energy was released from the man's fist at all, much less any sign of Fortuna.

While Mahazael was still focusing on his fist, Sole Wolf swiftly swung his leg and kicked the man right in the bottom.

Sole Wolf then started cackling like a mad man. A beginner in Ultimate Class like me just literally kicked Mahazael's butt! I'm never going to stop telling my friends about this.

On the other hand, Mahazael got so furious that his head was about to explode when he realized he had been fooled. He was bluffing, and I fell for it like an idiot!

Even though the kick did not do much bodily harm to Mahazael, it was a devastating blow to his ego. Literally getting his butt kicked like that would make him a joke among those in Ultimate Class.

Fortunately for Mahazael, his quick reflex made it possible for him to strike Sole Wolf in the chest as soon as he figured out something was wrong.

Sole Wolf was still cackling when he was suddenly sent flying. After landing a distance away, the man coughed up blood due to his injury.

Still, Sole Wolf continued to laugh. "That's what you get for being gullible. No need to thank me for the lesson because I enjoyed it immensely."

Although it was no surprise that Sole Wolf would end up in that state, Zeke could not just let the man get killed.

"Don't worry about me, Zeke. I still have a trick or two up my sleeves. I can handle him," assured Sole Wolf after gesturing for Zeke to leave him be.

Slowly, Mahazael made his over to Sole Wolf. "Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me. You're out of time, boy. Any last words?"

"As I said, I'm not done just yet. When I unleash my trump card, I doubt you'll be able to handle it."

"Still trying to fool me, are you? Let me shut you up for good!" Mahazael then started rushing toward his opponent.

"It's showtime, buddy!" shouted Sole Wolf before a figure suddenly appeared out of nowhere and pounced on Mahazael, who immediately got pinned to the ground and started spraying blood.

It was as though the figure had the strength of a thousand men.

Mahazael was shocked to the core when he realized that his attacker was a ferocious tiger.

On top of that, the beast was not just any ordinary tiger but Tiger Lord itself.

It was as big as an ox, and Mahazael could tell it had attained Ultimate Class. Is this Sole Wolf's trump card? The Ultimate Class Tiger Lord? Dan it! He was telling the truth!

Mahazael wailed in agony when Tiger Lord sunk its teeth into him. "Help me, Daemonium! Please save me!"

As much as Daemonium wanted to help Mahazael, he simply could not get past Zeke.

Pushed into a corner, Mahazael somehow summoned enough strength to punch Tiger Lord aside before hurrying to Daemonium.

Mahazael scurried like a rat because, at that point, he could not care less about how he looked anymore. The man just wanted to live.

"How dare you lay a finger on me! We're not done yet!" threatened Tiger Lord inwardly, seemingly unharmed by Mahazael's sudden attack.

Sole Wolf then cackled at Mahazael once again. "I told you, didn't I? You should've believed me when I told you that I still have some tricks up my sleeve. So what do you think of my trick? Pretty cool, right?"

Still trying to catch his breath, Mahazael was so angry with Sole Wolf that he wanted nothing more than to tear the man apart then. "You would've died by my hands if it weren't for your ally!"

Chapter 2083

"So what if I have an ally? Nobody said this was a one-on-one. In fact, I have more coming," informed Sole Wolf.

Suddenly, a loud voice could be heard from far away. "Here I come!"

A second after that, a mysterious figure jumped up high into the air and landed next to Sole Wolf.

The ground shook for a moment when the figure stormed onto the scene.

"Those young ones are a useless bunch! They can't even keep up with an old man like me," mocked Ares while stroking his beard.

"What did you say? Do you think you could've outrun me if I weren't bitten by a poisonous snake?" responded an upset voice in the forest.

Whoosh!

Killer Wolf too appeared beside Sole Wolf, and following closely behind him were Alfred, Nameless, and the others.

After glancing around, a few in the group was filled with disappointment.

"It looks like we're too late. We missed the fight."

"No, we didn't. It doesn't seem like the battle is over yet. We might just get to join in."

Sole Wolf shook his head and sighed at the group. "It's just too bad that you guys didn't get to see it."

In response, the group gave Sole Wolf a curious look. "Didn't get to see what?"

"You guys just missed a good show."

"Really? We love a good show! Tell us what happened!"

Sole Wolf had successfully piqued the group's interest. "I just literally kicked an Ultimate Class warrior's butt. It was hilarious!"

Ares and the others immediately got excited after hearing the man.

"What? Really? Do it again so that I can capture it on my phone!"

"Hey, I want to kick his butt too! Where's this Ultimate Class warrior?"

"If a King Class warrior like me can do that to an Ultimate Class, it'll be the most epic bragging right I have!"

Sole Wolf then pointed his finger at Mahazael. "That's the guy. I'm sure we can take him down if we work together. Nameless and I will pin him down while the rest of you take turns kicking his butt. Just make sure to kick him as hard as you can!"

"Great idea! Let's get started then. I can't wait to kick the butt of an Ultimate Class warrior!" declared Ares before he and the others cackled maniacally.

At that moment, Mahazael was so humiliated that the only thing he wanted was to bury his head like an ostrich. Oh, the shame! I can't believe a group of people was discussing how to kick my butt. Never have I ever been so humiliated my whole life!

However, Mahazael dared not put up a fight. Even if I had to take on both Sole Wolf and Tiger Lord, I would still have a chance at winning the battle. But now that so many of his allies have arrived, how can I hope to beat them?

Desperate, Mahazael turned to Daemonium. "Maybe we should pull back for now. We'll live to fight another day."

The man meant to suggest that they run away, but his ego would not allow him to say something so cowardly.

"You

want us to retreat? We are Netherworldians, and we would never do anything as humiliating as that," uttered Daemonium coldly before turning to Zeke and the others. "You think you're the only ones with tricks up your sleeve? Then you're sorely mistaken! I, too, have a trump card."

Immediately, Mahazael gave Daemonium a look of admiration. I knew it! Daemonium will save us both just yet.

Zeke and the others quickly readied themselves for whatever Daemonium had to throw at them. We can't underestimate him, Who knows what else the Celestial Class warrior can do!

"Go on, Daemonium. Show them what you've got! Make them regret messing with us Netherworldians!" shouted Mahazael proudly.

"Mahazael, I know you wondered why I insisted on keeping someone as useless as Warren around, so I'm going to show you why today. Get over here, Warren!".

Trembling, Warren slowly walked over to Daemonium. "What are you planning to do, Godfather?"

The man could not help but feel that his godfather wanted to take advantage of him somehow.

"No questions. You just do whatever I tell you to do. Got it?"

Too afraid to defy Daemonium, Warren nodded somewhat reluctantly. What choice do I have? It's not like I can disobey him. If I do, he might kill me where I stand.

Then, Daemonium turned around and knelt down before placing his hands on the ground.

With Warren following suit, the two looked like runners in the starting position.

"Hades, I summon thee! Appear before me now!" commanded Daemonium.

Boom!

After the man finished his sentence, a thick black smoke came out of his body and engulfed both Warren and himself.

Zeke and the others widened their eyes in surprise when they heard the name. Hades? As in the founder of Netherworld? Anyone who can bring about such a force must be a warrior to be reckoned with!

Even though they had never met Hades, they started to worry if they could take on the fearsome warrior.

After all, Daemonium was able to hold a fight against Zeke, so they would be in serious trouble if Hades had more minions as powerful as the Celestial Class warrior.

Zeke and the others held their breath as they waited for the founder of Netherworld to appear.

However, there was nobody to be seen after the smoke dissipated.

Even Daemonium and Warren had disappeared somehow.

Wait, What happened? It took Zeke and the others two seconds before they realized that the two might have escaped.

The group then burst out laughing, for they never would have expected someone as respected as Daemonium to fly the coop.

On the other hand, Mahazael could feel his heart sink when he saw what had happened. I thought for sure Daemonium was going to turn the tables on them. How can he just make a break for it and leave me behind? That b*stard!

"Daemonium, how dare you forsake me! Mark my words. You'll get what's coming to you!" promised Mahazael, who then heard the man's response from far away. "You idiot! If I didn't run away, we'd both be dead! One of us had to be sacrificed, so I'd rather it be you, the stupid one. I believe I can contribute to Netherworld more than you ever could."

"Screw you! Do you think you can get away after what you've done to me? I'll haunt you for the rest of your life!" roared Mahazael.

"Mahazael, I order you to self-destruct now. The least you can do is make your death meaningful."

"What makes you think I'd do anything for you? You have betrayed me, and you still expect me to help you? Do you really take me for an idiot?" questioned Mahazael rhetorically after chuckling.

"If you don't do what I say, I promise you that your family will be slaughtered in three days," threatened Daemonium before his voice slowly faded.

"Go after him now!" ordered Zeke before turning to Mahazael. "You'd better stay out of our way. And don't worry about your family. They're innocent, so we'll protect them from Daemonium no matter what."

"Do you even know where my family is?"

Zeke kept silent because he had no idea how to answer the question.

After laughing wryly, Mahazael continued, "Poor, poor me. I can't believe I have to sacrifice myself for the person who betrayed me. However, if I can trade my life for my family's, I'll gladly do it. You brought this on yourself, Zeke. Prepare to die!"

Clenching his teeth, the man then valiantly charged forward.

Zeke inhaled sharply when he realized what Mahazael was ready to do, for he knew that not even a Celestial Class warrior could withstand the explosion.

"Everybody, get out of here now!" warned Zeke before unleashing his energy to form a barrier to keep Mahazael away.

With a pat on his chest, Mahazael ignited his life force and blew himself up.

Boom!

The explosion caused a flash of light so bright that it was like staring at the sun itself, and the shockwave it created leveled the ground within range.

It took a few minutes before the dust finally settled, but by then, the place looked like it had been hit by a meteorite.

Even with the protection of his energy barrier, Zeke bore the brunt of the eruption. The man was pale as a ghost as he coughed up blood in the aftermath.

Although Sole Wolf and the others were farther from the explosion, they were blown away by the shockwave nonetheless.

Injured and bloody, they took quite a while before they managed to get on their feet.

"Da*n it! That was some explosion! I almost got killed!"

"So this is what happens when an Ultimate Class warrior self-destructs, huh? It'd probably have no problem killing a Celestial Class."

"No use discussing it now. Our priority is to chase down Daemonium."

"You're right. We have to get him... Da*n it! I can't move. My leg is broken."

"I can't move either. I think I have broken ribs."

"Listen up! Those of you who are injured, stay where you are. The rest of you follow me," commanded Zeke.

"Yes, sir!"

Zeke and some of the others were ready to hunt down Daemonium. However, at that point, Daemonium had already gotten so far away that Zeke no longer had any clue which direction to go.

Even though Zeke could not sense his target anymore, he was not going to give up so easily.

After releasing his energy to track down David and Brantley, Zeke landed next to the two, who immediately let out a sigh of relief when they saw that Zeke was okay.

"Young Master, we're so glad that you're fine."

"Did you two see Daemonium?" inquired Zeke.

In response, the two shook their heads. "No, we didn't. We should run before he catches up to us, Young Master. This is our chance!"

"You misunderstood me. It's actually the other way around. I'm trying to chase him down."

What? Mr. Williams is going after Daemonium? The Celestial Class warrior is the one running? How is that possible! David, Brantley, Freddie, and Kingsley raised a brow curiously and wondered if they had misheard the man.

"Did you just say that you're chasing down Daemonium? What's going on, Young Master?" asked David.

"The seventh branch of Netherworld has been wiped out. Its leader, Mahazael, has just self-destructed to buy Daemonium for some time. That's why I'm trying to ensure that he doesn't escape."

After listening to Zeke, the four were greatly astounded. For decades Netherworld has lorded over us, and now they're completely wiped out by Young Master? This man is as powerful as Pietro himself, if not more powerful!

Before long, Ares, Alfred, Killer Wolf with Sole Wolf riding Tiger Lord, and the others arrived at the scene as well.

They could sense the negative energy in Freddie and Kingsley, so naturally, they assumed the two were their enemies.

Freddie and Kingsley immediately shivered when they noticed the group's murderous intent.

"Please don't hurt us! We're not with

Netherworld anymore." "It's true! We helped Mr. Williams save Mr. Jones and Mr. Fleming, so please don't kill us!"

The group then turned to Zeke for verification.

"That's right. They're to be handed over to the military court where they'll receive lighter sentences because of what they did for me," explained Zeke after nodding.

After that, Ares and the others shifted their attention to David and Brantley.

For some reason, the two seemed amiable, so the group was less hostile to them.

Chapter 2086

"And these two are?"

"They're the ones we've been looking for, David Jones and Brantley Fleming are the founding heroes of the Northern Conquest Army," introduced Zeke.

Immediately after hearing the man, Ares and the others bowed to the two.

"I'm Ares of the North Army. It's an honor to meet you, sir!"

"Killer Wolf of the North Army. It's an honor, sir!"

"Nameless of the North Army. It's an honor, sir!"

David and Brantley both looked proud as they gazed at the group of men before them. "We're glad to see that the future of our nation is in good hands. With you men standing guard in the North, Eurasia will continue to thrive!"

Afterward, since the two looked a little weak, Zeke decided to treat them with Ammo Needle. As expected, they felt much better after the acupuncture session.

"Come. Let's talk while we move on," suggested Zeke before leading the group to Muraco.

Zeke was ready to take his leave since the Netherworld branch had been pulled down, but before leaving, he decided to pass Progenitor to Erwen because he thought a clan member should keep it instead.

"What do you plan to do next, Mr. Jones?" inquired Zeke on the way.

"I'll fight for the North as long as I still breathe, and I hope you'll allow me to do so, Young Master."

"You're truly a role model for me and others of my generation. But don't you have a daughter to go back to?"

David's eyes instantly widened in excitement when Zeke mentioned his family. "You've seen Emma, Young Master? How is she these days? I... I've failed her. I left her without saying goodbye when she was still just a little girl. She'll never forgive me for that."

Even though David was a tough-looking man, he shed tears nonetheless at the mention of his daughter.

"Don't be too hard on yourself. Not only has Emma forgiven you, but she's also been searching for you all these years. It was with her help that I managed to find you. I wouldn't have been able to save you if it weren't for her," informed Zeke.

Upon hearing that, David quickly dried his tears. "Thank you, Young Master. I would like to see Emma if you don't mind."

"Of course. You've done more than enough for the North. We're forever in your debt, so why not consider spending the rest of your life with Emma? It would be nice to make up for all the lost time, no?"

"I can't do that, Mr. Williams! I belong to the North. Asking me to leave would be worse than death for me."

Zeke could understand how David felt, for he would feel the same way if he were forced to leave the North.

Then, Zeke looked at Brantley and was hesitant to speak up. I was part of the reason why his son, Thomas, is dead, so should I tell

"I can't do that, Mr. Williams! I belong to the North. Asking me to leave would be worse than death for me."

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Then, Zeke looked at Brantley and was hesitant to speak up. I was part of the reason why his son, Thomas, is dead, so should I tell him? Hearing about it would probably destroy him.

"Is there something you want to tell me, Young Master?" inquired Brantley when he saw Zeke frowning at him.

"Yes. But it's going to be a tough pill to swallow, so I want you to get ready first."

"I'm ready, Mr. Williams. After everything I've been through, I'm sure I can take it."

"It's about your son, Thomas." Zeke then waited until Brantley responded with a quiet nod before continuing. "He's... He's dead. And it's because I couldn't protect him."

"You don't have to blame yourself, Mr. Williams. Truth be told, Thomas and I aren't related by blood. In order to leave my hometown to form the army of the North, I had to compete for my family inheritance. That's why I adopted Thomas and falsely claimed that he was my son. Actually, I've never even met him before," explained Brantley.

Zeke's guilt immediately disappeared after listening to the man.

When the group finally arrived at Muraco, it was already dark.

A bonfire party was held there to celebrate the momentous day, and members of the clan were dancing around in traditional wear.

Even Yazmin was dancing among the other clan members.

Her moves were so elegant that she quickly became the most eye-catching dancer that evening.

On the other hand, Erwen just sat there and enjoyed the show because she was not much of a dancer. Still, her smile was enough to garner just as much attention.

Yaziin threw herself at Zeke the moment she saw him. "Elder, you're here! Come dance with us!"

"I'm good. You guys have fun." Worried that Sole Wolf and the others would make fun of him for dancing, Zeke immediately turned down the invitation.

However, Yazmin would not give up so easily. "Come on, Mr. Williams! Just one dance. I'll teach you! Someone as whipsmart as you should have no problem learning a few simple moves. I'm sure you'll look as graceful as a swan."

"Go on, Zeke. It's just a dance. Consider it a reward for us. I mean, we've fought alongside you for so many years. We deserve this, no?" urged Sole Wolf.

