

Be Honest! 601

Chapter 601 Trouble From The Shadows

Time dwindled by in a blink of an eye, with turbulence suddenly erupting within a specific country that made all eyes around the world turn.

Eh? What's going on?

How come there's so much trouble in Vardos all of a sudden? In just a month, the entire Vardos seemed to covered in a gloomy haze, as though it was already a no-man's land.

What could have happened? What could have happened to cause such a change in just under a month? Investing as they did, everything seemed to fall at a dead end, as though an invisible string was pulling on the matter from the shadows.

Several heads turned their attention to Vardos, fearing that whatever it was would one day spread its wings to their own countries and territories. And now, seated before the Television within an elegant audience room, several people stood in silence, as they kept switching channels after listening to a little of what various news reporters said. ...

"Good evening, Vardos! This is L. L Alyson with a breaking report on the VCC evening news. War has erupted in Vardos, and while the politicians are busy pointing fingers, we're here to bring you the facts. Stay tuned as we cut through the propaganda and get to the heart of the matter!"

Next channel.

"Folks, it's chaos out there, and let me tell you who's responsible—those bureaucrats who couldn't negotiate their way out of a paper bag! Instead of talking peace, they're rattling sabers. What do they expect? A round of applause? This is Charles Humburg, and I'm holding them accountable!"

Next—

"We have our correspondent live from the front lines. It's a war zone, people, and while the bigwigs sit in their ivory towers, it's the everyday heroes—our soldiers—who are paying the price. Remember their faces, because they're the real story here."

"War isn't just fought with guns and tanks, folks. It's about dollars and cents. The stock market is plummeting, and who suffers? The average Joe! Meanwhile, the fat cats are getting fatter. This is Fang Chong, and I'm calling it like it is!"

"Let's not forget the human cost of this conflict. Families are being torn apart, lives shattered. Where's the outrage? Where's the humanity? This isn't just news; it's a tragedy unfolding before our eyes. This is Gregory Winston, and it's a damn shame I'm sharing citizenship with those monkeys who call themselves bureaucrats!!"

"Some networks are treating this like a blockbuster movie, complete with dramatic music and flashy graphics. But here at TheDailyBugle.net, we're committed to the truth. No spin, no fluff—just hard-hitting journalism. That's my promise to you."

"Enough is enough! It's time for cooler heads to prevail. I'm calling on world leaders to put aside their egos and come to the table. War is not the answer, and it's high time someone said it. Consider it said!"

"Can you believe it? That bastard gets to be president. Why did I even vote for him in the first place? Screw his balls! So what if you're interviewing me now, news lady? I call it as it is. I put it out there that if I ever see that bastard eyeball to eyeball, I'll definitely kill him myself! Since he became president, gas prices have grown higher, and the cost of hooking up with a beauty has also skyrocketed. I don't know how, But I'm sure it's his fault!"

"Everyone, let's destroy the hospitals! Yes, yes! The hospital's move under the guise of giving us treatment to inject microchips into every new born baby. It's true! Even in the 1920s, I'm sure they were also injecting microchips into us! Destroy! Destroy the hospitals!"

"Everyone, what's at stake here isn't just territory or resources—it's our future. The next generation deserves better than a world ravaged by war. It's time to think long-term and make decisions that will lead to lasting peace."

"This is J. Jonah Jameson signing off, but remember, the story doesn't end here. We'll continue to bring you the latest updates, and we won't rest until the truth is known. Stay vigilant, stay informed, and stay safe." ...

These scenes captured by various stations made many around the world flabbergasted.

Was it just them, or did the IQ of Vardos plummet the more the war progressed?

It was almost as though all pent up frustrations of many were unleashed, as they no longer felt that the consequences for their actions were that heavy.

How to say it? It was as though they snapped.

Several gangs formed overnight, and in several factories, workers started holding their bosses hostages, demanding ransom money before release. A man who discovered that his wife was cheating on him, now tied her up and broadcasted his killings without repercussion. He even decided to kill his own step daughter whom he felt had long been a burden to him too.

Several people frowned deeply, especially those from Vardos gathered within the space. They were now in the audience hall within the Tian estate. And seeing their beloved Vardos turn to this, only made their blood boil with fury and panic for the future.

