FINDING OUT THE BILLIONAIRE

Chapter 1091

"We have mass graves everywhere. I'm sure it's no big deal. Unless there's something that you haven't told me about." Alex was starting to get curious.

Because of the wars in the past, mass graves could be found anywhere, even in the cities. It was common to see schools being built on top of those large empty grounds.

Alex thought it was quite normal that there was a mass grave on a hill and that it was unnecessary for the woman to shout at the child like that. However, after seeing how grim her face was, Alex knew there was more to the story.

"That grave is different. I heard that tens of thousands

of people were buried there and that they were buried alive. That place is so evil that even passersby get haunted sometimes," explained the middle-aged woman in a careful whisper.

Alex immediately felt a chill run down his spine when he heard so many people getting buried alive. He could only imagine how horrified those people were when it happened.

Then, Amos wiped away his tears and explained himself. "Granny, it was Silly, Draco, and Fatso who asked me to go there. They said they had never seen a ghost before and so wanted to check the place out. We immediately got goosebumps when we got there, but Draco said we were just being sissies. I didn't hang out there; I just went there to take a look. That's all! But on my way back, I tripped over something, and that's when I noticed the purple patch on my leg after I got home." The middle-aged woman had already calmed down then, but when she heard Amos, her veins immediately popped out again as she yelled at her grandson, "I knew there had to be a reason Draco suddenly died in his sleep! The boy was perfectly healthy! It was because you kids went to that godforsaken place. You must've lost your mind! You would have been dead, too, had you stepped into that place like Draco. Do you know that? I heard that the spirits there are trapped for eternity. Do you want to be like them? Tell me, Amos. What am I to do now?"

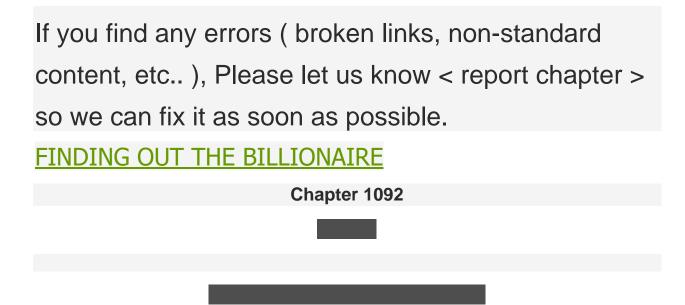
At that point, the woman had already burst into tears as fear was written all over her face. Since the cities offered higher-paid jobs, many youngsters would move there and have their parents in the countryside look after their children. Amos and his grandmother were one of such families. "Don't cry, Granny. I know what I did was wrong, and I'm sorry. I promise you that I won't be going there ever again, so please stop crying." Seeing how sad his grandmother was, Amos began to cry as well.

Alex knew there was nothing he could say to help with the situation, so he decided to give the two some time before proceeding to treat Amos' leg. However, the story about the mass grave did pique his interest. Usually, the more dangerous a place is, the more likely it is for one to find something valuable there. Maybe I might even find a way to cure Stanley at such a place. Even if I didn't, I'd still very much like to visit that mass grave.

After listening to the woman and her grandson, Alex was convinced that Amos only got into trouble because the boy had tripped over someone's remains. Initially, Alex intended to help Amos by appeasing the spirit haunting the boy, but with countless bodies buried in the mass grave, he had no idea which one Amos had offended.

Hence, Alex had no choice but to try a different method to help Amos. He took some cinnabar and yellow papers to make a spirit-purging talisman. Then, he burned it to ashes and mixed it with a bowl of water before applying the mixture to the boy's leg.

The second the mixture came into contact with the purple patch on Amos' leg, the boy instinctively withdrew his limb and complained to his grandmother, "It hurts, Granny! My leg feels like it's on fire when the mash touches it!"



"Doctor, why do you think it is that causes him the pain? What's going on?" Holding Amos, the middleaged woman could not bear to see her grandson suffer like that.

"It's okay. That's only normal. Whenever night falls, the spirit would grab the boy by his leg because it's left its scent on him. If I can get rid of it, the spirit won't be able to find Amos again," explained Alex patiently when he saw how worried the woman was.

It was at that moment Amos stopped complaining. Instead, he told his grandmother that his leg did not hurt anymore.

"That should do it. Now, all we have to do is wash off the ashes," instructed Alex calmly.

Impressed, the woman quickly did what she was told and took Amos outside to clean his leg.

Even though Alex was inside the house, he could hear the delighted gasping outside.

"Miracle! It's a miracle! The purple patch on the boy's leg disappeared!" exclaimed the woman before returning with Amos in hand.

