

1549 Yvette nodded, and then she smiled at Stella. "Sister Stella, thank you very much. Since you are from Ice Fire Island, then may we be your guests there?"

Yvette was brilliant; she knew that Stella had fallen for Darryl. Yvette smiled at the kind-hearted Stella, who had saved herself and Darryl, as she had accepted Stella in her heart. At the same time, she suggested that they visit Ice Fire Island to improve the relationship between Darryl and Stella.

After all, the new Emperor, Lord Kenny, would never let Yvette and the Empress off easily. He would definitely send soldiers after them, and more importantly, Darryl had been severely injured. He needed a safe place for recuperation.

"Of course!"

Stella did not hesitate; she immediately nodded joyfully.

Darryl was supportive of the suggestion; he sighed in relief.

Fortunately, Yvette was a considerate person. They had finally resolved the misunderstanding.

The Empress was still upset, but she could not rebuke her daughter's decision.

After a round of discussion, they decided to move toward the coastal area. Stella guided the group.

After more than two hours of journey, they finally arrived at the beach.

They saw a small fishing village and a small port some distance away from the shore.

Darryl took a deep breath when he was convinced that they had finally gotten rid of their enemies on their tail.

Lord Kenny had almost caught up to them, but Yvette's quick-wit took them through another path.

Darryl stared into the distance as he clenched his fists discreetly.

'Sit tight and wait for me, Lord Kenny. I will definitely collect this debt with you.'

'Dax, Chester, Debra, please stay safe. I will be back to rescue all of you after I recover from my injuries.'

"Guys!"

Yvette looked around their surroundings before she turned toward the four Scope brothers and said, "That small fishing village must have some boats. Can you go and borrow two boats from them?"

Yvette smiled at them politely when she said that.

That woman had a cheerful and lively personality. Even though she was a princess, she was a likable person. Along the journey, she had grown closer with the four Scope brothers.

The brothers nodded.

"We are the four heroes from Ice Fire Island, and we have never had to borrow things in our lives!"

"Yes, yes, those people from such a small fishing village must feel honored to see us. They would probably just give the boats to us..."

"You're right, Big Brother and Second Brother. How else would they meet people like us?"

The four brothers murmured amongst themselves as they walked toward the small fishing village.

Darryl laughed at the sight of their funny behaviors.

It was quite fun to hang around those four jokers along the journey.

"Stop right there! I'll do it!"

Stella laughed as she called out to her senior brothers. "You will probably scare them away!"

The four brothers stopped and eyed each other knowingly. They had to listen to their junior sister!

Then, Stella walked toward the small fishing village.

After a while, Stella had managed to rent two small boats.

"Ugh!"

As they got ready to board the boats, the Empress suddenly said, "Darryl, you can share a boat with them while Yvette and I will take the second boat."

The Empress's beautiful face was cold and arrogant as she said that in an unwavering tone.

She was the Empress; it was already a great honor for the peasants when she agreed to seek refuge on Ice Fire Island. How could they all be on the same boat under such circumstances, especially the four Scope brothers who were arrogant, rude and wayward?

Uh...

Darryl and Stella were embarrassed.

"Mother Empress..."

Yvette was perplexed at her mother's behavior, and she said hurriedly, "How am I supposed to take care of Darryl if I am on the same boat as you? His injuries are too severe."

How could the Empress pay attention to details like that in that situation?

"Can't Stella take care of Darryl? Since she claimed to be Darryl's wife, shouldn't she take care of him too?" the Empress said as she peered at Stella.

Stella blushed when she heard the Empress' suggestion.

"Mother Empress, I am also Darryl's woman. I also want to be in the same boat as him to take care of him." Yvette spoke anxiously to the Empress. "You told me that I have to be a virtuous wife when I'm married. Now when Darryl needs me, how can I not help him?"

Yvette's face flushed when she said that shyly.

Even though Yvette had a cheerful and bubbly personality, she was a lady, after all. How could a lady speak so blatantly about their relationship?

Darryl had suffered severe injuries, and she was by his side. How could she let another woman take care of him?

"Very well, then!"

The Empress was speechless. Then, after a moment, she said, "Well, if you're taking care of Darryl, then who would take care of me?"

As an Empress, she was used to having her palace maids. She enjoyed a high status where the maids would serve her, no matter her daily meals and other activities.

She did not want to change her lifestyle despite the change of circumstances.

That put Yvette in a difficult situation.

She was right, though!

The Empress was accustomed to servants. What would she do without any palace maids by her side? If Yvette decided to take care of Darryl, who would serve her mother, then?

Yvette frowned as she was in a dilemma.

"Your Majesty..."

Stella said, "Perhaps Your Majesty would allow my brothers to take the same boat. Then, they would be able to take care of you."