"Grandmaster, there's definitely nothing natural about this matter."

"Hmmm..." Dorian hummed with a lazy nod. They changed the channel severally, until they saw a feed of several people walking alongside a very powerful man. Something about them caught his eye... To be specific, his 3rd eye.

"Stop..."

No more channel switching.

Everyone suddenly opened their 3rd eye, wanting to see what was so impressive about the feed the Grandmaster also wished to look at. Eh?

Creatures in disguise?

They saw that all men in black were secretly monsters.

However, the 2 main people these men in black were guarding, were a little too hard for them to see at their current level.

"Vice President Doyle?"

Whether it was Wiggins, Julius his son, and other Vardos academy elders, they quickly rose to their seats in shock and disbelief.

F*** ME SIDEWAYS!

Do you know how many times they have shook the hand of the man in question?

Do you know how many times some of them have looked at this man in question with pure admiration?

Several Vardos academy elders had gloomy faces when staring at the screen. But who?

Who was that stunning lady beside him? The news reported that she was his niece, but was she really? They felt it was unlikely. However, hearing the grandmaster's light chuckle, they knew he must've definitely had a clue of who she really was. "The 2nd Horseman..."

The Horseman of War!

WHAT? So soon?

Several body felt panic growl in their hearts, a reminder that the end was truly near.

Dorian slowly rose from his seat in interest. It seemed the time had come once more, to nip another horseman trouble in the butt. And fast.

But first,—

"Find out what grave she crawled out from."

He could see the exploding aura of rotting soil seeping from her body.

Chapter 602 Clueless

"What's going on Baofeng? Do you think these people are all crazy?" ...

Within the police station, several officers couldn't help asking themselves this question when going over the numerous reports they've gotten about a castle-like building seated in a jagged hill. The castle is now resident to the D'jaggers, a wealthy family from overseas that perched in the east for hundreds and thousands of years. One of the officers ran his hands on his hair helplessly when thinking of all the paperwork before him. "Hey... something's definitely not right about this place, but after doing over 11 searches, we still can't find a single thing to pin these foreigners down!"

In a flash, their lead inspector entered the room, already at his wits end when lashing out at them. "Dead end this, and dead end that! What the hell are you doing with taxpayers money if you can't freaking find a single clue?" Dammit! He slammed his hand on the table, yelling so loud sprays of saliva now engulfed the person closest to him. "We are the city's finest! The good guys! The ones to save the day for the civilians who make reports!" "Now, I don't need to tell you that there have been over 79 cases of missing persons, all reported to have association with that castle. In other words, they've been seen going on or leaving the castle at some point. In other times, they've run around the castle and even been noted to have broken into the castle occasionally. But... till now, we can't find a body or any evidence!" Adrenaline pumped into the bloodstream of many when listening to their Captain.

Some lowered their gazes, feeling worthless, while others clenched their fists, swearing to take down those D'jaggers... especially the one who calls himself Earl Winston D'jagger. That rat bastard was too sneaky and sly whenever they questioned him. It was almost as though he was saying: Yes, I did it, but do you have any proof? No? Then bite me!

Son of b**ch! Everyone knew he and his bastard family did it. But in a society ruled by rules and the need for evidence, taking down such a powerful family with just witnesses eye sayers from others was a mere dream. They needed stone cold facts, one that was irrefutable in court. But what to do? They've swept that castle publicly and secretly before, but found nothing!

"Alright everyone, the bureau has had enough of waiting, since many of our operations have cost millions." Do you think it's easy to surveillance and sweep that enormous castle grounds without high-end technologies and personnel? And after all that, you then report that you don't even have a single clue? No evidence or true starting point to lead your investigations by and you expect them to keep finding your attempts? Heh. The police Captain was also helpless. But what can he do? "Alright, alright... enough sulking. You all knew this day would come, didn't you?... That being said, although we're no longer leading the case, we can still be a part of it. But we will have to work

with our new partners from the SN department!" Instantly, several people looked left and right, wondering what it was like to be working with this mysterious department. It's been close to a year since this department was formed, and their seats for how many crimes they solved and all other matters concerning them are all archived. In fact, even the cases they've partnered up with people to solve, the public and even several other police officers, don't know the SN department was involved in the case. Likewise, their Captain told them just now that no one is to ever know that they're going to be partnering up with the SN department. So even if the case gets solved in the end, the public and other police officers would only think it was them who did it after catching a lucky break. In short, when you think of it, it all seemed incredulous, to have people constantly working in the shadows. Everyone thinned their lips, wondering more and more about the people from the mysterious SN department they would be partnering up with. As far as they know, they've never seen a single person from the SN department before. At this rate, do these people even clock in for work? Or were they like undercover cops who are never required to come into the station for fear of blowing their cover? .