Glaring at the man, Zeke ordered, "Shut up!"

Sole Wolf had no choice but to keep quiet then, but it did not stop him from being excited.

Like Sole Wolf, the others were smiling and

just as eager to see Zeke dance.

"Look! Elder is here!" shouted a Muracan suddenly, and immediately, the others turned around to bow down to Zeke.

"We welcome you, Elder!"

"Rise," commanded Zeke in response.

The Muracans then got on their feet and stood respectfully before Zeke.

"Everyone, would you like to see our great Elder dance?" shouted Yazmin.

Naturally, all the Muracans responded with much enthusiasm.

"Elder, we welcome you to dance with us!"

"Drinking and dancing with you would be our honor, Elder!"

"Please join us, Elder!"

"Looks like the people are all expecting you to dance, Mr. Williams," teased Erwen after walking up to Zeke, who could only turn to Sole Wolf and the others for help.

However, the group deliberately looked the other way because they had no intention of saving the man from the predicament. This is the only chance we'll ever get to see the Great Marshal dance, so there's no way we're bailing him out.

Discontented, Zeke swiftly struck Sole Wolf with his energy, causing the man to jump in pain.

"What's wrong, Sole Wolf? Do you need my help?" mocked Zeke.

"No, no, no. I just need to get off my butt and start dancing. Come, Yazmin. Show me some moves. We're going to turn the party up!" blurted Sole Wolf before he hurriedly blended into the crowd.

After the Muracans saw Sole Wolf dancing, they immediately shifted their attention away from Zeke and started dancing as well.

Before long, Ares and the others started joining everyone on the dance floor.

Chapter 2088

Zeke said to David and Brantley, "Gentlemen, please follow me."

He brought both of them to his room. Then, he closed the doors and windows, and sat opposite the men, saying sternly, "Please tell me the situation in the Secret Realm of Mount Kush."

Brantley said, "Mr. Williams, everything we're about to tell you is extremely important. It's even related to Eurasia's Fortuna. So you must remember everything."

Zeke nodded with a serious look. "All right. Please tell me. I'll keep it in mind."

"Do you know how the mountain became a secret realm?" Brantley asked.

Zeke shook his head. "I don't."

"That's because Eurasia's most auspicious place, Dragon's Vein, is on Mount Kush. Since the older days, this place has been protected by a mysterious force. The force only allows warriors from Eurasia who are in King Class and above to enter. All other warriors from other countries, including people from the Netherworld, will be rejected by the force. They cannot enter the Secret Realm of Mount Kush. It's the existence of the force that turned Mount Kush into a secret realm," Brantley explained.

Zeke nodded while digesting the information. He prompted, "Please continue."

"Back then, Mr. White, who was your master, found that Kush Clan wanted to destroy Eurasia's Dragon's Vein. Hence, he led the Northern Conquest Army to Mount Kush to fight against Kush Clan in order to protect the place. For the past few years, we've managed to overcome Kush Clan's countless attacks and made sure Dragon's Vein is not destroyed. But now, Pietro and the members of the Northern Conquest Army are no longer in their prime. Our bodies can't keep up. We're on the verge of losing. That's why Mr. White sent us to look for you," David said.

Zeke got to his feet in an instant. "Mr. Jones, Mr. Fleming, please tell me the location of the secret realm's entrance, I'll head over there right now to help my master out."

"Mr. Williams, please don't act rashly, the reason Mr. White sent me to look for you is not for you to provide backup at the Secret Realm of Mount Kush."

Zeke inquired curiously, "Oh? Then what do I need to do?"

"To be frank with you, this Dragon's Vein is quite old. Moreover, most of it has been destroyed by the Kush Clan. Hence, it won't hold on for long. What Mr. White wants you to do is to build a new Dragon's Vein," David stated.

Zeke could not help but gasp.

Could it be that easy to build another Dragon's Vein? I bet the Master won't be able to do it, let alone myself. Besides, I don't even know how to build one.

Zeke asked, "Mr. Jones, did my master tell you how to build a new Dragon's Vein?"

David nodded. "Of course. Eurasia has a total of nine Fortunas. All of them are born from the Dragon's Vein. Mr. White wants you to merge all nine Fortunas and create a new Dragon's Vein with it."

Zeke let out a sigh. "This mission... is too difficult. Mr. Jones, is there really no way to save the Dragon's Vein on Mount Kush? Or... Maybe we could think of a way to repair it?"

David shook his head. "Mr. White has specifically told me to not let you have such ideas. It's not realistic. You should focus on building a new Dragon's Vein."

"Okay then," Zeke answered. "I'll do my best to build a new one. I shall not bother both of you now. Rest well."

"All right." With that, Zeke exited the room.

Since he was not sleepy at that moment, he walked along the river to vent his distress.

He really wanted to rush over to the Secret Realm of Mount Kush and fight alongside Pietro.

However, now that the responsibility of rebuilding a new Dragon's Vein in a short span of time was placed on his shoulders, he had no time to go over to the Secret Realm of Mount Kush.

The nine Fortunas of Eurasia always come without warning. How could it be that easy to merge them? Most importantly, I don't even know when the next Fortuna will come.

Before he realized it, he arrived at Moon Pavilion.

Chapter 2089

Moon Pavilion was the best location for moon gazing. However, it was not the right season for it. Hence, the surrounding area was rather quiet.

At that moment, sitting in the Moon Pavilion was a noble and graceful figure.

The moon, stream, flowers, and a beautiful woman made up a beautiful scene.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, the woman in Moon Pavilion turned around slowly. As soon as she noticed it was Zeke, a smile formed on her face, which was a rare scene. "Oh? What a coincidence!"

The woman was Holy Maiden, Erwen.

Ever since Zeke's arrival, she had been smiling more than she did in the past.

Zeke nodded slightly. "I know, right? What a coincidence."

He stepped into Moon Pavilion and sat beside Erwen.

Coincidentally, he was looking for her as he wanted to hand over the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor to her.

Before he could even speak, Erwen placed her fingers over her lips and hushed, "Shh... Listen, Mr. Williams."

Huh?

Zeke fell silent and concentrated on listening.

It was unusually quiet there; only the buzzing sounds of bugs could be heard.

He asked, "Are you telling me to listen to the sound of bugs?"

Erwen nodded. "That's right. Do you know what kind of bugs make this sound?"

Zeke shook his head. "No."

"It's a specific species found in Muraco called Lovebird Cricket. The reason they're called Lovebird Cricket is that they always appear in pairs, never alone. If one of them dies, the other won't have the will to do anything. Instead, it'll remain by its dead partner and starve itself to death. All for love," Erwen explained.

As she said that, her face reddened, and she lowered her head.

Naturally, Zeke knew her intentions in saying that. After all, her tone was full of affection.

Nonetheless, Zeke decided to feign ignorance.

He could not let himself fall for her.

Hence, he merely nodded without saying anything.

Meanwhile, Erwen stole glances to observe his reaction. When she saw Zeke was unfazed, disappointment flooded her heart.

She did not believe that Zeke did not get her hint. He's acting that cold because he doesn't want to accept me.

Despite that, Erwen did not force the matter. Instead, she said, "Mr. Williams, is there something you wanted to tell me just now?"

Zeke nodded. "Yes. I've been assigned a very important mission, and I have to leave this place tomorrow. I won't be able to come here often in the future. Or maybe I won't even come anymore. Hence, I would like to make you the master of the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor." "No!" Erwen rejected without hesitation. "I refuse, Mr. Williams. I've never begged anyone in my life. But this time, I'm begging you. Please continue being the elder of the White Muraco Clan and not let anyone become the master of our Progenitor. Can you do that? This is my only request. I hope you can accept it."

When Zeke saw the pleading gaze in her eyes, he could not bring himself to reject her.

Finally, he nodded. "Okay. But can you give me a reason?"

Erwen fell silent.

The reason she was so insistent was that as long as Zeke was the master of the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, there was a possibility of him returning to Muraco. Thus, Erwen would still have some hope.

If Zeke was no longer the master of the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, then he would not have any connections to Muraco. Erwen too would not have any hope left.

The days with no pursuit and expectations were the most unbearable. Erwen was not sure if she could stay strong till the end.

Nonetheless, she could not get those words out of her chest.

Seeing that, Zeke said, "Okay. You don't have to tell me if you don't want to."

Erwen got to her feet and said, "It's getting late. You should get some rest. I'm going to call it a day too."

Truth was, she wanted Zeke to stay by her side a little longer. All she wanted was to watch the stars and listen to the sound of nature, even though they had nothing to say.

However, she could not hold her tears in anymore, and she did not want him to see her crying.

"Okay." Zeke nodded.

With that, Erwen turned around and left.

The second she turned around, tears started streaming down her face.

She did not turn back until she was far from the pavilion.

Chapter 2090

She really wanted to see Zeke standing behind her when she turned around.

Sadly, the reality was rather cruel. When she turned around, Zeke was already gone.

Erwen's heart ached even more.

She whispered, "Mr. Williams, I'll be the White Muraco Clan's Holy Maiden for the rest of my life."

Being Holy Maiden of the White Muraco Clan meant she could marry no one in her lifetime. Instead, she would have to spend the rest of her life in the company of the elder.

The next day, as the sun rose, Zeke started to wake Sole Wolf and the others.

Sole Wolf was still feeling sleepy, unwilling to get up. "Please, let me sleep for a little while more, Zeke. I've just fought against Mahazael yesterday. I'm exhausted."

Zeke said, "Stop that. We have to leave the village now."

Sole Wolf sat up groggily and asked, "Why are we leaving now? Can't we leave when the sun is up? Mr. Andres said he'll have a huge farewell party for us after sunrise. I haven't even had enough of Muraco's homemade wine."

"Okay. Then you can stay here. Killer Wolf, Ares, wakes the others. Let's go," Zeke said.

In the end, Sole Wolf still got off the bed reluctantly and got changed.

Meanwhile, Zeke woke David and Brantley up. Soon, all of them left Muraco quietly.

The reason Zeke wanted to leave secretly was that he did not want Erwen to see him.

If she did, she would be reluctant to let him go, and there would be a tearful scene,

Zeke did not want to go through that.

In reality, he had miscalculated. Erwen, who had been in her attic all that while, watched him leave until he disappeared from her sight.

As soon as his figure vanished, tears started rolling down her face.

I hate myself. I hate myself for being swayed so easily.

Creak!

Right then, her room door was pushed open.

Erwen quickly wiped away the tears and turned around.

It was Yazmin.

No one in the entire village, except for Yazmin, could enter her room without knocking.

No matter how hard Erwen tried to hide her actions of wiping her tears, it was still noticed by Yazmin.

After recollecting herself, Erwen asked, "Yazmin, why are you here?"

Yazmin looked a little down. "I wanted to tell you about Mr. Williams and his men's departure. But it looks like I don't have to say anything now."

Erwen nodded. "Okay. Let it be then. In the

future, we'll protect Muraco together with Mr. Andres."

Yazmin hesitated for a moment before mustering her courage and said, "Tell me the truth, Erwen. Are you okay with this?"

Erwen played dumb. "What are you talking about? What am I supposed to be okay with?"

"Stop acting tough. You might be Holy Maiden, but your heart is made of blood and flesh and you have feelings too. I can see you have fallen for Mr. Williams. Now that he has left, are you really going to just let him go so easily?" Yazmin asked.

Erwen smiled faintly. "Of course. What else can I do?"

"Happiness is something we fight for on our own. If you accept whatever befalls you, then you'll never be happy for the rest of your life," Yazmin explained.

Erwen gazed at her friend. "So, what you're saying is-"

Yazmin cut in, "Let's go. I'll bring you to him."

Erwen rejected straightaway, "No. I'm the White Muraco Clan's Holy Maiden. Muraco still needs me to protect it. I can't leave this place."

Yazmin said, "We're not leaving Muraco. We're only going out to get some supplies. At the same time, we're paying Zeke a visit to express your feelings. Our purpose of leaving Muraco is to run errands for the village."

After pondering for a while, Erwen nodded. "You're right. Let's not waste any more time. Let's go."

Truth was, she knew she was just deceiving herself with the excuse of buying supplies. However, she was willing to do that for once in her life.

What if... is there a miracle despite how slim the chances are?

Soon, Zeke and the others arrived at the Village of Livestock.

The village was still dirty and foul-smelling, as usual.

Chapter 2091

To Zeke's surprise, the villagers of Village of Livestock were still living in the place. In fact, they never left.

Zeke frowned and turned to Sole Wolf. "Did you not destroy the negative energy barrier here?"

Sole Wolf replied, "I've already broken the barrier long ago, according to your instructions."

"That's weird. Why aren't they leaving?" Zeke asked.

"I'm not sure about that." Sole Wolf shook his head.

Zeke quickened his pace and entered Village of Livestock.

When the villagers saw him, they ran forward subconsciously and surrounded him.

After all, Zeke was their savior. Naturally, they had to show their gratitude toward their savior.

Ava greeted him, "Good morning, Mr. Williams."

"Hello. Zeke nodded in acknowledgment. Why are all of you still here? Why haven't you left?"

Ava sighed. "We're all guilty. Even if we do leave this place, there's still a high possibility of us getting arrested and thrown into jail. So, it's better for us to stay here. Although it's a little lacking here, it's better than being on edge every day."

Zeke nodded.

Perhaps being stuck here and passing away silently is a form of punishment for them. That's probably enough for them to atone for their sins. But then, their children are innocent. Do they really have to stay here and suffer with them?

As he was thinking about that, Ava suddenly kneeled before Zeke.

Seeing that, he frowned, "Ava, what-"

The woman pleaded, "Mr. Williams, I've no regrets living here alone until I die, but my children are innocent, I don't want them to live a life full of darkness here. They should go to school, see the world, get married, have children..."

"Please. I'm begging you. Please take my children out of here. You can make them work and give all their salary to you. Just, please... Take them out of this living hell."

The others got to their knees and started begging as well.

"Mr. Williams, please take our children out of here."

"It's okay for us to die here, but we don't want to drag our children down with us. We'll regret it for the rest of our life."

"As long as you take our children out, we'll do anything you ask."

Zeke mulled it over and asked, "Ava, let me ask you something. You said you were set up by your best friend and that you were innocent. Is that true?"

Ava nodded vigorously. "I swear on my life that everything I said is true. If there's a single lie in anything I say, you can punish me with a painful death."

Zeke glanced at the other villagers. "Is there anyone else who was set up just like Ava?" Surprisingly, more than half of the crowd raised their hands.

Seeing that, Zeke suspected their imprisonment was caused by the Black Muraco Clan. He believed the clan's motive was to send them to the Village of Livestock to become actual livestock.

Zeke then turned to Sole Wolf. "I have an important task for you. Investigate this matter. We must prove their innocence. One more thing. This is regarding the people who handled their case and convicted the villagers of their crimes. If you find them suspicious of preferential treatment or fraud, punish them severely. I give you the right to execute their punishment on the spot."

"Got it," Sole Wolf replied.

Zeke then said to the villagers, "Bring your children forward and let them leave with Sole Wolf. As long as you're innocent, you'll be granted a normal life once Sole Wolf gets to the bottom of this. On top of that, I'll make sure you'll be compensated with a large sum of money. For those who're guilty, Sole Wolf will give you light punishments. As for your children, they'll be taken care of by the welfare organizations. Once you're freed, you can continue living a normal life with them."

The crowd was so grateful that they teared up.

Originally, they thought their life had come to an end. They never expected Zeke to give them a chance to start afresh.

This was like giving them a second life.

Chapter 2092

The crowd lowered their heads to express their gratitude.

"That's enough. Please get up and follow me. I don't have time for all this drama," Sole Wolf said.

"Let's go!" some villagers urged.

They quickly rushed into their houses and brought their children out to meet Sole Wolf.

After that, Zeke led the crowd to leave Village of Livestock.

His plan was to let David reunite with Emma before heading off to look for Fortuna on his own.

During the journey, he briefly explained Emma's situation to David.

In order to find David, Emma did not hesitate to leave her hometown and travel everywhere, which caused her to endure much bullying.

After that, Zeke helped her to eliminate several enemies and even arranged for her to become the manager of Linton Group's

branch company alongside her best friend, Sasha. Her life finally improved after that.

When David had heard the entire story about Emma's situation, mixed emotions flooded his heart, and he felt extremely guilty. "It's all my fault. I couldn't take good care of Emma. That's why she suffered so much. I'm afraid I won't be able to make up to her for the rest of my life."

Zeke assured, "Don't worry. Emma will understand your situation. She knows you're a soldier. Hence, she already guessed your disappearance must be related to serving the country."