Then, Stella turned to the Scope brothers. "Senior Brothers, you are to take care of Her Majesty while we're at sea. You are to stay outside the cabin, and you shouldn't disturb the Empress. You ought to do your best if she were to command it, got it?"

The four brothers were stunned.

"No way, Junior Sister, we are heroes! How can we be servants?"

"Yes, this Empress is too prickly. I won't do it..."

"Unless she calls us heroes..."

The Scope brothers were a little straightforward, but they were not fools. They knew that the Empress was used to being coddled, and she was very hot-tempered. It would be a demanding task to wait upon her.

"Very well!"

Stella smiled at the four brothers as she coaxed them softly. "My four senior brothers are first-class heroes. Would you help me this time? Anyway, it won't take long to get to Ice Fire Island. Pretty please?"

Stella was smart and talented. Even though she was not as skilful as Yvette, she was still very good at manipulating people, especially her four senior brothers.

The Scope brothers scratched their heads after they heard their junior sister; they no longer object to that idea.

"Mother Empress."

Yvette was very pleased with the arrangement. She turned to look at her mother and said, "Mother Empress, the Scope brothers will take the same boat as you. Stella, Darryl and I will be in another boat. Is that alright?"

"Since you have all made the decision, so be it!" the Empress responded with indifference.

As she spoke, she looked at the four Scope brothers. Then she said coldly, "Four of you are only allowed on the deck. I will not show you mercy if you enter the cabin."

The Empress's voice was not loud. However, it sounded like an authoritative command, especially her last sentence.

The four brothers glanced at each other and nodded in agreement, but they were very upset.

"Well, we won't go in then!"

"Yes, do you think we want to stay there with you?"

The brothers were chatterboxes, and they would not be quiet as soon as they started to talk. Finally, they closed their mouths when Stella glared at them.

1551 Soon, they boarded the two boats as planned.

Darryl, Yvette and Stella entered the cabin; it was not very spacious, but it was clean.

The sea was calm; there were no big waves. The gentle breeze also made them feel comfortable.

“Darryl!”

As soon as Yvette helped Darryl to sit down, Stella approached him with a few elixir pills. “Even though these pills can’t heal your injury completely, they can ease some pain.”

Stella turned around and began to boil water for tea after she gave the pills to Darryl.

“Thank you!” Darryl took the pill, and he felt an immediate pain relief as it took effect. As he felt more relaxed and happy, he began to like Stella!

The Ice Fire Island’s dignified eldest young miss had taken good care of him. It was commendable that she did not appear aloof. It was a rare character trait for those with high status!

“Miss Stella!” Yvette stood up, smiled, and said, “You don’t need to get busy. You have also been traveling, so you should rest!”

Then, Yvette helped Stella with the tea preparation.

Stella smiled plainly. “It’s okay. I don’t feel tired. I’m just making some tea!”

The two women spoke softly and were very polite to each other. They were not jealous of each other; it was a very warm scene.

Darryl felt comfortable when he saw how they interacted with each other.

‘One is an honorable princess, and the other is an eldest young miss from a prominent sect. Both of them are so kind to me. I am blessed to have them in my life.’

Moved with emotions, Darryl sat cross-legged and closed his eyes to recover his internal energy.

Darryl had received multiple injuries from the previous battle. Even though they were not fatal, they were quite severe. With Darryl’s level of cultivation, it would take about ten months to recover completely.

Darryl entered the realm of cultivation.

Yvette and Stella made tea, and when they saw Darryl in meditation, they decided not to bother him. Instead, they sat at the side and closed their eyes to get some rest.

“Damn!”

“Nope, I’m not waiting on her anymore. She’s way too difficult!”

“I can’t take it anymore!”

Sometime later, they heard a commotion outside—it was the four Scope brothers.

Darryl opened his eyes and glanced through the cabin window. He was shocked by what he had seen.

The four Scope brothers stood on the deck on the next boat. Their faces were reddened in fury as they used the oars to approach Darryl’s boat.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

As soon as the two boats were right next to each other, the four brothers jumped onto the next deck.

The loud noises also disturbed Yvette and Stella’s rest. They woke up and immediately went to see what had happened.

“Senior Brothers?”

Stella frowned when she saw her senior brothers had hopped onto their boat. She asked softly, “What’s the matter? Why are you here instead of taking care of the Empress in the other boat?”

“Junior Sister, the Empress has set too many rules, and she has a foul temper. We can’t do it anymore!” First Scope wiped the sweat from his forehead; he was almost speechless about the situation.

Second Scope added quickly. “Yes, the Empress treats the cabin like a palace. She told us to do so many things, and if we didn’t do a good job, she would tell us to get lost. She’s too difficult...”

Next to him, Third Scope and Fourth Scope nodded in agreement.

“Yes...”

“She’s too critical and fussy...”