She was so grateful for what Alex had done that she almost got on her knees again had the man not stopped her.

The middle-aged woman insisted on paying Alex even

though he did not charge her for the service. In the end, she left a couple of hundred for Alex before leaving with her grandson.

"You truly are a great man, Dr. Jefferson. It seems there's nothing your two hands cannot cure," praised Tyrael before he suddenly realized that he should not have said such a thing. However, it was too late since the words had already left his mouth.

Reminded of the still unconscious Stanley and Kate's last words, Alex could not help but let out a long sigh. No matter how great I am, I still can't figure out how to help Stanley. Is there anything worse than watching your own child wither away as his organs begin to fail him?

"If only I were as great as you think I am," sighed Alex. Unsure how to comfort the depressed man, Tyrael decided to change the subject. "Dr. Jefferson, about the ginseng you sent me, I believe it's three-millennia old. That's very hard to find! It'd be a waste to use it for Soul Reapers."

Alex suddenly had an idea when Tyrael mentioned Soul Reapers. Could the instability of Stanley's soul be the reason why none of the medicines worked on him? Would a Soul Reaper help with his condition?

Even though Alex thought that Soul Reapers were a possible solution, he decided to keep them as a last resort since he knew Stanley's body was too frail for such an extreme measure.

"Got it. Do you know what Casdisca is good for?" inquired Alex.

"It's a very rare kind of herb that only grows where

large beasts are because it depends on the nutrients from their feces. Hence, it's not easy to get your hands on the herb. You have impressed me yet again, Dr. Jefferson," stated Tyrael.

So it only grows where large beasts are, huh? It's no wonder Flynn had to take dozens of men to get the herb. The fact that he's the only one who survived shows just how dangerous the task is. Instead of sharing about Flynn with Tyrael, Alex continued to listen to the man quietly, for he wanted to know if the herb could help Stanley.

"Casdisca is well-known for strengthening one's body, especially for those who get sick easily. It may have other uses, but that's all I know," informed Tyrael frankly, for he was well-versed in medicine but not Alchemy.

In response to that, Alex simply nodded. That's not

going to help Stanley's condition. "Keep it for me. I'm going to check out the mass grave the woman mentioned."

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It was already evening by the time Alex arrived at the back of the mountain. The roads were slippery as it began to rain, but that wasn't a problem for Alex at all.

He noticed something was off about the air around him when he got closer to the mass grave. Not only did the surrounding environment look extremely creepy, but the chilly wind blowing through the area also sent shivers down his spine.

A lot of mushrooms had emerged after the rain, giving the air an earthy scent that mixed really well with the faint smell of rotting corpses.

As the heavy rain had washed out some of the bones buried underground, Alex could see why Amos felt like his leg was caught by something in the ground. Looks like the middle-aged woman wasn't exaggerating... I haven't even reached the place, and I'm already seeing so many bones sticking out of the ground! I can't imagine how things would look like when I actually get to the mass grave!

Alex was snapped out of his train of thoughts by the sound of a person screaming nearby. He then quickly made his way over to investigate and saw a woman rolling down the hill. With her entire body covered in mud, the only thing Alex could make out was her long hair as she continued to roll downhill.

There was a huge boulder about twenty feet away from her. Given the speed she was going at, the woman was bound to collide with the boulder and possibly die from the impact.

Alex immediately rushed forward to save her, but he didn't want to get his hands dirty by touching her muddy body. As such, he conjured up his Mortal Force and used it to slow her down instead. She was about six feet away from the boulder by the time her body came to a complete halt.

Seeing as the woman was safe from harm, Alex decided not to check on her any further. However, he couldn't help but feel surprised at finding someone there as people usually avoided that area like the plague.

He was about to walk away when he heard the voices of a few people coming from above the mountain. Judging by how worried they sounded, he figured they were probably friends of that woman.

"Are you okay, Sylvie? You were walking just fine earlier, so how did you end up falling down all of a sudden? You scared the heck out of me!"

A man about six feet tall with a crew cut ran toward the woman and scooped her into his arms. He didn't even seem bothered by the fact that she was all covered in mud.

A few other men and women could be seen standing up there with filming equipment in their hands.

"Louis, is Sylvie okay? Should we take her to a doctor

in town?" asked a fat guy holding a camera.

A pretty girl standing next to him let out a disdainful snort as she said, "Everyone else was walking just fine, but she just has to trip and fall when we're almost there? What a pain in the neck! As if going up the mountain on a rainy day wasn't bad enough, now we have to deal with her problems too! Urgh! This is so annoying! I wouldn't have come today if I knew this was going to happen!"