David took a deep breath. "I hope so. By the way, my wife, Madeline, s-she's still alive, right?"

"Don't worry. Both she and Emma have been living with each other. They're alive and well," Zeke said.

David exhaled deeply. Earlier, he was really worried that Zeke would give him a negative answer. If the latter did, he would definitely not be able to handle the news.

Soon, Zeke brought them to the entrance of Emma's house.

Although Emma was now the general manager of the company, her family still lived in the old house from the past.

Zeke prompted David, "Go on. Knock on the door."

Although David was home, he did not have the courage to knock on the door.

In the end, Zeke had no choice but to do it himself.

As soon as the knocks sounded, Madeline's voice could be heard from the inside. "Who is it?"

Zeke answered, "It's me."

"Oh. Zeke is back!" Madeline's voice had traces of surprise. Immediately, she rushed over to open the door. When her gaze landed on Zeke, she greeted him so warmly that she almost gave him a hug. "Zeke, you're finally back. The house has been so quiet without you for the past few days. Come on in! These must be your friends, right? We should all have a meal at home today."

Sadly, she did not recognize David.

In fact, she only found him a little familiar looking, but it never crossed her mind that he was her husband.

To her, David had most probably died out there and would never come back.

Seeing Madeline's hospitality toward Zeke and how she even treated him like he was her son, a rush of gratitude filled David's heart.

After exchanging a few words, Zeke led the crowd into the house.

"Please, have a seat!" Madeline called out warmly to the guests.

Soon, everyone took their seats while David remained standing. His eyes, which were reddened, scanned the entire house.

The interior was still the same as when he left. Even the family portrait was still hung in the same place, looking brand new as ever.

As he stared at the young faces in the family portrait, tears welled up in his eyes. He really wanted to return to that moment.

Unfortunately, no one could turn back the clock.

Looking at the guest that acted oddly, Madeline said cautiously, "Mister, please take a seat-"

Right then, David turned around slowly and gazed at her as tears streamed down his cheeks. "Madeline, it's me. I'm back."

Huh?

Madeline was stunned, and she stared at David with shock.

Then, her body started shaking uncontrollably, and she burst into tears. "It's y-you... Y-You're alive... Is that really you?"

"It's me," David said. "I've made it home."

Suddenly, Madeline let out an ear-piercing scream and crashed to the ground.

Thankfully, David reacted swiftly and held her up.

David was panicking so much that he was beginning to sweat. "Oh no. Madeline has high blood pressure. She'll pass out whenever she gets emotional. I knew it. I shouldn't have come back so suddenly. I should've given her a call beforehand."

Zeke quickly assured, "Calm down. I'm trained in the medical field. Here, let me treat her."

With that, he pulled out his Ammo Needles and inserted them into Madeline's body to lower her blood pressure.

In reality, using the Ammo Needle to treat high blood pressure was basically an overkill. Nonetheless, Madeline's blood pressure gradually stabilized, and she regained consciousness soon after.

Her eyes flew open, and she grabbed David's hand, saying, "A-Am I dreaming? David... Is it you? Is it really you? I'm dreaming, right? I must be dreaming."

Holding Madeline's hand, David said, "Madeline, you're not dreaming. I'm really back."

His words immediately caused tears to stream freely down Madeline's cheeks. She pounded furiously on David's chest, wailing, "You... Why did you come back here? You should've just died out there. Do you know how Emma and I lived for the past few years? You son of a gun...."

Anguish and guilt were written all over David's face as he apologized, "I'm sorry. I'm truly sorry. It's my fault. I've let you and Emma down. Don't worry, Madeline. I'll do everything I can to make it up to both of you from now on."

Hearing that, Madeline sobbed harder.

It was a shocking sight to see her bawling her eyes out. After all, she had never shed a single tear when she endured all the hardship to bring Emma up.

It was as if she wanted to release all the grievances that had welled up in her over the years.

After waiting for her to calm down, David finally spoke softly. "Madeline, where's Emma? Where's she?"

Madeline suddenly slapped her head gently. "That's right! How could I have forgotten about Emma? Today's our reunion, so she must not miss out!"

"Oh well, Emma has gone to work. Let me give her a call now."

"Okay."

Madeline quickly pulled out her phone and gave Emma a call. "Emma, come home right now. I've good news to tell you. No, don't tell me you're busy with work at the company and you don't have the time to come home. You must come home now. If you don't, I'm going to look for you in the office, and I'm not joking. Okay. I'll be waiting. I promise you won't regret coming home."

She then hung up and turned to David. "Emma's company is less than half an hour away. She'll be home soon. Let's just wait patiently, okay?"

David nodded in response.

Madeline asked, "By the way, why did you come home with Mr. Williams?"

"It was Mr. Williams who saved me. If it wasn't for him, I'm afraid I would've lost my life out there, let alone come home," David explained.

When she heard that, Madeline was so touched that she almost burst into tears. She quickly got up and bowed at him. "Mr. Williams, thank you. Thank you so much. If it wasn't for you, my family would've been broken."

Zeke said hurriedly, "Please get up. There's no need for such formalities. This is really nothing."

David too bowed to him. "Mr. Williams, you've done a great deed in reuniting my family. I'm afraid I won't be able to repay all of that in this lifetime. If there's a next life, I'll be willing to do anything to repay your kindness."

Seeing that, Zeke helped the two elderly people up.

David and Madeline held hands. Although they did not say anything, they expressed their feelings through eye contact.

Not long after, the sound of keys clinking could be heard outside the door. Needless to say, it was Emma opening the door with her keys.

Madeline rushed to the door and opened it. "Emma, you're finally back. Quick, come in."

Emma was not alone for Sasha tagged along as well.

When both of them entered the house, they immediately noticed Zeke, and they jumped with joy. "Mr. Williams, you're back! This is great! These must be your friends, right?"

Zeke flashed Emma a smile and said, "Emma, do you know who this is?"

He then pointed at David.

Emma stared at David with a blank expression.

When David left, Emma was still a child, and she had vague memories of him. Hence, she could not recognize who he was.

Chapter 2094

She did not even find him familiar.

Unable to recognize the man, she asked mindfully, "Mr. Williams, is this... your relative?"

Shaking his head, Zeke said, "No. Take a closer look."

Emma carefully studied David, who was extremely nervous, as though he were a student taking an exam.

He truly hoped his daughter could recognize him. That way, he would feel less guilty.

Sadly, reality had smacked him on the face.

After studying David for some time, Emma finally shook her head. "I'm sorry but I don't know him. Is he someone I know?"

David was instantly filled with remorse. "Emma, I'm so sorry. I shouldn't have left you when you were so young. And now you don't have a single memory of me. I... I'm not worthy of being your father."

What?

Emma stiffened as she stared at David in disbelief. "Y-You're my father? You're David Jones?"

David nodded. "Yes, my dear. I'm back."

The news hit her too suddenly that she found it hard to accept. She glanced at her father in the picture and then shifted her gaze to the real person.

After doing that several times, she could finally confirm that he was her father. That man... He's back!

Two streams of hot tears rolled down Emma's cheeks. "Dad..."

The words were on the tip of her tongue, yet she could not bring herself to utter them.

Right then, Zeke stood up and smiled. "Well, we shall not interrupt your reunion. Ares, let's go."

"Hold on." Madeline grabbed his hand, stopping him in his tracks. "Mr. Williams, you've got to have a meal with us before you leave. You're our family's saint, our savior. Oh my goodness, I honestly don't know how we should thank you-"

Hearing that, Emma quickly wiped her tears and asked, "Mr. Williams, you're the one who brought my father back as well?"

Zeke nodded.

Without any hesitation, Emma bowed to him. "Mr. Williams, thank you so much. You've rebuilt our family-"

Zeke helped her up hurriedly. "Don't worry about it."

"Mr. Williams, my mom is right. We really don't know how to repay you for all that you've done. So, please stay back for a meal and let us treat you. Otherwise, we'll feel really bad," Emma said.

Sasha chimed in, "That's right, Mr. Williams. Please don't turn down such a kind gesture. Come on, stay back and have a meal. Besides, Amelia missed you dearly. If she finds out that you came back and left without seeing her, she'll be heartbroken."

Now that she had brought up Amelia, Zeke had no other option but to nod his head. "Okay. Then we'll have a meal before we leave."

Meanwhile, David's eyes lit up, and he glanced at Emma. "Amelia is..."

Emma quickly explained, "She's your granddaughter."

David's face instantly glowed with joy, and he grinned from ear to ear. "That's great news. I can't believe I'm actually a grandfather now. Oh, by the way, how old is Amelia?"

"Five years old."

"Thank goodness!" David let out a sigh of relief. "She's still young. You were about that age when I left you. Madeline, Emma, I'll make up for all the losses by taking good care of her."

After giving her father a hug, Emma said, "Mr. Williams, please take a seat and enjoy your tea. I'll prepare the meal now. Uh... Dad, I'd like to eat your signature braised meatballs."

"Sure. I'll make it for you," David answered.

With that, the family of three entered the kitchen and got busy.

Meanwhile, Zeke and the others waited in the living room, sipping their tea.

Brantley, on the other hand, had a bitter smile as he watched the blissful family from afar.

David was a lucky man since he had his family and even a granddaughter to keep him company when he came out of the secret realm.

Sadly, Brantley did not get to enjoy the same things. His wife had died long ago, while his son was not his own. He practically did not have any relatives in the world anymore,

Chapter 2095

However, that was for the best, as he would have no strings attached.

Chuckling, Ares teased, "Mr. Fleming, have you ever thought of getting married again? From what I can see, you don't look too old. I'm guessing you're still fertile. So, it wouldn't be a problem to produce children. Even if you have a problem in that aspect, I can send you to Cygnus Room and have you treated."

Brantley's face paled with outrage. "Bast*rd. What nonsense are you spouting? Shut up or I'm going to rip your mouth off. How dare you talk about me? You should look at yourself in the mirror instead. I bet you're still single, eh?"

Ares burst out laughing. "I'm sorry. Looks like I have to disappoint you. To tell you the truth, I have countless children. Most importantly, my son-in-law is an outstanding and powerful person."

Brantley chuckled in disbelief. "Hah! Nonsense! Outstanding and powerful? Can he be cooler than Mr. Williams? I bet he's not even worthy of carrying his shoe."

"Brantley, you'd better take responsibility for your words," Ares warned.

"Are you joking? I've always been a man of my word. Of course, I'll take responsibility," Brantley said.

Killer Wolf said softly, "Mr. Fleming, to be frank with you, Zeke is Ares' son-in-law."

What?

Shocked, Brantley leaped to his feet. "Mr. Williams, y-you married Ares' daughter? How can a burly man like him have a beautiful daughter that could attract your attention? Did he set you up?"

Ares scolded, "Shut up. My daughter and the Great Marshal fell in love with each other out of their own free will. Am I right, my son-in-law?"

However, Zeke was not in the mood to entertain them.

At that moment, all he could think of was where to look for Fortuna.

After a brief silence, Brantley suddenly leaped up and looked out of the window.

"What is it?" Zeke asked curiously.

As soon as he spoke, David rushed out of the kitchen and stood by the window, looking in the northwest direction.

Zeke asked again, "What are you two looking at?"

Brantley said, "Mr. Williams, I've just sensed the presence of Kush Clan. Did you sense it too, David?"

David nodded. "Yes. I'm very certain that it was the presence of Kush Clan. I can't believe someone from Kush Clan actually left the Secret Realm of Mount Kush and came here."

Immediately, Zeke asked, "Could the both of you identify the location of their appearance?"

Unfortunately, David and Brantley shook their heads. "That aura disappeared as fast as it came. It's quite difficult to track it down. However, it's probably about three kilometers in the northwest direction."

Zeke stared in the direction. About three kilometers from their location was a towering building.

To be specific, it was Linton Group's branch office.

Zeke's heart skipped a beat.

He had a strong feeling that Kush Clan's appearance was somewhat related to Linton Group.

This meant that Linton Group was probably in danger.

He quickly got to his feet and ordered, "Let's go. We're going to check out Linton Group."

Just then, Emma rushed out of the kitchen. "This is not good. Something terrible has happened at Linton Group." "What happened?" Zeke's heart sank.

"I've just received a call from the deputy general manager. There's a fire in the company and it's now out of control," Emma said.

"Da*n it!" Zeke clenched his fists tightly.

He was a hundred percent sure that this incident was related to Kush Clan.

"Mr. Williams, I'm so sorry. I've just started handling this company, and now something this serious is happening. It's all my fault," Emma said guiltily.

"Don't worry, Emma. This is not your fault. They're here because of us. You should continue cooking. We'll come back for the meal once we're done."

"Mr. Williams, perhaps... Perhaps I should go over to Linton Group and take a look. After all, I'm the general manager," Emma suggested.

Zeke shook his head. "It's okay. You should just stay at home and prepare the meal. Ares, please stay here and take care of them."

Chapter 2096

There might be men from Kush Clan in the Linton Group's building. Hence, there could be a battle there. It would not do Emma any good if she were there.

Hearing Zeke's order, Ares nodded.

At the same time, Emma sensed danger..

She asked cautiously, "Mr. Williams, w-will we be in danger?"

"You guys might be targeted by them. But don't worry, with Ares here, he'll definitely keep all of you safe."

"Amelia... Will Amelia be in danger?" Emma asked.

Zeke immediately instructed Alfred, "Could I trouble you to pick Amelia up?"

Alfred replied, "Got it, Mr. Williams."

"As for the others, follow me," Zeke ordered, leaping out of the window.

Killer Wolf, Nameless, and Tyler followed suit.

Emma and Madeline were shocked by the scene before them.

Oh my goodness. This is the fifth floor, and they actually jumped down from here... Anyone who does that will be dead or have broken bones.

At that thought, both of them ran over to the window and peered out.

To their surprise, Zeke and the others were fine. In fact, they dashed toward the direction of the company and disappeared from their view in an instant.

Both Emma and Madeline's jaws dropped in disbelief. Zeke had, once again, changed their worldview.

After gaping at the empty road for a long time, Emma finally spoke. "Mom, I've always gotten the feeling that Mr. Williams is not an ordinary person like us."

Madeline nodded with a contemplative look. "Me too."

"Mr. Williams is so powerful. He must be able to keep us safe for the rest of our lives, right?" Emma asked.

"Mr. Williams might be strong, but that means his opponents are equally powerful as well. We'll always be in danger" Madeline sighed. "Why do I feel that we're caught in a dangerous whirlpool that does not belong to ordinary people?"

Although Emma did not say anything, in reality, she had the same feeling, too.

Meanwhile, Zeke sprinted all the way and arrived at Linton Group in just a few minutes.

The raging fire had engulfed the entire building. In fact, the building could not be seen apart from the flames that rose to the sky.

Zeke frowned at that sight. Logically speaking, the fire shouldn't have spread that fast. This is definitely not an ordinary fire. Kush Clan must've done something about this.

Just then, a man dressed in a suit appeared. before Zeke, leading a group of people behind him.

They looked like a mess. They were covered in soot from head to toe, and there were burn marks on their hair. There was no doubt that they were Linton Group's employees that escaped from the building.

The man in the lead went over to Zeke and greeted, "Hello, Mr. Williams. I'm the deputy general manager of Linton Group's branch company, Elliot Carr."

Zeke once paid a visit to the branch company as the founder in the past. Hence, Elliot remembered him well, so he could recognize him instantly.

Zeke nodded slightly. "What's the situation?"

"It's not looking good. The fire has spread. too quickly. We had to escape the building before we even had the time to save the data. And this building-"

Zeke interrupted, "I'm asking about the condition of the employees. The losses don't really matter."

As the Great Marshal, almost half of Eurasia belonged to him. Hence, he really did not care about an insignificant company branch.

Losing it was like a billionaire losing a piece of coin.

The employees were touched to know that the first thing that came to the boss' mind was the well-being of the employees instead of the company's losses. After all, caring bosses were hard to come by.

"I've made a brief headcount. Almost all of the employees have escaped," Elliot answered.

"Huh?" Zeke knitted his brows. "What do you mean? There are people who haven't escaped?"

Elliot sighed. "Well... I'm not sure."

"What do you mean, you're not sure? Explain yourself."

"We have two new employees in the company-Stella and Thalia who are sisters. I haven't seen them in the crowd. Actually, they've just started working here, and they might not be familiar with the company's fire exit. Maybe... it's all just a guess. Perhaps they might've escaped, but they're just not here," Elliot explained.

Chapter 2097

Zeke asked, "Which floor do they work at?"

"The sixth floor," Elliot answered.

Zeke immediately turned to Tyler, Nameless, and Killer Wolf. "Follow me. We're going to save some people."

"Got it!"