"Well, what are you looking at me for, you daisies? Get a move on it now!" Right! It was 9 PM now. That's right, the meeting was purposefully held at night. Several people followed their Captain and entered a police van that led them straight to the castle. Well, they dropped off a distance away from the castle, within the small, park-size surrounding woods. Apparently, they were to meet with these people here. It was always odd that no matter the time of day, this place seemed to be covered with mist. No matter how many times they've been here, this place truly gave them the spooks!

Ahhh!

The bushes in the distance began to shake, causing many to hold their chests with worry. Who goes there? Rustle, rustle, rustle~

Everyone stared attentively, with one hand already on their daggers. It was incredible that their funds were confiscated before they left the station. It was a boy... a stunning and happy-looking boy in a sleek navy black school-like attire. And the moment he appeared, several others appeared from the shadows, catching them all off guard. "Who are--"

"Seniors!" The police Captain quickly saluted, before the other officers could complete their sentences. The other officers were stunned, looking at the male and female models before them in confusion. These pretty boys and pretty girls were the people from the SN department?

Wrong script! They felt they were now holding the wrong script. Or else where did the burly and string assassins in their imaginations go?

Chapter 603 The D'jaggarians

Who-who-

Ribbit, ribbit~

Croak, croak~

All sorts of nightly music played out, only making the atmosphere grow worse. It was too heavy. The fog lay thick and heavy over the D'jaggarian landscape, a spectral shroud that clung to the ancient stones of Bran Castle.

Yes, the D'Jaggers called their castle, the House of D'jaggarian. Well, there it was. According to eyewitnesses, the D'Jaggers were all out on a long vacation. They even have images from the airport of them boarding flights and leaving the country to visit their home country, Eldaro. They sealed their doors, not even wanting maids to clean up during their absence. The staff were given vacation time with pay, except for the gardeners who were to come every 2 or 3 days during the daytime, to take care of the gardens. However, they must leave at exactly 5 on the dot, as they were informed that anyone who works there after 5 will get reported for trespassing. From 9~5. Those were the only times they were allowed to work during their absence. ...

~Din-Din-Din-Din...

One step forward, another step forward. As everyone approached, the mist seemed to pulse with a life of its own, swirling around their feet and obscuring the path ahead. It was as if the fog itself was a guardian of the secrets hidden within the castle's walls.

Several police officers knew it was silly, but intuition told them there was something about this place more than meets the eyes. They couldn't explain accurately why butterflies would flutter in their bellies whenever they got closer to the dark, crooked and creepy-looking castle. It seems that even the bare trees blowing in the wind had stories to tell with their movements. Haru, Ghu Dwo, Butler Windsock, Chiyou, Khalea, Bho Jin, and 4 others came here today to assist. Haru, who used to be one of Dorian's bodyguards, was now Elder Haru to everyone. With his Gambit cards and his magic trick illusions, he quickly became an elder many wished to get accepted by. Butler Windock used to be the Ghu Family's main butler. Well, he still is, although there's a butler now in the Ghu main estate to take over his duty. Butler Windock was beside Ghu Dwo always, as a loyal follower. It has always been so. And even now when they were both exorcists, Butler Windock was still loyal to Ghu Dwo to a fault. Little Chiyou Obyn has grown up quite a lot ever since the Grandmaster rescued her and her family of 4. Ironically, her entire family had long been taken into the sect by the Grandmaster. Her parents were the first batch of sect elders. And just this year, her little brother Chindu, also joined the academy. The little girl Chiyou, has matured since then, no longer afraid as