The girl then stamped her feet angrily on the ground, only to slip and lose her balance. Thankfully, the fat guy was able to grab hold of her shirt in time.

Louis then quickly checked Sylvie for injuries, only to let out a sigh of relief when he saw that she wasn't hurt.

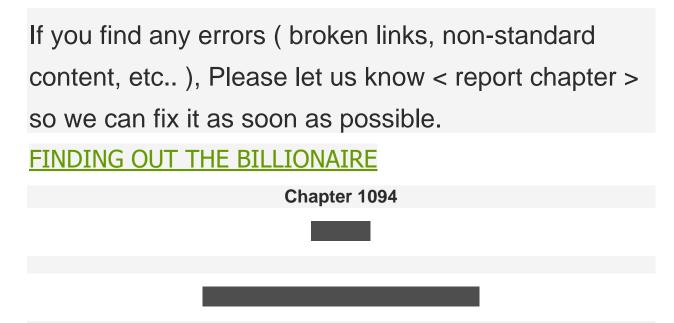
"Oh, thank goodness you're all right! You'll be fine

after washing the mud off and getting into a fresh change of clothes." Louis said as he climbed up the mountain with Sylvie on his back.

Sylvie was still shaken after narrowly escaping death. She was literally inches away from crashing into the boulder, but some invisible force had suddenly slowed her down to a complete halt.

Louis was halfway through climbing up the mountain when he noticed Alex walking past beneath them. His movements were so casual and effortless that it didn't look like he was traversing a mountainous terrain at all.

"Hey, buddy! Are you from around here? You wouldn't happen to be headed for the mass grave, would you?" Louis called out to him.



"Yeah," Alex mumbled in response.

Having heard what they were saying earlier, he could tell that they were headed for the mass grave too.

The middle-aged woman beat up her grandson after finding out that he went to that sinister place, and yet these people are still planning on going there? Have they got a death wish or something? I may have saved that woman from sudden death earlier, but there's only so much I can do to change the fate of others. It isn't up to me alone to decide who lives and dies in this world. All I want is to live my life and do what I have to do...

With that in mind, Alex was about to leave when Louis called out to him again, "The mass grave is a really sinister place, buddy! If you're going there all by yourself, you might as well join us! It'd be better if we could all look out for each other!"

As Alex was not used to receiving sudden acts of kindness from others, he turned his offer down without any hesitation.

"Thanks for the offer. Why would you guys come here if it's that sinister, though? I suggest you all head back before anything dangerous happens! You only live once, after all!"

Alex had thought that they would heed his advice and leave, only to have Louis run up to him while carrying Sylvie on his back. "What you said does make sense, but I still think you should join us! Navigating this terrain is pretty dangerous in itself, and you don't even have any food and supplies with you! If you join us, we could share some of our food with you!" Louis said with a warm smile. "By the way, I am Louis Lintsdale."

Since he was such a kind man, Alex didn't want to turn him down again as Louis would just keep trying to persuade him anyway. "Hi, I am Alex Jefferson."

Just like that, he followed Louis all the way to the top of the mountain. Upon reaching the top, he saw a fat guy named Bobby, a man in his thirties named Conan, and a pretty girl named Anne.

After a brief chat, Alex found out that the five of them were actually a team of live streamers. They were doing livestreams of themselves going on adventures, and some of the wealthy fans suggested that they come here for their next video.

Having taken a liking to Louis, Alex reminded him again, "You know, you don't actually have to do what your fans tell you to. This place is really dangerous, so I suggest you guys head back if it isn't anything important."

Since Sylvie was Louis' girlfriend, he was helping her get cleaned up at a nearby river while the other three sat down beside Alex. Of course, neither of them heeded his advice in the slightest.

Anne let out a cold snort and looked at Alex like he was some bumpkin as she asked, "You're from the mountains, aren't you? I bet you don't know much about livestreaming, huh? All we have to do is spend a night at the mass grave, and that wealthy fan of ours will give us twenty Virtual Rockets! A single Virtual Rocket is worth a thousand, okay? Here, let me do the math for you. Twenty Virtual Rockets is equal to twenty thousand, got it? In case you're wondering, that's a lot of money! I don't see a reason why we shouldn't do this! Besides, I don't believe in the existence of ghosts in this world. Even if ghosts do exist, there's so many of us here, so I don't think they'd dare mess with us anyway!"

She was so full of confidence that she didn't perceive the mass grave as a threat at all. In fact, she thought of this trip as a vacation of some sort and started puffing away on a cigarette after saying that.