Without any delay, four of them prepared themselves to dash into the building.

Meanwhile, Elliot and the others felt chills run down their spines.

The boss must be mad. The fire is so huge that even firefighters don't dare to enter. And now they're charging in without even wearing any protective gear. Are they trying to get themselves killed?

Nonetheless, the employees were even more touched.

They could not believe that their boss was willing to sacrifice his life just to save his employees. He was basically treating them as their family.

Seeing that, Elliot stopped Zeke at once. "You must not go in. If you do, there won't be any way out. Even if the firefighters are here, there's no guarantee that they can get you out. Besides, none of you have any protective gears on you."

To his surprise, Zeke replied, "It's not a problem. Let's go!"

Zeke freed himself from Elliot's grip and charged into the building.

People who were at the same level as Zeke and Tyler were basically invincible to fire.

They could use their energy to ward off the flames, leaving them unharmed.

Furthermore, Zeke could even solidify his energy to protect himself against the high heat.

Meanwhile, Elliot and the crowd stood frozen in the same spot, unable to return to their senses for quite some time.

In fact, tears started welling up at the corner of their eyes.

At the same time, there were two girls in the pantry on the sixth floor, hugging each other as they wept.

They were the new employees of Linton Group, Stella and Thalia Diaz.

When the fire broke out, both of them fled in a state of panic. However, they accidentally ended up at a dead end because they were not familiar with the building's fire exit.

Before they knew it, it was already too late for them to escape since the flames had blocked the exits.

Hence, they had no choice but to retreat into the pantry.

They tried their best to seal off all the gaps using wet towels. Nonetheless, the fire was too big and smoke could still penetrate through. Besides, the high temperature made breathing difficult for the two girls.

Feeling hopeless, they hugged each other and wept continuously.

Thalia, the younger sister, wailed, "Stella, do you think we'll... I miss home. I miss Mom and Dad."

Stella put up a brave front and said, "Don't be scared, Thalia. The firefighters will definitely rescue us."

"The fire is blazing. I bet even the firefighters can't get in. Stella, what should we do?" Thalia asked.

"Why don't... we jump out of the window?"

"No! No!" Thalia refused hurriedly. "You know I have a fear of heights. Besides, even if we jump down from here, we'll probably die..."

Stella took a deep breath and dispelled the notion.

The truth was she did not dare to jump off from the sixth floor too. She was merely saying that to console her sister.

As time went by, more smoke seeped into the pantry, causing the sisters to cough violently. Even their vision started to become blurry.

After some time, Stella could not hear Thalia's coughing sound anymore.

"Thalia, what's wrong? Please talk to me, Thalia," she said, panicking.

Thalia mumbled with much difficulty, "Stella, I... I saw Mom and Dad. They've prepared my favorite candy... Here... Come have some..."

Stella could not suppress her emotions anymore, and she began to wail, "Thalia, wake up. Please wake up. Don't fall asleep..."

Thalia was on the verge of passing out and had started to hallucinate.

She looked as though she could die anytime.

Sadly, Thalia did not reply. Instead, her voice became softer as time passed.

Stella too could not hold on much longer. She felt as though her head was about to burst from the pain. Suddenly, everything in front of her became extremely bright, and she started hallucinating.

In the end, she slumped to the ground. lifelessly, and her breathing weakened.

Chapter 2098

In the meantime, Zeke, Killer Wolf, Nameless, and Tyler finally arrived on the sixth floor.

It was a large area. Hence, Zeke ordered, "Split up and start searching."

"Okay!" All four of them dispersed in various directions and began searching.

However, searching with just their eyes was too slow. By the time they found them, they would have been burned to death.

Thus, Zeke released his energy that instantly filled the area.

In just a matter of a few seconds, Zeke's energy detected signs of life.

Even so, the lives were extremely weak and could vanish at anytime.

Noticing that, Zeke dashed in their direction, which brought him to the pantry.

He kicked the door open and rushed in. Lying in the room were Stella and Thalia, who were on the verge of passing out. As soon as they heard the loud sound, they instantly gained consciousness.

They vaguely saw a mighty figure approaching them.

Immediately, their hopeless hearts were filled with a desire to survive.

At that moment, Zeke was their final hope. With the remaining strength they had, they raised their arms and said, "Help us... Help us..."

Zeke lowered himself and looked at the sisters. "Stella? Thalia?"

The girls nodded vigorously. "Yes! That's us!"

Zeke carried them in his arms and assured them, "I'm here to rescue both of you."

As they were held in the powerful man's arms, they felt an unprecedented sense of security.

However, the feeling instantly vanished and was replaced with a feeling that made them feel close to death.

It was because the man had leaped off from the window with them in his arms.

Ah! What's happening? We'll die if he jumps down from here! Is this guy mad?

Despite that, what happened next left them shocked to the core.

Instead of falling, their bodies were suspended in the air and slowly moving forward. To be more specific, they were flying.

This man knows how to fly! Is he an angel?

Truth was, a short-distance flight was easy for Zeke. All that was needed was enough energy to support his body.

Shortly after, they arrived at the opposite building. Zeke kicked open the door and stepped into one of the rooms.

After placing them on the ground, he assured them, "You're safe now. Please make a call for the ambulance by yourself later. I still have some matters to deal with."

Stella asked hurriedly, "Mister, may I know what's your name?"

Before she could even finish, Zeke had already left the building without giving an answer. Meanwhile, Thalia coughed several times. She was more conscious now. "Stella, do you... do you think angels exist in this world?"

Stella muttered softly, "In the past, I didn't. But now... Thalia, do you think that man is an angel mentioned in those legends?"

Thalia did not reply.

Sensing the quietness, Stella glanced at her sister curiously. "Thalia, I'm asking you a question..."

Thalia was staring at the top of Stella's head with fear written all over her face. "Stella, yyou..." Stella frowned. "What is it?"

Gasping, Thalia asked, "What's that on your head?"

What is she talking about?

Stella looked up instantly. "It's the ceiling. There's nothing."

However, Thalia's voice trembled even more. "Y-You should look in t-the mirror. L-Look at the top of your h-head."

Coincidentally, there was a mirror by the side. Hence, Stelle rushed over to it.

As soon as she saw her reflection, the color drained from her face, and she stumbled to the ground, her heart racing.

Never in her wildest dreams did she imagine seeing a person appearing on the top of her head.

However, it was not a real person. In fact, it was an apparition that had a body that was completely transparent.

As it gradually emerged from Stella's head, it was even dancing and looking quite lively.

The sight left Stella's mind blown. She instinctively waved her hand above her head to get rid of the apparition, but it only went through the latter's body.

Chapter 2099

Thankfully, the other party came out of Stella's body completely.

The two sisters were shocked to the core, and they hugged each other subconsciously. "Y-You... What are you? How did you come out of my body?" Stella asked.

The apparition finally spoke; its voice was cold and eerie. "I'm a member of Kush Clan. I've attached myself to your body back then."

"W-Why did you do that?"

The apparition snickered. "Why? Of course, it's to escape from the fire. Haha! Who would've known that Zeke didn't notice me? Great Marshal, my foot. I thought he was better than that."

Great Marshal?

The girls shuddered when they heard the term, and they exchanged glances.

"You said something about Great Marshal. What do you mean?"

"Well, I guess there's no harm in telling you the truth. The man who saved you just now was the mighty Great Marshal," said the apparition.

"What?" The sisters were beyond shocked.

Their encounters today were the most shocking incidents they had ever experienced.

It was a great honor for them to be in such close contact with the Great Marshal.

The apparition then continued, "I heard the people of Eurasia worship him like an idol. Well, I'm going to kill both of you today. I'd like to see if the idol you believe in will come to rescue you. Haha!"

With that, its arm transformed into a machete in a blink of an eye.

It raised it and brought it down on Stella and Thalia.

"No!" the girls cried their lungs out. At that crucial moment, a long sword suddenly hit the apparition in the chest, causing it to fly backward and stick firmly against the wall. Pfft!

The apparition coughed up a mouthful of blood.

Although the apparition was just an illusion, the blood it spat out was real.

He lowered his head and eyed the sword in his chest with disbelief. "Dragon King Sword! It's the Dragon King Sword! Come on out, Zeke Williams!"

When he finished speaking, Zeke flew into the building steadily and glared at the apparition. "You're a part of Kush Clan? Were you the one who started the fire?"

Though the apparition was in a terrible state, it still uttered proudly, "That's right. I was the one who did it. What are you going to do about it?"

Zeke took a deep breath before saying, "What else can I do? Of course, I'm going to kill you."

Suddenly, the apparition laughed maniacally.

"Can't you see I'm just a piece of consciousness? Even if you can defeat it, so what? At most, my abilities will be decreased by a minuscule fraction. It won't cause much harm to my actual body. So, go ahead and do whatever you want. And don't expect me to reveal a single piece of information about Kush Clan. I'll never say a single word."

Zeke was slightly conflicted.

He never expected the members of Kush Clan to be able to separate their consciousness from their bodies, not to mention roam around freely.

What kind of people are they? Are they alive? Or are they zombies just like people from the Netherworld? Or are they just another species?

Zeke said coldly, "No matter what it takes, I'll find your body and burn you alive!"

Nonetheless, the apparition rolled its eyes and sneered, "Hah. Well, that depends on whether you're capable of doing so. I believe you don't even know how to deal with my consciousness. If I were to escape now, do you think you can stop me?"

With that, it broke free from Dragon King Sword and escaped through the door.

Yet, Zeke remained calm and merely released four waves of energy.

The waves of energy solidified and transformed into four walls, forming a cage that trapped the apparition in it.

The apparition frowned. "Solidified energy. Nice move. Looks like I've underestimated you, Zeke. Then again, what's the point of imprisoning me? What else can you do to me?"

Zeke's expression darkened.

What it said was the truth. There was nothing he could do other than imprison it.

Chapter 2100

There was no combat technique in the world that could fight against willpower.

The apparition said, "I can figure out your true abilities by just sacrificing a tiny part of my consciousness. What a win for me. Zeke, this is my final warning for you. Your master, the old man, won't be holding on much longer at Mount Kush. He's going to die anytime. If you're a filial student, I'd advise you to pay his grave a visit during his anniversary. Haha!"

With that, it got ready to self-destruct.

"Da*n you!" Zeke roared as he quickly reduced the size of the cage, strangling the apparition to death.

Even if the apparition wanted to die, Zeke wanted to end its life personally. He would never let it self-destruct.

When the apparition had vanished, Zeke's heart was still far from calm.

After all, this was his first encounter with Kush Clan, and he never expected to be so humiliated.

Most importantly, he could not even do anything to the opponent's consciousness. All he could do was imprison it.

It made him realize the wide gulf between him and Kush Clan.

He clenched his fists tightly and swore in his heart that he would improve his abilities regardless of the consequences.

Then, he glanced at the two sisters and said, "I'm sorry you girls had to undergo such a shock because of me. Don't worry. Once I return to Linton Group, I'll make sure the company compensates you."

"Linton Group?" Stella muttered under her breath as she stared at Zeke, lost in her thoughts. "That's right. Now I remember it. You're the founder of Linton Group! I've seen you when you last came to the office."

Zeke nodded. There was no need to deny such facts, anyway.

Thalia exclaimed, "That means our boss is the renowned Great Marshal! In a way, I'm serving the Great Marshal!"

At that moment, the two girls were so excited that they could not form their sentences properly.

"Okay. You two should make a call to get some help. I have other things to deal with," said Zeke.

"Hold on!" the girls yelled in unison.

Zeke turned around. "Is there anything else?"

The girls pleaded, "Mr. Williams... Great Marshal... C-Could you please take a picture with us? You might not know this, but you're our idol. It'll be a dream come true for us if we could take a picture with our idol."

Zeke did not refuse them. "Sure. But you have to promise me something."

The girls nodded firmly. "Sure. Please tell us,"

"You must keep my identity a secret and no one must see our picture," Zeke said.

They were ordinary girls. If the enemy found out they were somehow related to him, they would be in danger.

Hearing that, the girls nodded. "Don't worry, Great Marshal. We promise to keep it a secret."
"Great!"

With that, Stella and Thalia stood on one side each and leaned closer to Zeke, taking a picture to remember the moment.

After that, Zeke turned and went back into the sea of fire.

Meanwhile, the girls touched Zeke's face in the picture and started swooning over him.

They even forgot to call for an ambulance.

In the building, Zeke used his energy to project his voice, gathering Killer Wolf, Tyler, and the others. "That's enough. You can stop searching now. I've found them. Come on, let's go."

Tyler asked, "They're fine, right?"

Zeke nodded. "Yes. Don't worry. They're fine."

"Okay, that's good. By the way, Great Marshal, have you found any traces of Kush Clan's members?" Tyler asked.

The act of charging into the fire and rescuing the sisters was just a cover-up. In reality, their motive was to search for Kush Clan's members.

Since Kush Clan threatened the safety of Eurasia, they had to be brought to justice.

Zeke answered, "Yes. I've found one of

them. Actually, I've already set up a cordon using my energy around the building. If a foreign being breaks through, I'll be able to feel it. However, I haven't been able to sense their presence till now. That's why I suspected the opponent might've escaped by attaching itself to someone. During that time, Stella and Thalia were the only ones in the building apart from us. It's impossible for the members of the Kush Clan to attach themselves to us. Hence, the two sisters were his only option."

Chapter 2101

"After sending them away, I kept an eye on them again. Indeed, I discovered those from the Kush Clan had attached themselves to the girls."

Tyler gasped in disbelief. "Attach themselves to a human? Just like the shadows from the Netherworld who attach themselves to human beings' shadows?"

Zeke shook his head. "It isn't a shadow. It's a piece of consciousness generated by the Kush Clan," he revealed.

What?

Killer Wolf and the rest could barely hide their shock.

They could separate their consciousness from their bodies to take action independently. How strong could the Kush Clan be?

Everyone fell silent after realizing the wide gulf between them and the Kush Clan. It was a devastating realization.

Zeke declared, "Come on, let's go. We shouldn't be in the firefighters' way."

If the firefighters discovered victims trapped inside the fire, they would definitely risk their lives to save the victims.

As the firefighters were ordinary humans, it would be a huge risk for them. Zeke didn't want them to put their lives in danger.

Hearing that, everyone nodded in agreement. They then filed out after Zeke without a sound.

Everyone here, including Zeke, shared the same thought.

Strength trumps everything else! We must increase our strength as soon as possible or risk getting wiped out by the Kush Clan!

They were the backbones of Eurasia. If they were defeated, Eurasia would be doomed.

Downstairs, Elliot and his employees were frantic.

Zeke and the rest had been inside for a long time, so they were most probably trapped inside the fire. There might also be a possibility that they had been burned to their death.

If the company's owner has burned to death inside the building, I'll definitely have to bear the responsibility!

Left with no choice, he kept calling the fire brigade.

The firefighters said they would be here. soon. Alas, not even a fire truck was in sight after a long while had passed.

In the end, they refused to answer his calls.

Damn it! A wave of fury crashed through Elliot as he declared, "I paid so much taxes on nothing! Bunch of useless idiots!"

Suddenly, the crowd became restless. "Look there! Boss and the rest are coming out!"

"Oh, dear. Am I imagining things? Hurry, pinch me!"

"This is impossible! How could they be all right?"

Elliot instantly turned to the fire and saw Zeke and the rest walking out.

He gaped in disbelief.

Zeke and the rest were safe and sound. There wasn't even any ash on their bodies, let alone any burns.

They looked the same as they entered the building earlier.

Elliot also noticed a strange scene-the licking flames surrounding Zeke and the rest seemed to be avoiding them deliberately.

They are invulnerable to weapons and fire?

Elliot felt like he was losing his mind.

He wasn't the only one, for everyone else shared his sentiments.

Elliot dashed over to Zeke to welcome him. "Mr. Williams, I'm glad you're alright. Oh, how fortunate."

Zeke gave a curt nod. "The building is empty now. Don't worry. Tell the

firefighters to head in and put out the fire now. Eh? Where are the firefighters? They aren't here yet?"

Elliot answered, "Yes, they have yet to arrive."

Zeke's expression grew solemn. "Why is that? Is the fire brigade too far away? Or did you not inform them?"

"I called them a while ago. The fire brigade is not far away from our building. They should've arrived in five minutes if they drove at full speed," Elliot revealed.

Only five minutes away?

Zeke's face turned as dark as thunder.

As the fire brigade was five minutes away, it was strange that they had yet to arrive half an hour later. Something told Zeke that they had refused to show up deliberately.

Zeke was already fuming, so the news merely served to heighten his anger. Grimly, he ordered, "Come on. Let's head. to the fire brigade to check out what happened."