she used to, and was even revered as a goddess by several in the academy. Her heaven defying luck, as well as Her aptitude was nothing to underestimate. Bho Jin, the next patriarch to the Bho clan, was also here. A little showoff, with a good heart. He was edgy, hot-blooded and hot-headed like his grandfather, old Bho. He responded more to talking with one's fist than arguing with your mouth. And then there was Khalea, who had harnessed the power of her shadow affinity after almost a year of training within the academy. Don't forget that within the academy, the land there was what many in the other world's would describe as a holy land. The aura made them able to cultivate 10... 50... no! 100 times faster than they usually should. It was like a dream to jump up the power ranks so fast in just a few days, weeks and months. Well, well, well... the other 4 who tagged along with them were also no pushovers, even though they were just accepted into the academy 3 weeks ago prior to the last academy test. .

Again, it was important to know that after Khalea's second batch, 3 more batches of exorcists were added, based on the normal semester term period. Summer semester, fall, winter, you name it... every season, they take in disciples. And these 4 were like rising stars among the bunch. So of course, they must start taking missions with their seniors and elders to start gaining exorcism points and strengthening their bond with the heavens. Having climbed the lone desolate hill, everyone paused at the castle's entrance, their breaths visible in the chill air. "Do you feel it?" Haru asked, his face facing forward but his side eyes glancing at the 3 week old newbies around him. They nodded vigorously. "Elder Haru, this fog... it feels different." "Yeah..." added a cute 10 year old girl. "It's not your everyday fog." Although she has only been training for 3 weeks now, she has seen demonic fog before with purple qi laced in it. But then one was different. This one felt much more stronger, and had not just purple, but specs of red qi floating within it too. The fog was not merely a natural phenomenon; it was imbued with a malevolent energy, a sign of the evil that lurked within.

It felt far stronger than the rest, and quite disturbing too. Something was definitely off about it. The fog wrapped around her legs as she moved, resisting her every step as if it were a living entity.

This was why ordinary police officers felt like they had ran a marathon while ascending the hill. Haru nodded with an overly playful grin on his lips . "Good observation. It's like it's trying to keep us out." But how can a mere fog keep them away? Unfortunately, the event didn't expect there to be exorcists in this world. .

"Jin, Khalea..." Bho Jin and Khalea nodded, stepping, leaving the police officers confused. What's happening? Did these people just say The fog was purple with a few specs of red floating in it? Hey... how come to them the fog was only white? Could it be that they were colorblind all of a sudden and couldn't see anything else but white at night? Or could the color matter in the fog be a riddle for these SN department folks?

Chapter 604 What Are They?

If anyone has ever watched any Addams family movie on other worlds, they would somehow think the mansion and its surroundings were like a true Addams family castle. The gates were spiky and

pitch black. The fog muffled their footsteps, creating an eerie silence that amplified the sound of their breathing and the distant howl of the wind. It wasn't raining, however, Lightning occasionally split the sky, illuminating the castle's towering spires and casting fleeting shadows across the courtyard just over the gates. Honestly, the scene right now was just like a blockbuster one. As Bho Jin and Khalea advanced towards the gates, Haru slowly turned to face the officers, with a playful joker-like smile on his face. "Now, now, officers, tonight, you'll find the real reason why you could never find anything on these guys." "And in the meantime, try not to keep your screaming down to a minimum, will you?" "_ "

Screaming?

Who the hell will be screaming—

Ahhh! Several people placed their hands on their mouths when seeing a black image suddenly arose from Khalea's shadow. F***! What did they just see? Blink, blink~

Several people fluttered their eyelashes excessively, wiping their eyes and jumping on each other like scaredy cats. As for Bho Jin who stepped forward, why... why... Why were they now seeing 2 Bho Jin's? The real Bho Jin and the real Khalea stayed back, while Bho Jin's clone and Khalea's dark shadowy figure now rushed, both gathering immense qi towards the gates. Boom! A loud crackling noise bellowed out, followed by an explosive force that sent several officers falling to their butts. Wow! What was that just now? It felt even stronger than a nuclear bomb's power, yet, they didn't feel the burn of a nuclear burn, nor did they feel pain. Incredible... Soon, the dust settled, and they saw that the gate was still more or less intact. Khalea and Bho Jin squinted their eyes dangerously. "As we expected. The fog is protecting the gates." "Yes... just a second before impact, the fog formed a counterattack shield to protect the gate." The officers thought they gave it their all, not knowing that Khalea and Bho Jin were only testing the dog's abilities, wanting to know what the bed specs in the fog could do. It seemed this fog had a conscience of its own. But enough play. In a blink of an eye, the shadows and clones moved like lightning, inflicting a single silent move that sliced the gates into a thousand pieces. And do you know the most incredible thing of all? There was no sound, no warning. All everyone heard were the clusters and junks of gate pieces falling to the ground in a blink of an eye. 'O' [Officers]