Stella was dumbfounded; she asked with a straight face. "Tell me, did you do anything to irritate the Empress? Is that why she chased you away because she was angry?"

Stella knew her four senior brothers well. They were full of nonsense and would always mess up their tasks. Most people could not stand them, let alone the noble Empress.

The four brothers closed their mouths abruptly and scratched their heads uneasily after Stella interrogated them.

"Stop trying to piss me off! I told you to listen to the Empress!" Stella stomped her feet angrily. From their expressions, she knew that they must have done something wrong to incur the Empress' wrath.

"It's okay!"

Yvette smiled as she went to diffuse the situation. "It must have been trying for the four heroes to take care of my mother. It must have been hard on them, so please don't scold them so harshly, Miss Stella."

Even though the four brothers were silly, they had fascinating personalities. More importantly, they were Darryl's friends.

The four brothers beamed as they nodded in agreement.

"We're glad that the Princess knows our pain..."

"Yes, we have done our best to let go of our heroic identities to serve the Empress, but she is too difficult to please."

"Since you are so kind and understanding, we shall allow you to be with our brother-in-law..."

The more the four brothers spoke, the further they went off-topic. Stella blushed and stomped her feet embarrassingly. "What nonsense is this? Her Royal Highness and Darryl have been together from the beginning."

Yvette was also a little embarrassed, but she smiled and said, "Okay, shall we go and have a look?"

Yvette glanced at Darryl when she said that.

She knew that the Empress would not let the four brothers return to her boat since she had sent them away. In that case, Yvette would have to be there.

However, she did not want to go there by herself. She hoped that Darryl would move to the other boat with her, but she was too embarrassed to say it in front of Stella.

After all, Stella had been very kind to them throughout the journey.

Darryl understood what Yvette had wanted. He turned to Stella and said, "Yvette and I go and take a look. You and your brothers should rest here."

He knew that the Empress was indeed a little hot-tempered. She looked down on others because of her royal status; even Darryl refused to get close to her.

However, Darryl had no choice. She was Yvette's mother, so he should face the problem with her. He could not run away from it.

Mmm!

Stella nodded obediently and immediately invited her senior brothers into the cabin.

"Brother-in-law, come back soon!"

"Yes, Junior Sister will be here waiting for you."

"Even though you and the Princess are in love, Junior Sister is also your woman. You should be fair and treat them equally..."

When First Scope entered the cabin, he did not forget to turn around and advise Darryl.

Stella's delicate face blushed again as she stomped her feet angrily.

'My dear senior brothers, can't you talk a little less?'

Darryl laughed. It was a little awkward, but at the same time, he was amused.

Those four senior brothers were fascinating. Hence, Darryl responded very seriously. "Don't worry; I will be back after we managed to coax the Empress."

Then, Darryl and Yvette leapt and landed on the opposite deck.

As soon as he entered the cabin, he saw the Empress had a stony expression on her delicate face; she was furious.

Even though the Empress was angry and alone in the cabin without any palace maids with her, she could not hide her proper and dignified temperament.

The Empress' golden phoenix robe flaunted her exquisite figure to the fullest. She looked both charming and noble at the same time.

Darryl was stunned when he saw the Empress; he sighed discreetly.

"Darryl?"

1553 The Empress kept a straight face even when she saw Darryl and Yvette entered the cabin. She rebuked annoyingly, "Who told you to come in here? Don't you know you have to announce yourselves before you come in? Such waywardness."

F*ck!

It looked like the Empress really did think of the place as her palace. How could they possibly get someone to announce their arrival before they went into the cabin on a fishing boat?

Darryl felt depressed, but he did not say anything.

"Mother Empress!"

Yvette felt helpless. She walked forward and held the Empress's arm. Then, she said playfully, "Don't pick on Darryl, okay? We're here to take refuge, not a vacation. Don't be so hard with the rules, alright?"

Suddenly, Yvette's face turned red, and her voice went soft as she continued to plead with her mother. "Furthermore, he is my man and your son-in-law. Don't pick on him, okay?"

Yvette's voice was very soft when she said the last sentence so that only the two of them could hear it.

Even though Darryl was her man, she was embarrassed and did not want him to hear what she had said.

The Empress's expression eased a little after that, but she still complained. "You may have admitted that he is your Prince Consort, but I haven't acknowledged him as my son-in-law."

"Very well!"

Yvette looked docile as she spoke softly, "Mother Empress, don't be mad at the Scope brothers, no matter what they have done to anger you. They won't be coming onto this boat anymore. From now on, only Darryl and I will be with you, alright?"

Yvette did not feel as anxious when she said that.

She knew her mother well. The Empress was domineering and pompous in front of other people, but she loved Yvette dearly. As long as her daughter was not excessively demanding, the Empress would always agree with her requests.