As the fire brigade didn't show up, the Kush Clan was most probably behind it.

Perhaps we can find the Kush Clan members through this clue.

With that, Zeke, Tyler, and the rest left in tow.

Chapter 2102

Shortly after they left, Stella and Thalia dashed out.

As they managed to escape unscathed, Elliot heaved a sigh of relief. "I'm glad you're all right. Did you flee from the fire?"

The girls nodded.

Elliot demanded, "Who was the one who saved you?"

In a teasing tone, they answered, "It was the Great Marshal!"

Hearing that, Elliot burst out laughing. "Oh, young people like you are really positive, huh? You have just escaped death by a hair's breadth, but you're already cracking jokes. Come on. I'll give you a ride to the hospital."

Any ordinary being would assume that both Stella and Thalia were joking.

The mighty Great Marshal was a busy man, occupied with national affairs. There was no way he'd come all the way here to save two ordinary young women.

Meanwhile, Zeke, Tyler, Killer Wolf, Nameless, and the rest marched toward the fire brigade, their eyes gleaming with murderous intent.

Something told them that the fire brigade hadn't shown up thanks to the Kush Clan.

Elliot was right, for it would only take the fire brigade five minutes to depart from the fire station and arrive at the Linton Group's branch.

However, the fire truck remained at the entrance of the station.

The driver, a young man, was honking relentlessly. Alas, no one paid any heed to him.

The other firefighters were doing their own stuff in a relaxed manner.

Some were playing with their phone; some were washing their clothes; some were eating leisurely. It seemed that they didn't hear the ringing alarm. Killer Wolf swung his arm and unleashed his sword. "Zeke, I'd like to wipe these useless bastards out!"

However, Zeke shook his head. "Don't be rash."

Killer Wolf couldn't understand his decision. "Zeke, what are you waiting for?"

Glancing at the driver of the fire truck, Zeke answered, "Some of them might be innocent."

The driver, Teddy, was yelling. "Hey, hurry up! The fire is about to get out of control. If we get there late, it might spread to the other buildings surrounding the Linton Group!"

The others remained unfazed. "Teddy, calm down. No matter how big the fire is, it's none of our business. We should focus on our own business."

"That's right. Let it burn. Perhaps the fire will distinguish by itself a while later."

Teddy's cheeks flushed red in anger. "Do you know what you're talking about? How could firefighters allow the fire to spread? Look at you, eating and washing your clothes calmly. You don't deserve to be firefighters!" he declared.

His words sent the rest into a fit of rage.

The firefighters cast him hostile gazes. "Ha! You're making yourself seem righteous. What a hypocrite."

"If you're that vitreous, you should put the fire out alone."

"No, that won't do. Putting out the fire is an insult to his status. He should be a hero who saves the world!"

"You're right!"

Laughter resonated all around the fire brigade and into Zeke and his comrades' ears.

As the firefighters refused to budge, Teddy panicked instantly. He ignored them and started the engine, ready to head to the scene himself.

Seeing that, Zeke let out a sigh. "Summon them here. I'll teach them a lesson."

"Got it!"

Killer Wolf stepped forward and barked, "Get your asses over here immediately!"

Zeke went to the fire truck and told Teddy, "You're Teddy, right? Get out. I have an important mission for you to complete."

"Mm?" Teddy was puzzled. "Who are you?"

Zeke said, "You'll know who I am in a bit. Get out."

Teddy responded, "But I need to go put out the fire. It's spreading quickly."

"It's fine. The fire has reached the top and is currently dying. It doesn't matter if you arrive a bit later," came Zeke's answer.

"But-"

Zeke interjected firmly, "I'm your superior, so listen to my order."

"All right."

Resigned, Teddy got out of the fire truck.

When the firefighters heard Killer Wolf addressing them rudely, they promptly burned in anger.

Chapter 2103

"Who the f*ck are you? How dare you kick up a fuss in our station?"

"Get out of here. Otherwise, I shall call the police."

Killer Wolf scoffed, "Call the police? Let's solve this man to man. How could you threaten to call the police?"

The firefighters guffawed. "Ha! How should we solve this in a manly way, pray tell?"

Killer Wolf waved his fist. "This way, of course."

After a round of amused laughter, the firefighters asked, "Are you sure, young man? Aren't you afraid we'd beat you to a pulp?"

"Of course. I know I'm no match for you. Why don't you call the police?" Killer Wolf uttered.

Tyler's lips twitched. Killer Wolf is pretending to be weak again.

"We were wrong for assuming you're a bold man. Look how cowardly you are!" the

firefighters roared in delight. "It's too late to pull out now."

"I'll let you know how strong we are. Boys, charge!"

"Let's teach him a lesson!"

Over ten burly firefighters rolled up their sleeves and charged toward Killer Wolf menacingly.

His eyes wild with terror, Killer Wolf said, "This is unfair! You outnumber me. Even if you win, it isn't a glorious victory."

"No one cares about victory. We want you dead!" the firefighters announced.

Killer Wolf glanced at Zeke. "They've gone too far, Zeke. Can I please take action?"

Zeke answered, "Their actions don't warrant death."

Okay!

Killer Wolf understood what Zeke meant he could beat them up viciously.

What an asshole!

The firefighters went cold with fury. Is this Zeke trying to punish us? It isn't his place to do that!

The fire captain, Benjamin, roared. "Let's beat him up before dealing with his leader!"

"On it!"

The crowd charged toward Killer Wolf without hesitation.

Killer Wolf covered his head and dropped to the ground fearfully.

"No, don't attack me all at once! Let's fight one on one! You can't beat me up together..."

"F*ck you!" the firefighters cursed as they swung their fists toward him.

Before their fists could land on Killer Wolf, they were sent flying. Thump! Thump! Thump...

When they turned to look at Killer Wolf, he was still squatting in the same spot with his hands over his head. "No, no..." he muttered in terror.

After crashing onto the ground, the

firefighters gaped in confusion.

What the f*ck just happened? Did something or someone send us flying? Was it that muscular man? Obviously not. Look at him, squatting on the ground in dread. No matter how strong he was, it seemed impossible for him to send all of us flying at once. That happened at a lightning speed!

The firefighters exchanged confused glances.

What should we do now?

Right then, Benjamin calmed down and ordered, "Beat them up. Put some muscle into it and don't back down!"

With that said, he dashed forward, and his team followed behind him.

Killer Wolf's yells grew louder. "You've gone too far! This is too much! How can you gang up against me?"

"Help! Help..."

Thump! Thump! Thump!

Those firefighters who tried going near Killer Wolf were sent flying once again. Killer Wolf was still squatting in a defensive manner without moving an inch.

By then, the firefighters were close to breaking down.

What the heck is happening? We were flung backward twice before we could even launch an attack! Most importantly, we don't even know who attacked us! This is too much.

Benjamin barked angrily, "Malthe Slothe, stand right here and watch closely. Find out who had been attacking us in with his hidden weapon!"

Naturally, Benjamin assumed that someone had been attacking them sneakily. That seemed like the only plausible explanation.

"Got it!" Malthe answered hastily.

"Boys, attack him!" Benjamin commanded yet again.

The firefighters dashed toward Killer Wolf.

It was no surprise that they were tossed backward again.

After crashing onto the ground thrice in a row, the fire brigade was at its limit.

Many firefighters had spat out blood weakly.

Chapter 2104

Biting the pain back, Benjamin asked, "Malthe, did you see the man who attacked us sneakily?"

Malthe was utterly confused. "I saw nothing! All I saw was a few shadows flitting around you before you were sent flying. That was it."

What the f*ck?

Clenching his jaw, Benjamin roared, "Useless piece of trash! You couldn't even see who attacked us. What is the point of keeping you around?"

Zeke grew impatient after realizing Killer Wolf was teasing them deliberately.

The man didn't unleash his full energy to attack them so they still had the energy to retaliate. He was obviously fooling around with them.

Zeke chided, "Killer Wolf, get it done quickly. Don't waste time!"

"All right!" Killer Wolf responded.

Slowly, he got to his feet and sent them a withering glance.

"Come on, b*stards. I don't have time to mess around with you. Come at me all at once!" he declared.

The firefighters shared a look. "What do you mean? Were you the one who sneaked up on us earlier?"

Killer Wolf scoffed. "Of course. That was me."

"Damn it! Do you think you can trick us into believing your lie?"

"Boys, come on. Let's teach him a lesson!"

The firefighters grabbed the stuff around them to act as their weapons-wrenches, bricks, baseball bats, and iron bars among others.

They had realized that Killer Wolf was a capable fighter to be able to send them flying without them realizing it. He was merely pretending to be afraid to fool us! Never mind. We shall attack him using weapons. He won't be our match!

Following Benjamin's order, they swung their weapons in a hostile manner and charged toward Killer Wolf.

Calmly, Killer Wolf remained in his spot as a mocking smile flitted across his lips.

Only when the firefighters reached him did he make his move.

Swaying slightly, he disappeared without a trace. The firefighters' weapons missed their target.

Before they realized what was going on, Killer Wolf appeared behind them and punched them repeatedly.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

The firefighters screamed in anguish and collapsed before Zeke's feet.

This time, Killer Wolf didn't hold back, so they couldn't get to their feet after landing on the ground.

Terror streaked through the firefighters as they stared at Killer Wolf.

"W-Who are you? How could you be that strong?"

"We don't even know you. Why did you target us?"

Killer Wolf shrugged. "Shut the f*ck up. From now on, don't say unnecessary stuff other than answering Zeke's questions. If any of you do otherwise, don't blame me for taking action," he warned.

Zeke parted his lips and asked, "I have a question. Why didn't you head to Linton Group to put out the fire?"

"We were busy. We were planning to head there after wrapping things up here." came Benjamin's answer.

Slap!

Killer Wolf gave Benjamin a slap so powerful that it left a red print on his cheek. "Do you think we are fools? Do washing clothes and eating count as being busy?"

Zeke said, "You'd better be honest. Otherwise, I can't promise you'll get to leave the place alive."

"Even if we arrive there late, we'll be terminated and investigated. It isn't lifethreatening at all. Stop trying to scare us and tell us why you're here," Benjamin retorted.

A dangerous glint appeared in Zeke's eyes. "Are you saying that I don't have the guts to kill you?"

Benjamin flashed a smug grin. "Of course."

Suddenly, Zeke let out a dry chuckle. "Fine. Let's see if I have the guts to kill you!"

He shot Killer Wolf a pointed look.

At once, Killer Wolf unsheathed his sword and slashed a firefighter's throat.

Blood spurted out from the wound, and the firefighter collapsed to the ground. After convulsing for a few seconds, the man heaved his last breath and died.

Everyone else wore dark expressions at the horrible sight.

He had killed one of us!

Chapter 2105

They have no qualms about killing people! Look how the man just killed one of us without hesitation. Clearly, they are dangerous and deadly. If we refuse to budge, we might die, too!

The firefighters broke down at the sight and went on their knees to grovel before Zeke.

"Sir, please forgive us. Please spare our lives! We shall answer your question honestly. We won't hide anything from you!"

"Yes, that's right. We'll reveal everything we know!"

Zeke didn't bother beating around the bush. "Tell me. Who gave you the order to remain here?"

"It was our fault. We were lazy and idled around. Initially, we planned to head to the scene after wrapping things up but were held up-"

Thud!

Killer Wolf gave Benjamin a forceful kick.

The kick was so violent that Benjamin landed on the ground and convulsed in pain. He had difficulty breathing and couldn't even utter a word.

His rib had been fractured from the impact.

Killer Wolf glared at him. "Be honest with us! Zeke wants to know who made the order for you to idle around. If you refuse to spill, you'll suffer from a consequence worse than a kick. I shall end your life today!"

Zeke warned, "This is your last chance."

The firefighters shook with fear as they revealed, "It was Sheldon Guerrero who made the order. He told us that the Linton Group will be on fire today, and we were to delay half an hour before heading to the scene or remain at the station for the entire day."

"Oh, I see," Zeke answered with a frown.

As Sheldon knows Linton Group is going to be on fire today, he's obviously connected to the Kush Clan.

He finally discovered a clue related to Kush O Clan. There was no need to search frantically in vain.

Zeke urged, "Why did Sheldon ask you to delay your arrival?"

The firefighters shook their heads. "We don't know."

"Who is Sheldon Guerrero? Does he hold a grudge against Linton Group?" Zeke pressed on.

The firefighters replied, "Sheldon Guerrero is the CEO of Intercontinental Group. He's a higher-up in the company. We don't know if he holds a grudge against Linton Group. After all, the upper-class society is out of our reach. We know nothing about their contention."

"I've never heard of Intercontinental Group. Is it any good?" Zeke asked.

The firefighters replied honestly, "It has been the richest company in Eurasia twice in a row."

Oh, interesting.

Zeke sneered, "I believe Intercontinental Group reached the top with the help of Kush Clan. There's a possibility the company belongs to the Kush Clan. Otherwise, a private enterprise wouldn't be able to be the richest company in Eurasia without any support. We need to investigate the company thoroughly."

Killer Wolf nodded in agreement. "Don't worry, Zeke. I'll arrange for someone to run an investigation on Intercontinental Group right away."

Zeke reminded, "Be careful not to alert them. For now, get some simple information about the company. We'll have to take action personally to get the company secret."

"Got it!" Killer Wolf responded.

Zeke glanced at the firefighters and announced, "You can leave now. You've been fired and will be asked to cooperate in the investigation soon. If you had violated the law previously, I'll make sure you end up in jail!"

The firefighters promptly fled the scene.

Zeke then turned to Teddy.

Teddy's hands were cold and clammy as he stared at the dead body in a daze.

Zeke said, "Teddy, you're a qualified firefighter. From today onward, you'll be the captain of the fire brigade. Good luck!"

Zeke's voice brought Teddy back to his senses. "I'm only an intern. I'm not qualified to be the fire captain," he protested with a wave.

"If I say you have the capability, then you do," Zeke insisted.

Carefully, Teddy inquired, "May I know who you are? Why can you promote me to become the fire captain?"

Killer Wolf, Tyler, and the others burst out laughing. Zeke isn't lying. He can make you a general if he wants to!

Zeke grinned. "Mm. I'll inform your superior, and you'll receive your letter of appointment soon."

Teddy pointed at the dead firefighter. "Well, I think you should figure out how to protect yourselves instead of promoting me."

Chapter 2106

"You'll definitely get punished for killing someone. You might even lose your life..."

Zeke seemed unperturbed. "It's fine. The man isn't dead. He merely fainted."

After saying that, he kicked the firefighter twice. Indeed, the firefighter opened his eyes slowly and moved.

In truth, Zeke had turned his energy into the Ammo Needle to seal the firefighter's acupoint and render him unconscious.

The firefighter sat up and glanced around in bewilderment.

Suddenly, he recalled what happened and began trembling in fear. "A-Am I still alive? I didn't die: Sir, please forgive me. Please don't kill me. I'll answer your questions honestly."

Killer Wolf mocked, "Bunch of cowards. You're an insult to mankind. Get out now! You should head to the police station to turn yourself in."

"Okay, okay!" the firefighter nodded in relief and dashed out swiftly. Phew. I've been spared.

Teddy asked, "Sir, may I know your last name?"

"Williams," came Zeke's answer.

"Mr. Williams, you should make your leave," Teddy advised.

"Why?" Zeke was puzzled.

Teddy explained, "You might be powerful, but you might not be a match for Benjamin. His uncle is the municipal secretary."

"Oh?" Zeke arched a brow. "Then there's even more reason for me to stay behind."

Zeke was planning on investigating the connection between Intercontinental Group and Linton Group.

Clearly, the municipal secretary would know the upper-class society by the back of his hand. After all, he often rubbed shoulders with influential people. He might even be in control of the upper-class society.

Teddy couldn't help but scrutinize Zeke curiously. He couldn't help feeling that there was more to Zeke than what the man showed.

Looks like this man is more capable than the municipal secretary and could subdue the latter easily. I wonder who he is!

Five minutes later, a dozen police cars showed up with screaming sirens and surrounded the fire station.

Hundreds of officers dashed out of their vehicles armed with riot shields and automatic weapons. Their targets were obviously Zeke and the others.

A few dozen men stepped down from the last car. They were the firefighters and Benjamin.

Beside him was a potbellied middle-aged man.

Benjamin pointed at Zeke and exclaimed, "Uncle Jannik, It's him! They stopped us from heading to the scene, which resulted in the fire spreading. The people suffered a great loss! They even beat us up! You'll have to arrest them and eliminate them for the greater good!"

"Ha!" Zeke snorted. "The pot calling the kettle black, huh?"

The man with a potbelly was Jannik Ludpecker, Benjamin's uncle.