Who am I? What am I? Where am I? Was this still the world they knew, or did the world suddenly upgrade when they were at work during the day? .

"Oh yes..." Haru's voice bellowed, waking many of them up. "Before I forget, here's a coin for each of you... keep them on you at all times." Flip~

The coins whispered in the air, as they spun towards each officer. Well, the gates were now open... Time to move in. As they entered the grand hall, the fog seemed to thicken even more, swirling around them in a disorienting dance. Several officers felt an unnatural chill run down his spine, the oppressive atmosphere weighing heavily on his senses.

What exactly were they up against now? Everything they've seen so far, now led them to believe that whatever they were going to face there was definitely out of the ordinary. "Stay close." Haru cautioned, now leading them in with his hands coolly in his pockets. Soon, they reached the giant front door of the mansion. It suddenly opened, as though sensing their presence. And without wasting time, the police officers took out their daggers, pointing and hunching their bodies vigilantly. Well, this has never happened before. Do you know how many times they've tried to secretly sneak into the mansion, only for the door to never budge? So now that it was opening all on its own, how could they not be suspicious? The D'jaggers are definitely out of the country. So who opened the door just now?

Stepping into the massive medieval styled room, they were immediately greeted with historical artifacts and wealth all around them that could make ancient kings envious. Reieek~

Ahhh! Several people ducked and even dropped to the ground in a hurry. What was that? Looking up, they spotted over 20 Bats flying around the grand entrance room. Bats? Indoors?

They've never heard of the D'Jaggers family having bats as pets. Before everyone could react, the door suddenly shut close, and the large glass floor to ceiling windows now had thick metal shields closing in from all sides. ~Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam! Trapped. Trapped like cornered rabbits in a hole of their making. But while the officers were now shaking to their boots, the academy elders and disciples were calm and poised, only staring at the flying bats now hovering around in the dark. Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Several ancient candles lit up along the majestic walls. And right there and then, everyone saw the bats fly towards the ground before them before changing and morphing into figures the police officers truly recognized. Members of the D'jagger family! Well, the Earl and the D'Jagger mainline weren't here, but they recognize the 16 who morphed from bats. They were more or so direct servants who were so loyal to the Earl's family that you would think the Earl was their God of Science. They keep saying the Earl this, the Earl that... but the Earl was actually a 15-year old looking kid who controls the entire D'jagger family. And despite being a 15 year old, he gave every police officer the creeps. They definitely classified him as a psychopath. They've never been able to pin him to any crime. And even when getting Intel about him being at a place and trying to catch him in the act, he always vanished into thin air. And now, they know why... because he isn't human. Haru stepped forward, staring at the aristocratic creatures in human flesh before him. "My, my, my... So it's Vampires, aiy?"

Chapter 605 Vampires!

It was incredible that all the servants who appeared here in full black maid attire. 14 out of the 16 were stunning women with full chests and slender curvaceous bodies. The other 2 looked like they