"Very well!"

The Empress smiled and helped Yvette fix her fringe. "He can stay, but when we are resting, he has to go onto the deck."

The Empress peered at Darryl. She had made up her mind, so there was no room for discussion.

She thought it was inappropriate to have a man there while she rested. She was an Empress, after all.

"Mother Empress!"

Yvette was anxious, and she stomped her feet. "The sea breeze is too strong on the deck! How can Darryl have a good rest there when he is still injured?"

The Empress did not respond; she would not budge.

F*ck!

Darryl was utterly speechless. He was baffled.

How could the Empress expect to be treated like she was still in the palace when they were in that situation.

Nonetheless, Darryl's expression softened; he would compromise as he thought that Yvette had suffered too much. He nodded with a wry smile. "Okay, then I will go to the deck and rest!"

Then, Darryl turned and prepared to leave the room.

Rumble...

Just as he was about to walk out onto the deck, he heard a deafening thunder. Then, the sky turned dark with thick clouds.

A gust of strong wind had started to blow from the calm sea!

Yvette and the Empress, who were still in the cabin, were startled.

Darryl sighed deeply. He looked up at the dark clouds helplessly.

F*ck! Why was the weather so impermanent? How could it change without any warning?

Whoosh!

Darryl complained discreetly when it suddenly poured with stormy wind and waves. The boat rocked violently!

Darryl went to the door and peeked outside. He gasped!

Large waves as high as 50 meters had appeared across the ocean! They were as tall as small hills!

The storm would be upon them soon!

"Darryl!" When the storm came, Stella yelled for Darryl from the other boat; a worried expression had spread across her delicate face. "Hide in the cabin. Hurry! Grab onto something, and don't come out! The storm is coming..."

Stella had grown up on Ice Fire Island since she was a child, so she was accustomed to the storms.

"Got it!" Darryl responded loudly. "Take care of yourself."

As soon as he said that, the torrential rain got even heavier. A gust of wind carried the waves toward the boat. The roaring wind drowned Darryl's voice.

The sky had gotten darker, and it was almost impossible for them to see anything with the rain.

The boat spun and rolled frantically in that violent turbulence in the rough sea.

Was that the power of a sea storm? Darryl grasped the bolt of the cabin door tightly as he looked at the environmental hazard outside. He felt emotional.

Darryl's home was in Donghai City. He had grown up by the seaside, but that was his first time witnessing such a terrifying storm.

"Argh!"

Yvette and the Empress were in the cabin; they were in a panic. Yvette could barely maintain her composure, and the Empress continued to scream in fear. Even though she was the Empress, the perfect image of a mother of the continent, she had lived in the palace for as long as she could remember. She had never experienced such a storm before that.

"Yvette, hold on to your mother tightly and don't panic. We'll be fine." Darryl gritted his teeth as he clutched the door frame tightly. He placed himself at the entrance of the cabin as if to block the rain and waves.

As long as he stood guard at the cabin entrance, Yvette and the Empress would not fall into the water no matter how the boat rocked.

Yvette nodded at Darryl before she took the Empress into her arms.

She was also panicked, but she was not afraid if Darryl were with her.

After he made sure that the two women were okay, he sighed in relief. Then, he turned to look at Stella to see if she was okay.

Oh, no!

Darryl suddenly cried out loud in his mind.

He could only see the choppy sea and the deluge of rain that hit the water like the end of the world had arrived, but there were no signs of Stella's boat.

The storm must have drifted their boat in another direction.

However, he knew that Stella and her brothers would be able to cope with the situation as they had grown up on Ice Fire Island.

Darryl tried to convince himself to think positively; he took a deep breath to calm his nerves and pray for Stella and the others.

'Stella, please stay safe!'

'When will this damn storm stop?'

After about five or six hours, the storm gradually stopped.

Darryl had been stuck at the cabin entrance for about five to six hours; he was exhausted, and his legs were numb.

Yvette and the Empress's clothes were also soaked, and they looked very miserable.

Thud!

As the dark clouds disappeared and the bright sunset glowed in the distance, Darryl relaxed his body and dropped onto the floor.

Finally, the storm was over!

Crack...

As soon as he sat down, he heard the hull crack. They had rented the boat from the fishing village, and it had pretty rough craftsmanship. It had started to fall apart after the rough waves battered it during the storm.

Darryl's weight had utterly torn the boat apart.

Whoa...

The hull immediately broke apart. Darryl and Yvette were too late to react; all of them fell into the water.

Darryl had grown up by the seaside, so he knew how to swim.

Yvette and the Empress, on the other hand, panicked.

The Empress, who could not swim, shouted in trepidation, "Yvette! Hurry! Save me!"

Yvette swam toward her mother and hugged her waist to help her stay afloat.