Jannik had a commanding presence. "I don't care who you are, what you did, whether you obstructed official business or beat them up. Please abide by the law and cooperate with our investigation," he announced. "If you're innocent, we'll release you. But if you had violated the law, we'll have to enforce the law."

Zeke glanced at Jannik. "Come on in. I have a few questions for you!"

Hearing that, Benjamin bristled and demanded, "Did you just order Uncle Jannik? What right do you have to order him around?"

Zeke gave a curt nod. "Yes, that was an order. You're rude and deserved a beating."

Getting the hint, Killer Wolf appeared before Benjamin in a flash and gave him a tight slap.

One slap was all it took for Benjamin to fly backward. He even lost two teeth.

After landing on the ground with a swollen cheek, he could only mumble incoherent words.

Sole Wolf moved so quickly that the crowd only saw a flitting shadow appearing before Benjamin before the latter was sent flying.

It happened so fast that they did not have the chance to react, let alone protect Benjamin.

Chapter 2107

Hiss!

The horrifying speed caused everyone to gasp in disbelief.

Benjamin burst out crying. "Uncle Jannik, you must avenge me! How could they do this to me? This is too much!"

Jannik cast them a guarded look. "Are you martial artists?"

"That's right," Killer Wolf replied.

Jannik said, "Martial artists who bully ordinary people is also another crime! I know you're capable. However, you're still no match for automatic weapons. The law of Eurasia stated that I can use automatic weapons to capture you if you resist arrest."

Growing increasingly impatient, Zeke tossed the jade seal adorned with the sculpture of an amethyst kirin that represented his own identity before Jannik.

"Come with me, for I have a few questions for you. This is an order!"

After Jannik caught the jade seal, he scrutinized it in confusion.

"Is this a bribe? That's an insult!" he declared.

Zeke was speechless.

He doesn't recognize the jade seal? Right, he's just a minor character who isn't powerful enough to learn of my secret. It's not worth it to argue with idiots.

As the jade seal couldn't prove his identity, Zeke had to resort to other means.

After pondering briefly, he pulled his phone out to make a call to the Colonel. "Sir, I'd like to ask for a favor. Please prove my identity to someone.

He then explained his situation to the Colonel,

The Colonel nodded in understanding. "Very well. I'll do that now!" Colo

"Thanks!"

After cutting the line, the Colonel placed the important document he was reading aside and summoned his assistant, ErlingFisker.

Erling was baffled, for the Colonel hated to be disturbed when he was at work.

Why did he summon me? Is it something more important than work?

Erling asked, "Sir, you called?"

The Colonel nodded. "Mm. I need you to contact someone on my behalf. I have to verify someone's identity."

He then explained Zeke's situation to Erling.

Erling was amused. "Ha! I can't believe the fearless Great Marshal is stumped by a mere municipal secretary. That's so funny!"

The Colonel glared at Erling. "Stop wasting time. Hurry, do it now!"

Erling said hastily, "Sir, you don't have to deal with the small matter personally. I can do that."

The Colonel replied, "If it concerns the Great Marshal, it isn't a small matter."

"Sir, you should stay put. Aren't you afraid that your subordinates will be shocked at your interference? Besides, it's beneath your dignity to do so," Erling explained.

After mulling over it, the Colonel nodded. "You're right. Sure, I'll let you handle it. Remember to take care of it."

"I understand. Don't worry!" Erling promised.

He exited the office and immediately made a call to the person in charge of the capital -Hugo Truelsen.

Back in the capital, Hugo was busy going through the documents when a call snapped him out of his reverie. He bristled impatiently at the interruption.

Whipping his phone out, he glanced at the caller ID and immediately shivered in shock.

The call is from Mr. Fisker in Glasbury! He must've called to issue an important order. It must be a national-level instruction.

At once, Hugo straightened his back and cleared his throat before accepting the call.

"Mr. Fisker, how may I help you?"

He had to be careful before someone like Erling, for the latter could cause him to lose his job just by saying something to the Colonel.

Erling said, "Hugo, do you have a death wish?"

Hugo was taken aback. "Mr. Fisker, what do you mean? I don't get it. Please explain further."

Erling scoffed. "I can't believe you had the guts to make things difficult for someone that the Colonel and I dared not offend. You're even bold enough to try to punish him!"

Chapter 2108

Hearing that, Hugo nearly peed in fright.

Is this some kind of joke? Even the Colonel and Erling have to show the man respect, so it's obvious that he's an influential figure. I'm Erling's subordinate, so there's no way I'd dare to offend a figure who even Erling has to respect!

Hugo immediately answered, "Mr. Fisker, you must be kidding me, right? I-I haven't offended anyone lately. May I know who you're referring to?"

Erling revealed, "The Great Marshal, of course. You didn't offend him directly; it was your subordinate who did that. However, if he wants to blame someone, you'll have to bear responsibility."

The Great Marshal!

Hugo's mind went blank.

My subordinate offended the Great Marshal? Who could that fool be? He must have a death wish! He almost got me implicated in the process! Damn it!

Hugo was on the verge of having a mental breakdown.

In a trembling voice, he pleaded, "Mr. Fisker, please let me know who offended the Great Marshal. I shall make sure he receives the punishment he deserves to make it up to the Great Marshal."

Erling responded, "Your subordinate, Jannik Ludpecker, was the one who caused trouble. My advice is to solve the matter as soon as possible. If possible, the solution should be nothing short of perfect. If the Great Marshal demands justice, the Colonel won't be able to stop him, let alone me."

Hugo nodded vigorously. "Don't worry, Mr. Fisker. I-I'll do my best to solve the matter. You have my word."

After hanging up, Hugo downed four glasses of water to calm his racing heart down.

As sweat drenched his hand, he gave Jannik a call hastily. His head was buzzing as he waited for Jannik to answer his call.

Meanwhile, Jannik was still facing Zeke off when his phone rang suddenly,

The sight of the caller ID made his expression grow solemn.

Why am I receiving a call from the capital on my personal phone? In usual circumstances, I have no right to contact them directly. As the capital is contacting me directly, it must be something important.

Strangely, Jannik felt really flustered by the sudden phone call. Something was off, but he couldn't quite figure it out.

He entered his car swiftly and made sure the cars and windows were shut so no one could eavesdrop on the conversation before answering the call carefully.

"Hello Mr. Truelsen. I'm Jannik Ludpecker ""

"B*stard, f*ck you!" Hugo screamed on the other end of the line, cutting him off effectively.

Jannik was stunned beyond words. What's going on? Why did he yell at me right after I answered his call?

Carefully, Jannik said, "Mr. Truelsen, I-I don't know what I did wrong to ignite your fury."

"Fury?" Hugo scoffed. "If possible, I'd beat you to a pulp! Jannik, are you a fool? Nevermind if you have a death wish. Why did you implicate me in your mess?"

Hearing that, Jannik merely got even more confused. "Mr. Truelsen, what's going on? What is my mistake?"

Hugo said, "Your mistake? Are you currently trying to arrest a man and demanding to punish him?"

Jannik insisted, "He obstructed official business and even attacked an ordinary human as a martial artist. Shouldn't he be punished?"

"Utter b*llshit!" Hugo barked furiously, "Obstructing official business? He is the official business! Listen carefully. The man you're trying to arrest is the Great Marshal! How dare you offend the Great Marshal? You're better off dead."

Boom!

Jannik's mind went blank.

His body jolted up instinctively, but he ended up hitting the roof of the car and dropped back into his seat.

He had no time to whine in pain. All he could think about was the Great Marshal.

That man is the renowned Great Marshal!

Chapter 2109

I can't believe I tried to punish the Great Marshal! Oh, dear. Even if I'm a cat with nine lives, that won't be sufficient. I'm doomed! It's over. I'm done for this time.

Jannik suddenly had a daring thought-to bang his head against a wall and kill himself.

He'd rather die than face the Great Marshal's wrath.

This is too scary!

Hugo's voice rang out. "Jannik, listen carefully. No matter what you do, get the Great Marshal's forgiveness even if you have to grovel before him until you bleed to your death. If you drag me into your mess, I'll drag your family down with me as well."

Slap!

The call ended curtly.

Jannik sat motionless as he broke down.

What now? What do I do next? I insulted the Great Marshal, so he will definitely want me dead. I'm screwed! The only way to make it up for my mistake is to die before him!

Even if it meant sacrificing his own life, Jannik was determined to protect his family.

With that thought in mind, Jannik stepped out of the car in a daze.

Right after he stepped out, Benjamin ran over to him. "Uncle Jannik, you're finally done with the call. You have no idea how arrogant the young man is. He had just yelled at you! Oh, he also cursed my ancestors. We share the same ancestors, remember? You'll have to make sure he gets punished severely!"

Jannik wanted nothing more than to smash Benjamin into smithereens.

If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't have offended the Great Marshal! It was all his fault!

A wave of fury crashed through Jannik as he gave Benjamin a forceful slap. "Shut the f*ck up! If you utter another word, I shall make you pay!"

Benjamin cradled his cheek in stunned silence.

The burning sensation spreading over his cheek caused him to feel utterly humiliated.

What the f*ck? What's happening? We're on the same side! Why did you turn on me after that phone call? Did you just slap me? Are you nuts?

Benjamin wasn't alone, for everyone else could barely hide their shock.

Everyone knew how much Jannik adored Benjamin.

Jannik only had a daughter, so he and Benjamin were like father and son,

However, he had just slapped Benjamin in front of everyone. No one knew what was going on.

Underneath the crowd's astonished gazes, Jannik shuffled over to Zeke.

After coming to a stop before Zeke, he dropped to his knees and kneeled before Zeke.

"Mr. Williams, I should be damned for not knowing who you are. Vent your anger on me, but please don't implicate the innocent people," he pleaded in a shaking voice.

To everyone's utter disbelief, Jannik began slapping himself continuously. The clear and sharp smacks echoed in everyone's mind for a long time.

The onlookers almost had their eyes popped out.

What in the world? Are we dreaming? Is Jannik Ludpecker, the second most powerful man in the city, kneeling before an ordinary man? Has he lost his mind?

Benjamin was about to go crazy.

He had initially summoned his uncle to take revenge on Zeke. Alas, his uncle was currently kneeling before his enemy.

This is downright embarrassing. What will my colleagues think of me?

Benjamin was so intent on his fury that he completely overlooked one thing—just how influential was Zeke for Jannik to get on his knees before him?

"Uncle Jannik, what are you doing? Has he put a spell on you? Get up right now. Don't kneel before him!" Benjamin demanded.

Jannik glared at him. "Get over here right now. Kneel before Mr. Williams and apologize to him now!"

Benjamin remained stubborn. "I won't do that. Why would I kneel before him?"

"I... I..."

Jannik was at a loss for words. This b*stard is so dense! Can't he tell Mr. Williams is someone whom I can't afford to upset?

Chapter 2110

Gritting his teeth, Jannik ordered, "I said, get on your knees right this instant!"

"No!" Benjamin refused to budge.

Damn it!

Jannik scrambled to his feet and dashed toward Benjamin. He grabbed his nephew by the collar and lifted him off the ground before striding over to Zeke.

Despite being a martial artist of the lowest rank,

Jannik could force an ordinary man into submission easily.

Benjamin was no match for him.

Jannik halted before Zeke and tossed Benjamin to the ground. He then got on his knees beside his nephew.

Zeke gave Benjamin a frosty glare. "Killer. Wolf, keep an eye on him. If he gets up without my permission, break his legs at once!"

"Got it!"

Benjamin immediately stood up. "I don't even kneel before my parents. Why would I kneel before you?"

Without further delay, Killer Wolf kicked Benjamin's kneecaps.

Crack!

Benjamin's knees crushed into pieces, and he dropped to the ground with a thud.

His blood-curdling scream pierced the air and sent chills down everyone's spines.

"Ah! Did you just assault me in broad daylight? I shall sue you for assaulting me! Just you wait. I'll make you pay for your deeds!"

Ignoring him, Zeke turned to Jannik. "Come in after me."

"Sure, sure."

Jannik had his head lowered subserviently as he followed Zeke into a nearby room. Once they were both inside, Jannik knelt in front of Zeke again.

"Great Marshal, I'm sorry for insulting you. I had no idea that you'll be here. I deserve

punishment. I'm willing to die for my mistake, but please don't involve my family, I beg you," Jannik pleaded.

Knowing that the Great Marshal's identity was top secret, he didn't address Zeke as the Great Marshal outside.

Now that they were alone in the room, he didn't hesitate in addressing Zeke politely.

Zeke announced, "You didn't abuse your position and were merely carrying out your job. Thus, I won't hold you accountable for this."

Jannik felt as though he had been pardoned from a death sentence. He breathed a sigh of relief and said, "Thank you for pardoning me, Great Marshal."

Zeke parted his lips yet again. "However..."

Jannik, who felt a sense of relief, got worked up once again.

"I'll assign someone to investigate you. You better be a law-abiding man. Otherwise, I'll make sure you receive the deserving sentence!"

Jannik replied hastily, "Great Marshal,

you're welcome to do so. I've always dedicated myself to working so I could serve the country and people. I've never committed any crimes."

"Mm." Zeke gave a pleased nod. "Do you know Intercontinental Group?"

the top Jannik bobbed his head earnestly. "Yes. Intercontinental Group is a leading company in Eurasia. It is among companies in the country and even clinched the richest company in Eurasia for two years in a row. As a local company, it is extremely influential. All locals know of its existence." five

"Is there any conflict between Intercontinental Group and Linton Group?" Zeke pressed on.

Jannik pondered briefly before revealing,

"I've recently heard that both Intercontinental Group and Linton Group are vying to collaborate with Mitxel Group from America on Project Mitxel. They are currently competitors. However, from what I know, they haven't really fought face to face."

Oh? Confusion rose in Zeke's heart.

They are both competitors.

Did Kush Clan, the backer of Intercontinental Group, burn Linton Group down to decrease its competitor's ability? It's just a business deal.

Why would the usually mysterious Kush Clan show up to deal with it personally? It's impossible no matter how you look at it! Could it be that Project Mitxel is extremely important to Kush Clan? They are determined to get it at all costs.

Zeke decided to get to the bottom of this and find out what Project Mitxel was all about.

"You have a final mission. Your nephew seemed to have violated the law frequently. Investigate him thoroughly and make sure he gets the punishment he deserves. If you dare to cover up for him, I won't let you off!"

Chapter 2111

"Don't worry, Mr. Williams. I-I promise I'll deal with him," Jannik hastily replied.

"While you're at it, dismiss and investigate the firefighters who work with your nephew. Let Teddy be the captain from here on out."

Jannik nodded his head vigorously. "Of course, of course."

With that, Zeke marched out of the room with Jannik in tow.

As soon as he saw the sun, a sense of relief washed over Jannik.

He truly felt as if he had been to hell and back, and he was just glad to have made it out in one piece.

Zeke proceeded to leave with his entourage while the police looked questioningly at Jannik, wondering if they should stop the former.

To their surprise, Jannik showed impeccable manners toward Zeke. "Goodbye, Mr. Williams! Have a safe journey back!"

It instantly became clear to the police that going after Zeke wouldn't be a wise move. If they had, it'd have landed them in hot water.

After he was sure that Zeke had gone out of sight, Jannik finally heaved a sigh of relief.

"You! Come with me!" he yelled as he glared at Benjamin.

"But Uncle Jannik, my legs..." Benjamin whimpered. "Please send me to the hospital! The pain is killing me!"

Jannik glanced at his nephew, his brow knitted into a frown.

Benjamin only had one of his legs broken earlier, but now, his other leg had also suffered the same fate.

If Jannik guessed correctly, he must've been busy with Zeke's interrogation when Benjamin tried to resist, thus prompting Killer Wolf to break the other leg.

He brought this upon himself! Why would anyone in their right mind try to mess with the Great Marshal's subordinates?

Jannik unceremoniously grabbed Benjamin's collar and dragged him into the room, making sure to lock the door behind them.

When Benjamin refused to stop screaming and wailing, Jannik slapped him hard. "Shut the f*ck up, will you? I'm only going to ask you once. Do you want to live?"

Benjamin quickly nodded. "Yes, Uncle Jannik. Of course, I do. Why would you suddenly ask me that, though?"

"If you want to live, you'd better tell me the truth," Jannik snapped. "Three years ago, when you were still a regular firefighter, you got into an altercation with your captain. Do you remember that?"

"Yes, I do. But that's all history now, Uncle Jannik. Why are you still bringing that up?"

"Hold your horses, and let me finish what I have to say," Jannik replied. "The day after the altercation, you were all deployed to put out a fire. That was when your captain died on duty. And thanks to your good performance, the station made an exception and promoted you to captain."