were 9-year-olds. However, it was hard to know their gender. They could be girls or boys. However, they had cute but sadistic innocent smiles when staring at the bunch of visitors who dared trespass in their house of D'jaggarian. What was incredulous, as that the other 14 out of the 16 were treating these 2 like their leaders. "Heh, heh, heh... How rude of you all to—" Bam! Bho Jin didn't even wait for them to talk, already throwing a chair their way without haste. Whoosh! The 2 children jumped up, twisting in perfect somersaults, only to land on the same spot. "Enough yapping!" Bho Jin yelled, with his pinky finger in his right ear. "I get plenty of tapping from my old gramps as it is. I may be forced to listen to his rants, but don't think I'll be doing the same for you!" Haru chuckled, and so did several other disciples. It's funny how they could see Old Bho's image from the young Bho Jin. Can they say these 2 were an overly hot-headed pair of grandparent and child? Recalling the number of times they've seen Old Bho drag Bho Jin by the ear made them place their hands over their mouths to stiffen a laugh. That being said, while they found it amusing, the enemy was nowhere near laughing. At this moment, veins had appeared on the 2 children, covering their foreheads and cheeks. Their eyes also enlarged and widened on the sides, and their pupils looked more slender, just like reptilian eyes. They looked truly irked and disgusted to be cut in by Bho Jin. Their fangs that used to be hidden, now popped up with their rage.

"You're all going to regret this!"

Bho Jin rolled his eyes heavenwards. "Enough talk already. Let's dance!" Die for me!"

Both sides leaped into the air, everyone finding their chosen targets in their hearts. Haru stayed behind, standing guard before the officers, with his hands still in his pocket. 1 vampire thought he was weak and unarmed, rushing towards him with an overly elongated mouth and eyes as red as cherries. But before she could sync her sharp teeth into Haru's neck, her pupils suddenly dilated in shock. No! No! How can this be? She stared at Haru who was still maintaining a warm smile, with a fearful face. It burns! It burns! A single card was plunged straight for her heart, burning her insides to dust. And the fire from the card was like none other. Heavenly flames! But how can this be? How can any human in this world harness the powers from the heavens? Haru chuckled, slowly taking a seat and watching the show while protecting the officers. It's just that while Gary was in relaxation mode, everyone else was more or less equally matched with their opponents. Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam! Bho Jin felt sweat trickling down his spine while going up against one for these vampire children. Dammit! He thought he would end things fast, but the bastard he was fighting against was no ordinary one. The pain from its attack made Bho Jin hiss, but don't think he would be giving up so easily. The enemy stood alone, his cute face brimming with a taunting confident smile. "You really think you can take me on?" Hmph! Bho Jin jumped amid his pain. "Don't underestimate us, Vampire. We're more than enough to take you all down!"

With calculation in his eyes, Bho Jin hurriedly evaded an attack, jumping in a forward flip, before releasing his death Scythe mid air and slashing the vampire's back without mercy. Ahhhhh!!! "You damn human! You are nothing but food and drink, so how dare you touch me?" Bho Jin felt he was tired of hearing so many creatures say the same thing. Food this, food that. Look... Fish were also

food to humans. But even a human could die at the hands of a fish if dragged into water. So what's the big deal about being food? ~Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

The battle was fierce. The 4 newbies also coordinated their attacks, attempting to overwhelm a single vampire. Bang! They were thrown back severally, but continued to rise up and head into the battle once more. Sure enough, battling a real enemy was different from the comrades they faced within the academy. Here, the enemy was ruthless, and truly wished to kill them all. They fought tooth and bone, and were now covered in blood all over, but no one dared to assist them. Haru only watched in silence, nodding from time to time when seeing their growth with each hit they took. As for Khalea, her battles were similar to Bho Jins. But for Ghu Dwo, Chiyou and Butler Windock who were within the first batch of academy disciples, theirs were far smoother and less troublesome. Ghu Dwo swung his Kitana with practiced precision, the weapon smashing through the enemy's weak points like tofu. Ahhh! His victim cried when seeing her fangs fall to the ground her fangs... her beautiful fangs! Do you know how long it would take to grow her fangs once more? How to seep in the blood of her victims now? Drinking blood would only take the blood to her belly. The fangs take the blood to a specific part of her body that's vital to gaining strength and power. It also assists in taking the life images and memories of their victims. So one can start understanding just how important fangs are to their kind. "Terrible..." One of the officers blurted out, shocked by the blockbuster fight scenes scarred all around him. Some were moving at lightning speed, only leaving after images. Others were so powerful that it caused the floors to tremble and crack mid fight. At this point, everyone had come to realize that they weren't dealing with the ordinary here. SN department... supernatural department... Now it made sense. If someone had told them that the ear's family were a bunch of bag monsters, none of them should have believed it

But now, with the truth staring them in the face, what else could they say?