The Empress relaxed after she took a deep breath. Then, she got irritated when she saw the boat had been shattered into pieces of planks. She stared at Darryl fiercely and said, "This is all your fault! Would we be so miserable if you didn't have to go to Ice Fire Island? Do you know what you have done?"

They had been separated from Stella and the four Scope brothers, and their boat was a wreck. How could they get to Ice Fire Island?

The Empress was afraid that they might die in that vast sea.

That woman still had not realized that she could no longer be that aloof.

F*ck!

Darryl felt helpless with that accusation. He said dryly, "Well, I can't stop the rain, can I?"

How could she blame him for things that were beyond his control?

"Mother Empress!"

Yvette was also dumbfounded at her mother's behavior. She said, "How can you blame that on Darryl? Besides, I was the one who proposed we go to Ice Fire Island."

She winked at Darryl, a sign for him not to continue with the argument.

"Now that you have him, you only care about him." The Empress did not say anything else, but her gaze was locked onto Darryl.

"Darryl! Mother Empress!"

Suddenly, Yvette discovered something on the horizon; she exclaimed happily, "Look over there! It's a small island."

Darryl and the Empress followed her gaze hurriedly; sure enough, they saw an island a few kilometers away.

Great!

How fortunate of them!

Darryl felt overjoyed after a moment of shock; he turned to Yvette and shouted, "Quick! Let's swim to that small island!"

Darryl took the lead and started to swim toward that island.

Yvette responded happily; she dragged the Empress with her as they trailed behind Darryl.

After a while, Yvette started to feel a little exhausted, and her face was pale. Her limbs were sore and limp. She felt like the last drop of energy had been drained from her body.

She had supported the Empress in the cabin during the storm, so she was tired. Then, she even had to swim as she dragged the Empress with her. It had taken a toll on her strength.

"Yvette!"

The Empress realized that Yvette's speed had slowed, so she asked, "What's the matter? Are you okay?" She was concerned with her daughter.

After the death of the New World Emperor, Yvette was her closest family, so she did not want anything bad to happen to her.

"I'm fine, Mother Empress!" Yvette forced a weak smile on her face; she pretended that everything was well. However, her speed had gradually slowed, and cold sweat had beaded on her beautiful face. She also seemed as if she would pass out soon; she looked pitiful.

"Yvette!"

Darryl quickly swam toward her when he realized that something was not right. He said, "Let me take the Empress! Don't tire yourself out!"

Darryl was in distress as his heart ached for Yvette.

The woman had shown signs of exhaustion; it was apparent she could no longer swim with the Empress in tow.

Yvette nodded and was about to let go of the Empress so that Darryl could take her with him as he swam toward the island.

However, as soon as Darryl approached the Empress, she screamed and refused to be touched. "How dare you? You are not allowed to come near me!"

She was a dignified Empress; how could she let Darryl swim with her? Even if he was her son-in-law, it was still inappropriate.

Darryl's outstretched hand suddenly froze; he was very speechless.

He could not believe it. The Empress almost drowned, and yet she still had so many rules.

Darryl complained discreetly; he was deeply attracted by her body.

The Empress looked sexy and charming. After a soak in the sea, the wet clothing on her body had revealed her alluring curves. Darryl could not take her eyes away from her.

"Your Majesty!"

After he had stared at her for a few seconds, Darryl reacted with a smile. He said, "You will need to stop with these rules. The most important thing right now is to save your life. Can't you see that Yvette is exhausted? We're still a few kilometers away from the small island. If you continue to let her take you, she will definitely not last until we arrive there."

Darryl continued to turn around to check on Yvette. Her face had become even paler, so he was worried that she would pass out soon.

“Mother Empress.”

Yvette bit her lips and said weakly, “If you don’t want Darryl to take you, I can still... can hold on...” Her voice was soft; she was exhausted.

Yvette felt touched when Darryl offered to take the Empress with him.

However, there was nothing they could have done if the Empress disagreed with that.

“This—”

The Empress was in a dilemma; she could see that Yvette was exhausted. It did not look as if she could hold on for much longer.

However, she could not accept Darryl’s close distance from her if he were to take her with him as he swam toward the island.

Was there a way out of that problem?

The Empress glanced at Darryl arrogantly. “Release my acupoints; I can swim on my own.”

When the four Scope brothers rescued her from the palace, they had sealed her acupoints. They were from the Ice Fire Island, and they had a unique method to seal one’s acupoints. The Empress had tried different ways to unseal them but to no avail.

She thought that Darryl would know how to do it since he had a good relationship with Stella.

She was a Martial Emperor; she would be able to stay afloat even though she did not really know how to swim. However, she would need to unseal her acupoints first.

“Unseal your acupoint? I don’t know how to do it!” Darryl replied without any hesitation.