"That's right," Benjamin said with a nod.

"What about it?"

"What I need is for you to tell me the truth. Did you have something to do with your captain's death? And were you the one who planned that fire?"

Benjamin panicked and shook his head immediately. "No, no, no! Why would I kill someone because of a conflict? You're my uncle, for goodness' sake! How could you think that of me?"

"Don't lie to me! Did you have anything to do with that incident?" Jannik once again demanded.

"It really wasn't me! I'm not a martial artist, so how could I have killed anyone?" Benjamin whined. "Besides, the autopsy report back then had also ruled his death as accidental."

Despite that, Jannik still didn't believe his nephew. After all, the latter's expression had already given him away.

"Remember that man we just met? Do you have any idea who he is?" Jannik asked with a heavy sigh. "Do you know what he's capable of?"

"W-What? Are you saying he's even more powerful than you?"

"Of course he is! He's the Great Marshal!"

Upon hearing that, a chill ran down Benjamin's spine.

What? The man I offended is the Great Marshal? F*ck, I'm doomed! Of all the places to go, why did he have to come here? And what's with the low profile? Can't he travel with an army to make his presence known? It's his fault I'm in so much trouble now! Argh, no wonder Uncle Jannik seemed so afraid of him. Who wouldn't be?

Overwhelmed by a sense of hopelessness, an ashen-faced Benjamin slumped to the ground.

"I know what you're thinking, Benjamin, but don't despair," Jannik urged. "There's still a way out for you."

Chapter 2112

"Uncle Jannik, I insulted the Great Marshal and even threatened to hurt him. There's no way he'd let me off!"

"There's something else I have to tell you," Jannik mumbled. "The captain that passed away three years ago used to be classmates with the Great Marshal."

Benjamin instantly cried out in shock.

As it turned out, he was indeed the one behind the captain's death.

Benjamin had started the fire and cruelly pushed the captain into the flames to be burned alive.

Good heavens! Who knew the captain used to be Great Marshal's classmate? If the Great Marshal finds out the truth, I'd be skinned alive! No, no, I mustn't admit to it. No matter what happens, I'm carrying this secret to the grave!

"What are you screaming about?" Jannik asked as he eyed his nephew suspiciously.

"Oh, no, it's nothing. Carry on, Uncle Jannik."

"Well, those two might have been classmates, but the Great Marshal wasn't on good terms with the captain," Jannik said. "The Great Marshal was born in poverty, and he was small and weak as a child. Because of that, the captain used to bully him a lot."

After a pause, Jannik continued, "The Great Marshal has come here to track down and exact revenge on his bully. However, when he learned that the captain had died, he looked into it and realized it might have been a case of homicide. As such, he now wants to find the perpetrator so he can thank and repay them."

Benjamin bubbled with excitement as soon as he heard that.

Well, well, well, what a delightful plot twist! To think those two were enemies! Since I've gotten rid of the captain, doesn't that mean the Great Marshal owes me one? Oh, my God, that's incredible! So much for thinking I'd die at the Great Marshal's hands. Instead, I'm going to be rich beyond measure!

With that, Benjamin turned to his uncle excitedly. "Uncle Jannik, I was the one who killed the former captain. He was horrendous and picked on me whenever he

could. Anyone in my shoes would've been as furious as I was. Besides, I coveted his position, so I thought I'd get rid of him by planning the perfect murder!"

Jannik's heart skipped a beat.

What has my nephew become? How could he be so ruthless just because he wants to be captain? H-He's inhumane! Thank goodness I've seen his true colors. Otherwise, who knows what he'd do to me when he no longer finds me useful?

"Do you have any evidence to prove that you killed him?" Jannik asked. "If there's nothing to back you up, the Great Marshal might think you're only deceiving him to gain his favor. The consequences will be dire."

To Jannik's surprise, Benjamin broke into a big, smug grin. "Oh, you want proof? I'll give it to you."

The next second, Benjamin took his phone out and played a video for his uncle. "Here, take a look at this. I recorded it myself."

After watching the video, Jannik shuddered with fear.

In the video, the former captain was screaming for help as he struggled in the sea of fire. Benjamin, however, stood idly by while he mocked and insulted his victim.

Each time the captain managed to crawl out of the fire, Benjamin would mercilessly kick him back into it.

In the end, the captain burned to death.

"You know what, Uncle Jannik? I get such a rush every time I watch this video. It's so gratifying!" Benjamin proudly declared, nary a trace of remorse on his face. "It's hard to describe the feeling, but I guarantee it's unlike anything you've ever experienced before!"

Even though he didn't show it, Jannik was stunned beyond belief.

My nephew's a demon! Why else would he find murder entertaining? He's a cold-blooded demon!

Jannik took the phone from Benjamin and stashed it away carefully. "All right, Benjamin, you can head to the police station and turn yourself in. I'll handle the case personally," he reassured. "I'll play this video to the Great Marshal to prove that you were the one who killed your former captain. I'll even put in a good word for you so you can get handsomely rewarded."

Benjamin grinned from ear to ear. "Uncle Jannik, can you tell the Great Marshal that I want to be a general? I want the power to be able to kill anyone I like! But if he rejects that idea, I suppose I'd settle for a monetary reward. Since he's one of the wealthiest in the world, how much do you think I should ask for?"

When Jannik didn't reply, Benjamin added, "Don't worry, Uncle Jannik. I won't forget about you. We'll split the money eightytwenty, with me getting eighty..."

Chapter 2113

Feeling hopeful for what his future might bring, Benjamin happily left for the police station to turn himself in.

Jannik stared at his nephew, eyes glinting with anger.

He had to sacrifice Benjamin to protect himself, especially since the Great Marshal had instructed him to conduct an investigation.

Meanwhile, Zeke had gotten home and found Amelia playing with David.

It was true what people said about the strong bond between grandparents and grandchildren. Amelia, for example, had very quickly warmed up to David and constantly clung to him.

However, as soon as she realized Zeke was home, Amelia ran toward him with her arms wide open. "Carry me, Zee!"

Even though it had taken a while, Amelia's legs had recovered enough for her to regain use of them.

Zeke carried the little girl without hesitation and smiled lovingly at her. "Amelia, have you missed me?"

Amelia nodded fervently. "Yes!"

With her eyes so innocent and pure, Zeke had no doubt she was telling the truth.

"I've missed you a lot too."

All of a sudden, Amelia let out a gasp of realization. "Put me down, Zee. I have something good to show you!"

"Is that so? I can't wait to see it then!"

Amelia immediately ran to her room, and it didn't take long before she ran back out with a handful of fruit gummies.

"Zee, I kept these for you! They're sweet and delicious. Try it!" she exclaimed as she fed Zeke one of the candies. "How is it, Zee? Is it sweet?"

Zeke nodded. "Yes. It's sweet." Amelia beamed with joy and proceeded to distribute the rest of her candies to everyone present.

Zeke and David received two candies each, while the others only had one each.

After all, in Amelia's eyes, her grandfather and Zeke were equally important to her.

As David observed Zeke's interactions with Amelia, he couldn't help but feel a twinge of sadness.

Oh, how I wish Zeke were Amelia's father. He'd be such a good one. I know he already has his own family, but I'm sure he wouldn't mind becoming Amelia's godfather. And when that happens, Amelia will be set for life! She wouldn't have to worry about school, work, or even retirement.

Deep down, David knew he owed a great deal to his family, and the only way he could think of making it up to them was by giving Amelia a secure future.

"Mr. Williams, I have but one bold request to make," David said. "I hope you'll consider it."

"Go on. What is it?"

A faint blush crept up David's cheeks as he nervously fiddled his hands. "I-I was hoping you could become Amelia's godfather..."

Having understood David's intentions, Zeke smiled in response.

He had no reason to turn down David's request, especially when the latter had served the country loyally his entire life.

"Sure. I'd like that too," Zeke replied.

Amelia stared in bewilderment. "Zee, what are you talking about?"

"Amelia, you'll have to change the way you call him from now on," David piped up. "He's going to be your godfather!"

Father? Daddy?

The more Amelia thought about it, the more excited she got. "Daddy... Zee, can I really call you Daddy?" David nodded. "Of course, you can!"

Amelia's eyes instantly welled up with tears of joy as she gave Zeke a tight hug. "Yay! I finally have a father! The kids at school won't be laughing at me anymore..."

Upon hearing that, everyone felt a tug at their heartstrings.

David cleared his throat and broke the silence. "We've already prepared the food, so I'll get two bottles of wine to celebrate this happy occasion. We shall drink to Amelia officially getting a godfather!"

Zeke nodded his approval. "Sounds good to me!"

Thanks to Emma's delectable spread of food and David's crate of red wine, everyone enjoyed their meal tremendously.

Even though the red wine was nothing compared to Zeke's home-brewed Alpha wine, it was nevertheless a luxury for Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf, who hadn't had a drop of alcohol in a few months.

Chapter 2114

The meal ended with much joy and laughter, and Madeline promptly carried Amelia back to her room to rest.

"Emma, do you know anything about Intercontinental Group?" Zeke asked.

Emma nodded. "Of course. It's an old, well-established business. Most people in Eurasia would have heard of it."

"In that case, have there been any conflicts or altercations between you and Intercontinental Group?"

This time, Emma shook her head. "There aren't any conflicts that I know of, but we're business competitors."

"Tell me more."

"Some time ago, Linton Group headquarters authorized me to approach Mitxel Group for a collaboration," Emma said. "Coincidentally, Intercontinental Group also had the same intention as us. Sure, we competed against each other to clinch the deal, but there were never any confrontations. I've never even met anyone from the Intercontinental Group."

Zeke nodded thoughtfully in silence.

"Why are you asking that, Mr. Williams?" Emma queried. "Do you suspect the Intercontinental Group is setting the fire at the Linton Group?"

"Yes, that's very likely."

Emma drew a sharp breath as anger started welling up in her chest. "Intercontinental Group has gone too far! Is that how an international business should behave? If they want to compete, do it fair and square. Why is there a need to hurt others to benefit themselves?"

After a pause, Emma added, "Mr. Williams, what should we do? Should we report it to the police? We can't let those scumbags get away with it!"

"Even if we want to make a police report, we'd need evidence, wouldn't we?" Zeke replied. "The problem is, we don't have any."

The Intercontinental Group might have instructed the Kush Clan to set the fire, but with the murderer being a piece of consciousness, there was no way it'd have left any traces of evidence.

Still seething with fury, Emma gritted her teeth. "Be that as it may, I can't take this lying down! Are we just going to suffer in silence?"

"Suffer in silence? Impossible! We're going to take an eye for an eye!" Zeke declared. "Emma, set up a meeting with the person in charge of Intercontinental Group. It's time for me to learn about them. Once we know everything about our enemies, we wouldn't have to fear any battle that comes our way.

"Got it. I'll get my assistant to arrange for the meeting now."

As luck would have it, she had only just taken out her phone when it started ringing.

Despite seeing that it was from an unknown number, she answered it anyway. A while later, she ended the call and turned to Zeke. "Mr. Williams, that was Sheldon Guerrero from Intercontinental Group."

"Speak of the devil. What was the call about?"

"He's invited me to a meeting, saying that there's something important he wants to discuss with me."

Zeke cocked an eyebrow. "When?"

"Right now."

"Ha! How nice of them to present us with the perfect opportunity," Zeke replied with a chuckle. "All right, let's go then. I can't wait to meet them."

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf stood up from their seats almost immediately. "Zeke, we're going with you."

"No, you guys can wait here. The more people there are, the easier it'd be to set off their alarm bells. It won't help us in any way."

However, David remained hesitant. "Mr. Williams, why don't I go with you?"

Of course, Zeke knew that David was worried about his daughter.

After all, it hadn't been easy for David to reunite with Emma, and if something were to happen to her again, he'd undoubtedly be devastated.

Zeke smiled and patted David on his back. "What's wrong? Have you lost your trust in me? Don't worry. I'll bring her back safe and sound. I won't let anything happen to her."

"Haha, the older I get, the more apprehensive I become," David replied with a bitter laugh. "Mr. Williams, I don't doubt your abilities. It's just that-"

However, before David could finish his words, Zeke interrupted, "All right, that's enough. I can understand how you feel, and I promise you that I'll do whatever it takes to protect Emma. Even if it means sacrificing myself."

"No, Mr. Williams, Eurasia needs you. If you were to run into any danger, please protect yourself first. Even if it means you have to sacrifice Emma..." David replied sternly. "I'm sure she'll understand."

Chapter 2115

"Okay, David, that's enough." Zeke said, a tinge of frustration in his voice. "Don't make it sound like we won't be coming back. Like I said, we'll be fine. Come on, Emma, let's go."

Soon, Zeke left with Emma in tow and made their way toward Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort.

The resort might be the only five-star luxury hotel in the city, but to Intercontinental Group, it was merely a cog in the wheel.

As soon as Zeke and Emma stepped into the hotel, one of the receptionists hurriedly walked up to them.

"Excuse me, are you Ms. Emma Jones from Linton Group?"

Emma nodded. "That's me."

"Hello, Ms. Jones. Mr. Guerrero is waiting for you in the restaurant on the third floor. Please follow me." Emma and Zeke had begun walking forward when the receptionist suddenly shot a hand out to stop Zeke.

"Please wait here, Mister."

"He's with me," Emma explained.

"I'm sorry, Ms. Jones, but Mr. Guerrero has specifically said to let you go up alone. Your companion can wait for you here."

"I'm afraid that won't be possible," Emma retorted. "This man is my bodyguard, and I need him for protection."

Needless to say, Emma and Zeke had long agreed on that being Zeke's cover identity.

The receptionist felt conflicted as she stared back helplessly. "Ms. Jones, please don't make things difficult for me....."

"If that's so hard for you, then let's forget about the meeting," Emma snapped before pretending to walk away.

"Ms. Jones, please wait!" the receptionist urged. "Let me run this past Mr. Guerrero first."

She trotted to the counter without hesitation and called Sheldon with the landline.

A few seconds later, she returned to Emma with an apologetic look. "Ms. Jones, Mr. Guerrero has emphasized that he wants to meet you alone. If you still insist on bringing others with you, he'd have no choice but to call off the meeting."

Emma took a deep breath and stilled herself. "In that case, we'll forget about the meeting. Let's go."

Just as Emma turned to leave, Zeke suddenly stopped her in her tracks.

"Emma, we've taken the effort to come here, so how can we leave just like this?" Zeke said with a chuckle. "Who does he think he is, anyway? And why should we be at his beck and call? Come on, let's head upstairs and meet this bigshot."

With that, Zeke led the way and strode toward the elevator.

"Mister, please wait! Mr. Guerrero has already said that he doesn't want you up there," the receptionist whimpered as she desperately tried to stop him.

Unfortunately, Zeke was far too strong for her.

Zeke and Emma were almost nearing the elevator when the receptionist shouted, "Security! Security! Please come quick and stop this man!"

The next moment, ten security guards who had heard the call for help quickly gathered at the elevator.

Anson, the team leader of the security guards, glared menacingly at Zeke and Emma.

"Ms. Jones, on account that you're representing Linton Group, I shan't make things difficult for you. I hope you'll extend the same courtesy to us," he warned. "I suggest you leave the premises now. Otherwise, don't blame us if things get out of hand..."

To everyone's horror, Zeke ignored Anson's threat and pressed on.

Emma, too, seemed completely unfazed as she followed behind.

She knew that as long as Zeke was around, he'd keep her safe no matter what happened.

Naturally, Anson felt slighted by the pair and flew into a rage.

"Since the both of you refuse to cooperate, we'll have to settle this the hard way," he thundered.
"Guys, get them!"

More than ten security guards instantly charged at Zeke, ready to take him down by any means.

Alas, their attacks were nothing but child's play to Zeke.

He retaliated with just a couple of punches and sent all the security guards flying to the ground.

Soon, Zeke and Emma had entered the elevator.

However, just as the doors were about to close, Anson scrambled to his feet and dashed toward them.

Thanks to the elevator's automatic sensor, the doors opened right back up, much to Zeke's annoyance.

Chapter 2116

"Get out! Get the f*ck out right now!" Anson screamed.

"Oh, what's this? Do you want the elevator doors to close on you?" Zeke scoffed. "Sure, I'll grant you your death wish!"

Right there and then, Zeke unleashed a wave of energy that forced the doors to gradually close.

Anson was dumbstruck as he watched on.

What the hell is going on? Can't the sensor detect my presence? Why would the doors still close on me? Damn it. Could the sensor's sensitivity be down?

Thinking that the doors would open once they touched him, Anson stood his ground.

To his surprise, not only did the doors continue to close on him, but they also seemed to have sped up.