Darryl might have looked grave when he answered her, but he was amused. He did know how to unseal her acupoints—it was the Reverse Acupoint method. When Eric had caught him, he had also struggled when he tried to unseal his acupoints. He could only escape when Stella told him about the trick.

If it were someone else, perhaps Darryl would have helped them to release their acupoints.

However, he was annoyed with the Empress as she still maintained a proud stance, even when they were in such a difficult situation. Darryl had kept his thoughts to himself out of respect for Yvette, but he could not wait to teach her a lesson.

‘He doesn’t know how to do that?’

The Empress was anxious; her eyebrows were furrowed as she studied Darryl closely. “How could you not know how to do that? Isn’t Stella your woman?”

The Empress sounded vexed when she said the last sentence.

She had no idea why her daughter would fall for that man. He had so many women around him, yet she had chosen to be with him.

“Your Majesty!” Darryl looked bitter as he explained, “I told you that I just met Stella. We got married because her four senior brothers tricked me into it. I don’t know them well, so how would I know the way to relieve your acupoints?”

“Oh...”

The Empress bit her lips as she glared at Darryl. Then, she said, “Well, it looks like I have no choice but to let you take me then...”

What?

‘Did she say that she had no choice?’

Darryl felt helpless. He turned toward Yvette and said, “You should go first. I will follow behind you.”

Yvette nodded in agreement as she pushed the Empress toward Darryl. Then she continued to swim toward the island.

Finally, Yvette felt relaxed; she no longer looked pale.

Darryl did not say anything else. He told the Empress to put her arms around his neck and swim close to him.

Gasp!

Darryl sucked in a mouthful of air!

The Empress had a perfect figure. Her body stiffened. Darryl felt as if his heart would jump out of his rib cage due to his anxiety and embarrassment.

It was only a day ago that she had resisted Darryl; she had not wanted to have anything to do with him. She had hated him because of the Emperor’s death.

The Empress had not only given him her blessing, but she had also allowed Darryl to support her as they swam toward the island. The two of them clung to each other during the swim.

What a shame!

The Empress was finally calm. Then, she continued to act cold and aloof toward Darryl. She was also quick with her commands.

“Darryl! Can you not move your hands?”

“Your Majesty, I need to move my hands to swim and paddle; how can I not move them? Would you stop moving around?”

“You! After we get to the island, you’ll have to forget about this, do you hear me?”

“Why should I forget about anything? I didn’t do anything to you!”

“If I tell you to forget about it, then that’s what you need to do!”

“Very well...”

As they bickered, Darryl took the Empress with him as they swam behind Yvette; they had gotten closer to the island.

However, it did seem like it had taken a long time.

Soon, the three of them finally arrived at the shore of that small island. Darryl quickly put the Empress down on the beach.

As she stepped on the sandy ground, she breathed a sigh of relief. Her acupoint had been sealed, and she had traveled through a long journey; she had lost her strength.

Darryl and Yvette also sat on the beach as they tried to recover their strength.

After a short rest, Darryl took a deep breath before he stood up and began to explore the island.

He had thought that it was a small island; it had looked tiny from a distance. However, it was actually a huge island. Darryl felt like it had the size of two Donghai Cities. The island was lush and green, with a mountain that looked like a thousand meters tall. However, the environment seemed complicated.

“This island is so big!”

Yvette had recovered her strength. As she looked around her surroundings, she exclaimed, “There are mountains here. I’m not sure if anyone lives there; it doesn’t look like this is Ice Fire Island.”

Yvette looked relieved as she spoke.

If she could survive a catastrophe, she knew that it would be a blessing in disguise. Yvette, her mother and Darryl were finally out of danger.

More importantly, as long as she could be with Darryl, she was willing to face any hardship.

Darryl smiled faintly. “I’ll go and find out more about this place. You and the Empress should wait for me here.”

Then, he walked into the jungle ahead of them.

“Okay, you go ahead!”

As she stood by the Empress’ side, she yelled, “Be careful. Come back quickly if you sense any danger!” She was concerned and worried about him. Darryl had been severely injured, so he might not be able to cope with any kind of danger.

The Empress kept a straight face.

She was not worried about Darryl. On the contrary, she thought that it would be better if something were to happen to Darryl. Perhaps her daughter would give up on him then.

The Empress had a grudge against Darryl after the Emperor’s death.

Meanwhile, on Darryl’s side...

After he ventured into the jungle, Darryl noticed the area’s primitiveness. The small island was uninhabited; it was a deserted island.

Then, Darryl found a cave when he reached the mountain.

1558 It was not a big cave, but it was dry. It was an excellent place for them to rest.

Darryl was pleased. 'This cave is not bad; I shall bring Yvette and the Empress here later.'

Their boat was gone, so he could only find a place for them to rest as they thought about their next step!

Darryl went into the cave to look around as he muttered to himself about the next plan. He was very satisfied with it.

Roar!

Suddenly, he heard an enchanted beast's roar from deep within the jungle. It was low, but it had terrifying shots of power.

Damn it!

'There is an enchanted beast here?'

Darryl was shocked to hear the beast's loud roar. He was surprised, but he was not nervous at all.

Even though Darryl did not know anything about the enchanted beast, he could feel its strength. He knew that the beast would be a Martial Sage, perhaps at level five.

He was not worried about a level five Martial Sage's spirit! Darryl still had injuries all over his body, so he could do a little exercise to heal them.

As he thought about that, Darryl walked out of the cave and went back the same way. Yvette greeted him as soon as he reached the beach.

"Did you find anything, Darryl?" Yvette asked joyfully; she did not even wait for him to get closer to her.

The Empress felt cold.

She was also embarrassed; she was a dignified Empress, yet she had to live on a deserted island.

"Yvette!"

Darryl smiled and took Yvette's hand. "There is a cave near the mountain. It's a great place for us to rest, but—"

"There is a cave for us to rest?" Before he could finish with his sentence, the Empress interrupted him impatiently, "Why don't you take us there now?"

That was her usual demanding tone, and she sounded firm too.

"Very well, I'll take you there!" Darryl smiled bitterly as he led the way.

Darryl wanted to tell them that there were enchanted beasts on that island. He wanted Yvette to be more careful, but the Empress had decided to interrupt him.

Darryl did not care either way.

Anyway, it did not seem like the enchanted beast had too much strength—it was merely a Martial Saint. It was also a big island, so they would probably not see any enchanted beasts any time soon.

Soon, they arrived at the cave.

"Wow, this cave looks great!" Yvette felt relieved; she cheered when she realized they could rest in a dry and comfortable cave.

Even though she was a princess, Yvette did not mind the cave or any other hardships.

As long as she could be with Darryl, any place would seem like a paradise to her. Darryl smiled when he saw the joy on Yvette's face.

The Empress walked into the cave without any hesitation and sat down to take a rest. Then she turned toward Darryl and said, "I'm hungry now. Get me some food. Make sure that they are clean."

She was hungry and tired after their long journey.

F*ck!

Darryl was speechless when he saw the Empress' proud look. It seemed like she had forgotten about her embarrassment when they had fallen into the water.

Then, he looked at Yvette, who was next to him. He said, "Sure, I'll go to the beach to catch some fishes."

"I'll come with you!"

Yvette walked toward Darryl, took his hands and smiled. "Let's catch some fish together!"

Yvette was intelligent and alert. She knew that Darryl was upset, so she wanted to keep him company.

Darryl nodded, and then the two of them set off together.

"Yvette!"

The Empress frowned as she called out to her daughter. Yvette had not even had the chance to leave with Darryl. "I'll be alone if you go with him. Who will be here to take care of me? You should stay here with me!"

The Empress glared at Darryl contemptuously when she said that.

'Just because you're a Prince Consort now, you think that you have my blessing? You're a b*stard who doesn't deserve my daughter!'

"Mother Empress!"

Yvette stomped her feet angrily as she protested anxiously. "There is no one on this island, so there is no danger."

The Empress did not say anything, but she did not look like she would compromise.

Ugh!

Darryl smiled bitterly. "Yvette, why don't you stay with the Empress? I can catch the fish on my own!"

Darryl winked at Yvette to tell her not to be worried. Then, he walked out of the cave.

When he arrived at the beach, Darryl used the Heavenly Halberd to catch a few fish; he used the weapon to stab them.

As he returned to the cave, he saw that Yvette had thoughtfully set up the fire. When he reached them, she even offered help to cook the fish.

Yvette was a princess, and she had never cooked anything before that, but she did well. She had assisted Darryl with the cooking.

Darryl always brought a lot of seasonings with him when he travelled. However, he only started doing that after he had Jewel as his maid.

Darryl and Yvette chatted and laughed as they cooked; they were like a sweet old couple.

The atmosphere was so relaxed and pleasant, but the Empress was not happy after she saw them together.

She was very dissatisfied with Darryl. She could not bear it when she saw her daughter so intimate with that man. The more she looked at them, the more upset she felt.

"Your Majesty!"

Finally, after they had cooked the fish, Darryl pierced it with a branch and handed it to the Empress. He smiled and said, "Do tell me what you think of my cooking."

While Yvette had prepared the fish, it was Darryl who had cooked them.

The Empress did not immediately take the offering. She stared at the grilled fish skewer in disgust. "It is so unhygienic to skewer them with branches. Do you want to make me sick?"

F*ck!

Darryl felt dispirited.

Yvette was also dumbfounded. She took a hairpin from her head and sterilized it with the fire. Then, she put a fish through it and handed it to her mother. She smiled and said, "Here, Mother Empress, this should be alright."