Oh, f*ck! The doors are broken!

Anson wanted to beat a hasty retreat, but unfortunately, it was too late.

The elevator doors suddenly accelerated and clamped him firmly in the middle. He struggled to get out but to no avail.

By then, Anson had become so terrified that he was on the verge of peeing his pants.

If the elevator starts moving, wouldn't I be split in half? My goodness, I don't want such a gruesome death!

"Help! Help me!" Anson yelled. "Please get me out!"

A few security guards quickly rushed over to pull him out of the elevator, only to have all their efforts come to naught.

Anson was well and truly stuck and could barely move an inch. To make matters worse, the other guards were pulling him so hard that he could feel his body almost getting torn in half.

"Stop! Stop pulling!" Anson cried out. "Grab your tools and pry the doors open!" Before long, his subordinates returned with various tools that they thought would be most helpful.

Although they tried their best to pry the doors open, their brute strength could never rival Zeke's energy.

In the end, not only did nothing work, but the elevator doors also seemed to have closed tighter.

Crack!

A sickening sound rang out as Anson felt one of his ribs break.

The pain was so excruciating that he couldn't stop screaming in agony.

"Hurry! Find something to saw the damn doors!" Anson yelled.

"B-But that'd be considered destruction of the company's property..."

"Screw you!" Anson retorted, almost on the verge of tears. "Can't you see I'm about to be flattened by the doors? Why the hell would you still care about the elevator? Worse come to worst, I'll pay for it!"

With that said, the security guards hurried off to look for a chainsaw they could use.

Zeke stared at Anson, his lips twisted in a contemptuous sneer. "Listen, if you beg for forgiveness now, I might spare your life."

"Shut the f*ck up!" Anson scolded. "Once my team gets me out of here, you'll be the first one I deal with!"

"Ah, I'm afraid you might not be able to wait that long. The elevator's about to start moving, and you'll be split in half then."

"Haha, you fool! Everyone knows that the elevator can't move unless the doors are fully closed."

Zeke grinned. "That's not necessarily true. Would you believe it if I said I have this elevator under control? It'd do whatever I say."

"Like hell, I'd believe that!" Anson spat.

"Okay. Elevator, ascend."

Sure enough, the elevator started ascending on Zeke's command, much to Anson's horror.

The truth was, Zeke had already used his energy to place the entire elevator under his control, and getting it to ascend or descend was only a thought away.

Meanwhile, Anson could feel nothing but blind terror as his life started flashing before his eyes.

"Stop! Stop the elevator! I-I don't want to die..."

"Ha! Call me Sir, and I'll make it stop."

At that point, Anson was already shaking uncontrollably with fear.

Call him Sir? Yes, I'll do whatever he wants. Anything to save my life!

Anson did as instructed, and to his surprise, the elevator stopped moving immediately.

Huh? What the hell is this? Has the elevator become voice-controlled?

Curious, Anson decided to test it out. "Elevator, open the door."

Alas, there was no response.

Zeke stared at the security guard with a glint of amusement in his eyes. "Let me ask you, do you want to live, or do you want to be cut in half?"

"I want to live! I want to live!" Anson replied. "Sir, please forgive me. I know I was wrong." I don't know what sorcery he's using to control the elevator, but since my life's at stake, it's better not to piss him off.

Chapter 2117

Zeke took out his phone and turned on the recording mode. "If you want to live, you have to shout out loud ten times that Sheldon Guerrero is a b*stard and that Sheldon burned down Linton Group."

"What?"

The team leader of the security guards instantly paled.

If he were to curse at his boss, he would be doomed.

If he were to say that Sheldon had burned Linton Group... He would be held accountable as well.

The team leader of the security guards pleaded, "Sir, please spare me. I know I've done wrong..."

Zeke sighed. "I don't have any time to waste on you anymore. Since you won't listen to others, you'll have to be split into two pieces by the elevator. Say, if the elevator clips you in half, will the police find out that I'm the one who did it? I don't think so, right? Who would have thought that the elevator is voice-controlled anyway? Elevator, up!"

The elevator slowly ascended.

The team leader of the security guards broke down as he screamed, "Sheldon Guerrero's a b*stard! Sheldon's the one who burned down the Linton Group! Sheldon Guerrero's a bestard! Sheldon's the one who burned down the Linton Group! Sheldon Guerrero's

The security guard's voice echoed in the first floor's lobby for a long time, and his voice sent chills down everyone's spines.

The guard was doomed. He had just insulted the CEO in public.

Once the guard was done yelling out the insults, Zeke finally let go of the elevator door.

Scrambling, the security guard rushed off.

Zeke then made the elevator ascend as he sent the recording to Emma.

Emma replied, "Mr. Williams, I'm afraid we won't be able to press charges on Sheldon with just this video. It's because we can clearly see that you're forcing the security guard to accuse Sheldon."

Zeke hummed. "I'm not planning to use this video to pin a crime on him. I just want to make him feel disgusted."

Emma burst out laughing.

She never thought that the serious Zeke would come up with something nasty like this.

Soon, the elevator reached the third floor.

What was on the third floor was a luxurious restaurant. The place was lavish, and even the carpet was made with imported wool.

Although it was not peak hours for the restaurant, it would still not be empty.

Yet, that was the case at that moment.

Without a doubt, Sheldon must have reserved the entire place. Right in the middle of the restaurant was a man in a tuxedo. His eyes were closed as he listened to the music, seemingly enjoying it.

Upon hearing the sounds of footsteps, Sheldon slowly opened his eyes.

When he realized that Emma was not the only one there, he was stunned before turning angry.

"D*mn it! I said Emma is the only one allowed in here. What are those waiters doing downstairs?"

In a very cold tone, Zeke asked, "What's the matter? Mr. Guerrero, are you doing something private here? Is that why you don't want other men to be around?"

Sheldon instantly glared at Zeke. "I don't care who you are. Get out right now! Do it right now, or you'll bear the consequences of your actions!"

Zeke shrugged. "Sorry, I guess I'll bear them then."

Fine!

With a sneer, Sheldon took out his phone and called the restaurant on the first floor.

"What are you all doing? Who told you to let him up? What? Are you sure? All right, I got it."

After ending the call, Sheldon glared at Emma and hissed, "Ms. Jones, may I know what you're trying to do?"

"I've kindly invited you to be a guest in my restaurant, and yet, not only did you not respond with equal kindness, but you even assaulted my people in my territory. Don't you think that you're very unreasonable?"

Emma did not know how to reply to that question.

Even a minor mistake in her answer would lead to a major fight.

Right then, Zeke said, "Mr. Guerrero, I hit them for your sake!"

An angry laugh escaped Sheldon after hearing that. "What a joke! Are you seriously saying that you hit my men for my sake? Do you take me for a three-year old?"

Chapter 2118

Zeke said, "You don't believe me? I'll ask you something. Your subordinate said you're a b*stard, and they even said that you're the one who burned down Linton Group. Don't you think they should be taught a lesson?"

Sheldon snarled, "Rubbish! I've never mistreated my subordinates. There's no way they would curse at me and accuse me of that. You need evidence to prove your words."

"You want evidence, right? Sure. I'll show you."

Zeke then handed him his phone and showed him the video where the security guard was cursing at him.

In the video, the security guard screamed that Sheldon was a b*stard and said that Sheldon was the one who burned down Linton Group.

By the end of the video, Sheldon was so furious to the point he nearly threw the phone away.

What a useless bugger!

Although Sheldon could guess that Zeke was the one who forced the guard to say those things, the bugger still said those words.

Sheldon could not possibly keep his cool after hearing the insults.

Zeke then said, "We stood up for you, but you chided us for it. I'd say you're the one who's unreasonable."

"I..." For a moment, Sheldon was speechless.

Not wanting to waste more of his breath on the topic, Zeke sat opposite him and said, "Tell me. Why have you asked us to come?"

After recollecting himself, Sheldon said, "Okay, let's not beat about the bush anymore.

I've come to give you a warning. It's best for you not to lay a finger on Mitxel Group's Project Mitxel. In fact, don't even think about it,"

"Why?" Emma questioned.

"That's a good question. You have no right to even talk about Project Mitxel. If you do, you'll be annihilated."

"Why do I find that difficult to believe?"

"It's up to you whether you want to believe it or not. I am sure you'll regret this when you're about to meet your end," Sheldon warned.

Zeke smiled. "I would like to give you some advice too, Mr. Guerrero. You're playing with fire and biting off more than you can chew."

What Zeke was talking about was none other than Kush Clan.

However, Sheldon ignored Zeke. Instead, he turned to Emma and said, "Emma, I can give you a chance right now. Join me. Otherwise, you'll end the same way he will."

Emma huffed, "Sorry, I'm currently doing well in Linton Group, and I'm not planning to jump ship any time soon."

"Linton Group?" Sheldon uttered. "I guarantee to you that Linton Group will be wiped from the surface of the earth soon!"

Emma was a little shocked by that. "You're a fortune-teller?"

Sheldon answered, "I am not but I've made plans to acquire Linton Group."

Amused, Emma said, "Linton Group's financial budget is on par with Intercontinental Group. Even if Linton Group did not defend itself and let you acquire it, I doubt Intercontinental Group will be able to do that."

"Ha! That's because you're underestimating Intercontinental Group. My company isn't as simple as it looks."

Zeke guessed that Sheldon was talking about Kush Clan.

His reply made Zeke even more sure that Intercontinental Group had connections with Kush Clan.

Hence, he deliberately asked, "Oh, if you say that Intercontinental Group isn't as simple as it looks, that means Intercontinental Group has someone even more powerful backing it up. Mr. Guerrero, why don't you enlighten me by telling me who that is?"

At that, Sheldon hesitated.

Frankly, he wanted to tell Zeke who was backing him up and flaunted his support to the other man and stunned him.

However, the man behind the scenes told him to say nothing, and he did not dare to go against his orders.

After all, he was as trivial as an ant to that person.

Therefore, Sheldon coldly replied, "Hmph! You have no right to know about that person's power."

A wave of disappointment washed over Zeke.

He can actually keep a secret.

It seems like I won't be able to trick him into telling me who's behind him.

Thus, instead of wasting more time with Sheldon, Zeke unleashed his energy and let it cover the entire building.

He wanted to find out where Kush Clan was.

Chapter 2119

Unfortunately, there was nothing in the building, for he sensed no traces of the clan.

Zeke could only send a bit of his energy into Sheldon without alerting him. That way, once Sheldon came into contact with Kush Clan, he would be able to sense it.

Once that was done, Zeke said to Emma, "Emma, let's go."

Emma nodded.

Just before they left, Zeke suddenly asked. Sheldon, "One last question. You're the one who burned down the Linton Group, right?"

Sheldon mocked, "Haha. I don't know. I'd have to scavenge through my memory to find out."

The taunting expression on his face clearly said: I'm the one who burned down the building. You don't have any evidence of that, so what can you do about it?

"Very well," Zeke said. "Mr. Guerrero, it's best for you to be careful for the next few days. The weather is dry, and fires might start all of a sudden. You should keep a close eye on the properties you own."

With that said, he turned and left.

Sheldon paled. When Zeke and Emma were gone from his line of sight, he took out his phone and called reception.

"Send a few more men to watch the building all day long. Be exceptionally wary of people who look like they might be suspicious characters setting a fire."

.The receptionist replied, "I got it."

After Zeke and Emma left the building, Emma tentatively asked, "Mr. Williams, are you going to burn down Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort?"

Zeke sighed and shook his head. "I can't bring myself to do that. There are so many people in that hotel. There will be many death and casualties if a fire were to start. I can't let so many innocent people die just because I want revenge." Emma nodded. "Then, what do we do next?"

Zeke replied, "Linton Group has been burned down, and it'll take at least a year and a half to rebuild. What about this? Find a building we can rent first. We'll have that as Linton Group's temporary office."

"Understood." Emma nodded.

"As for Mitxel Group... Send me information about it. I'd like to see what kind of company it is and what kind of collaboration it will be."

Zeke yearned to know what kind of collaboration they had that made Kush Clan interested in them.

"Sure," Emma responded.

Right then, Zeke's phone rang.

After glancing at the number on the screen, a soft smile spread across Zeke's face.

It was a call from his wife, Lacey.

It had been a few days since Zeke had called her. Thus, the moment he saw her number, the gloomy feelings in his heart dissipated.

He then said to Emma, "Emma, you should get in the car first. I need to pick up a call."
"Understood."

Emma turned and entered the car.

Jealousy was blooming in her heart like a flower.

She had stolen a glance at Zeke's phone earlier, so she knew that his wife called him.

If I knew Zeke first, would I have been in Lacey's position? If I could rewind time, I'd exchange all my luck to meet Zeke before Lacey. Even if he's broke, and living in the worst moment in his life...

Zeke walked to a quiet corner and answered the call.

"Lacey, you've finally called me. I thought you have forgotten that you have a husband!"

Lacey grumbled, "What are you complaining about? You're having so much fun outside after leaving the entire company to me. I didn't even say anything about that. You're just the pot calling the kettle black, you know?"

Zeke laughed bitterly in his mind. Enjoying the time of my life? It was more like I was risking my life.

Of course, he would not say that to her to save her the worry.

"Why don't we sell Linton Group off and go on a trip together? Won't we be enjoying the time of our life like that?"

"No way! It took me almost everything to establish Linton Group. I won't just sell it like this. By the way, I heard from Emma that you're settling the matters regarding Linton Group's branch office at her place."

"Yes. I just came here yesterday," Zeke told her.

Chapter 2120

Lacey took a deep breath before saying, "Zeke, can I ask for a favor from you?"

Without missing a beat, Zeke said, "No."

"Why? Why not? I'm your wife!"

"It's because you're my wife, and that's why I said no. You can just tell me anything. You don't need to ask for a favor from me."

Lacey chuckled, "Hehe, I knew my big oaf is the best."

Zeke blinked.

Big oaf? Forget it. She's my wife. Just bear with it, Zeke.

Lacey continued, "I'm sure Emma must have told you about this before. I'd like to collaborate with Mitxel Group on their Project Mitxel. However, with Linton Group's branch office in ruins, it's almost impossible for us to convince them to work with us."

"Zeke, can you think of a way to help Linton Group become partners with Mitxel Group?" Curious, Zeke asked, "Lacey, why is this collaboration so important to you? Is it a very lucrative project?"

"That's the secondary reason. It's mainly because Project Mitxel involves the issues on food quality of billions of people in Eurasia. I know that Intercontinental Group has made many mistakes when it comes to food safety, and they've been fined many times. If Intercontinental Group ends up working in Project Mitxel and becomes the one in charge of food supply for the citizens in Eurasia... I'm worried that this will be a disaster. That's why Linton Group has to snatch the rights to the collaboration from Intercontinental Group."

With a small smile, Zeke said, "Lacey, you're now starting to worry about the citizens."

"What to do, I'm your wife."

"All right, I'll look at Mitxel Group's information now and find out if I can pull any strings there."

"Thank you!" Lacey beamed. "By the way, should I go to Mitxel Group personally to express my sincerity?"

Zeke replied, "You don't need to come here personally, but if you miss me, you can come to visit me."

Lacey huffed. "Pah! No one misses you. Bye."

After the call ended, Emma sent Mitxel Group's information to Zeke.

While skimming through Mitxel Group's list of founders, his eyes lit up.

Someone named Rhett Mitxel was on the list of Mitxel Group's founders.

Rhett was someone Zeke knew. After all, Rhett was one of his lousy disciples' good friends.

As a matter of fact, Rhett Mitxel used to be one of the most reputable doctors in the west. His specialty was internal medicine.

After witnessing Zeke's Ammo Needle, he had tried his best to study under Zeke, but unfortunately, Zeke rejected him.

As Zeke's identity was rather unique, he did not want to take in disciples, or anyone with different origins.

Rhett had been very upset about the matter.

He had called Zeke countless times and told the latter about how he wanted to learn from him.

Thus, Zeke blocked his number.

He thought he would never come in contact with Rhett ever again, but it seemed like Rhett was useful to him now.

Zeke sighed. "Lacey, this is all for you. Otherwise, I wouldn't even call this guy."

After unblocking Rhett, Zeke called him.

It only took one ring before the call was picked up.

The man on the other end of the line seemed overjoyed and enthusiastic to receive the call.

"Sir, you've finally called me. How have you been?"

Zeke impatiently said, "Rhett Mitxel, I'll ask you one question. Are you the co-founder of Mitxel Group?"

"Yes!" Rhett replied. "It's the Mitxel family's business. I'm the third major stockholder of the company. What's the matter?"

"I heard that Mitxel Group has recently come up with a project named Project Mitxel, Is that correct?"

"Yes," Rhett replied.