'I can't believe that she is sticking to the rules at this time.'

The Empress did not say anything else. She took the grilled fish and began to eat in small bites.

It seemed like the Empress was Yvette's mother, indeed. Even though they were at a campfire, she still observed her etiquette as she ate the fish. She had managed to maintain her decent and graceful posture.

Darryl sighed discreetly when he saw that. Then, he smiled and started to enjoy the meal with Yvette.

Yvette took a bite. Then, her eyes morphed into a crescent moon's shape as she beamed and applauded. "It smells so good! It's so delicious!"

Darryl laughed. He was in a great mood when he heard Yvette's praise for him.

Jewel was the one who had taught him to cook.

When he thought of the young lady, he was reminded of Zoran, Dax and the others. He felt so uncomfortable.

'I managed to escape, but I still don't know what had happened to them.'

"Mother Empress!"

Yvette smiled at the Empress. "Mother Empress, how is Darryl's cooking?"

She looked expectantly at her mother and hoped to fish a compliment.

Her man had made the grilled fish, so she had hoped that her mother would approve his cooking.

1560 “Mediocre. I wouldn’t eat it if we have the imperial kitchen here,” the Empress responded faintly with a straight face. “Such rustic cooking with ingredients from the mountain and the ocean—it is not good for presentation, but perhaps only suitable to fill one’s stomach.”

She knew that Yvette wanted to fish compliments for Darryl.

However, the harder Yvette tried, the more the Empress had resisted Darryl, especially when she thought about the Emperor’s death.

Ugh!

Yvette felt dejected when she heard that. However, she also winked at Darryl to tell him that he should not take her mother’s words to heart.

Darryl did not mind it. He merely smiled and continued his meal with Yvette.

After that, Yvette said softly, “We have been traveling all day, Darryl. Let’s rest early.”

“Very well.”

Then, Darryl went out to find some hay, and Yvette laid them into three small beds.

Darryl took the time to restore his internal energy. After that, Darryl was about to lie down on the hay to sleep.

“Hey, who told you that you could sleep here?”

The Empress’s cold voice echoed throughout the cave. “Why are you sleeping here? Where do I sleep then? You really don’t know the rules at all!”

The Empress glared at Darryl unhappily.

“Mother Empress!”

Yvette stomped her feet anxiously. “There is only one cave here. If he doesn’t sleep here, where else would he go? Besides, he is still injured. Please let him sleep here, Mother Empress. Don’t worry; he will not disturb you.”

“No!”

The Empress shook her head; she insisted firmly. “How can a man sleep in the same place as the Empress? Also, even if you do love each other, you are not married yet. So, don’t cross that line. The two of us can sleep here, Yvette, and he can look for another place to sleep. If you don’t agree, then don’t call me Mother Empress in the future.”

Darryl was shocked to hear that; he was furious.

‘So what if you’re a dignified Empress? You’re fleeing for your life, and haven’t I been taking care of your food and shelter?’

‘Now that we have had food and drink and also a place to stay, you want me to go? What kind of logic is this?’

‘Do you really think that you are still in the magnificent palace?’

The more Darryl thought about it, the more upset he felt. He was tired of the Empress’ behavior, but he would have to rein in his anger for Yvette’s sake.

“Mother Empress!”

Yvette almost cried, but when she realized that she would not be able to negotiate with her mother, she turned to look at Darryl helplessly. Then, she said bitterly, “Would you mind finding another place to sleep, Darryl?”

Yvette’s heart almost broke when she said that.

She had wanted to sleep with Darryl.

However, it did not seem like they could make that work; the Empress had forbidden that.

“That’s alright!”

Darryl nodded and looked at Yvette with a smile. “I have thick skin; I don’t mind sleeping outside. You can rest in here with the Empress!”

Buzz...

Just as he talked, Darryl sensed a wave of spiritual power from the jungle.

The spiritual power came in gentle waves. Even though Darryl’s internal energy had not recovered entirely, he was a level five Martial Emperor. He was almost at the Heaven Ascension level, so he could feel the power immediately.

On the other hand, Yvette and the Empress did not notice it at all.

‘What kind of a beast is this? It’s active at night,’ Darryl thought to himself.

Then, he smiled at the Empress and said, “Your Majesty, if that is the case, then I will leave. I hope that you won’t regret this decision!”

There was a bonfire at the cave entrance; perhaps that was what had drawn the enchanted beast near.

The Empress’s beautiful face reddened when she sensed Darryl’s sharp gaze on her. She yelled, “You’re getting more and more unruly. Why would I regret sending you outside?”

She did not get the meaning behind Darryl’s words. He meant to tell her that there might be an enchanted beast out there, and it might trespass into the cave.