The other two guys beside her didn't say anything, but they seemed to agree with her statement.

Having seen all that, Alex didn't bother saying any further. Instead, he decided to just let them learn their lesson the hard way.

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Louis soon returned with Sylvie, who had cleaned herself up and changed into a fresh set of clothes.

The contrast in her appearance was so huge that even Alex found himself a little shocked when he saw her.

Her shoulder-length hair was still dripping wet from being washed, and her long eyelashes complemented her alluring eyes really well. Despite only wearing a simplistic T-shirt and jeans, she still had a unique vibe to her. At the very least, she was a lot prettier than Anne, who looked like she had gone through plastic surgery to enhance her look.

"Alex, this is my girlfriend, Sylvie. She's on our team too. By the way, you haven't eaten, right? Would you like to have a little something to eat?" Louis said as he retrieved some cookies from his bag and handed them over to Alex.

The only reason Alex came here without any food was because he didn't need it. Having become a firstphase Grandmaster, he could survive going over ten days without any food and water. As such, he was confident he wouldn't need to bring any with him on a short trip like this.

Since Louis was genuinely being friendly, Alex decided not to reject his offer. While it wasn't likely for him to die of starvation, he would still feel hungry and would benefit from having some food in his tummy.

As Alex reached out to take the cookies from Louis, Anne began taunting him from the side, "Hey, Louis! I know you're a nice guy and all, but our food and resources are limited! We don't even know how long we'll be filming here! Besides, we paid for all of our stuff, so why should we be giving them to him for free?"

Louis shot her a glance and motioned at her to shut up, but Anne refused to stop and continued insulting Alex a few more times.

I didn't even do anything to offend this woman, so why does she keep attacking me like this? Honestly, I don't even know what her problem is. Oh, well... I'll just pretend that she's a mad dog barking. Best to just ignore her... Alex could only let out a helpless sigh at the thought of that. He didn't bring much with him, but he did have a habit of keeping some money in his pocket at all times.

"I appreciate your kind offer, but I can't take your food without paying for it. Here, keep the money!" Alex said while handing Louis a couple thousand.

Since he didn't have very large pockets, all he had on him were some bank notes worth a few thousand and a Global Bank credit card.

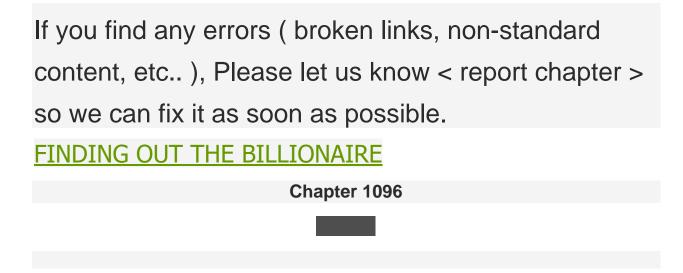
Louis froze when he saw the money in his hand. All I gave him were some cheap cookies that we bought from the grocery store! I can't possibly let him pay me a few thousand in return!

Even Anne was a little shocked when she saw that. Who would've thought this bumpkin would have that much money on him? D*mn, I shouldn't have insulted him like that!

"I can't take your money, Alex! Besides, it's fate that brought us together today! Since we're all headed for the mass grave, we should be looking out for each other instead! Here, take the money back!" Louis said seriously.

Seeing as he wasn't joking around, Alex could only put the money back into his pocket. "You idiot!" Anne muttered under her breath.

As they were planning on reaching the mass grave before dark, the six of them then continued their journey immediately after dinner. With Alex searching for something and them wanting to do their livestream, they couldn't afford to waste any time at all.



When they were about two to three hundred yards away from the mass grave, the five livestreamers started getting cuts and scrapes from the rough terrain. Some of them even tripped over roots and rocks at times, but Alex was unaffected by any of that.

He was the only one in the group that remained unscathed as he was agile enough to traverse the terrain with ease.

"You guys are only getting some cuts and bruises because we've still got a while to go before we reach the destination. The dangers that await us when we get there are completely unpredictable, so I suggest you all think carefully before proceeding. You can still turn back now if you want to," Alex reminded them once more.

Although he had only just met those people, he didn't like seeing them endanger their lives for the sake of money.

"Alex, I know that this place isn't like the others, but I also want to confirm if ghosts actually do exist. The content we upload is focused on paranormal activities, so we've been to lots of dangerous places in the past. However, all of our expeditions have been fruitless so far. Most of the time, we actually had to scare our viewers by dressing up like ghosts. At one point, our viewers found out that we were faking it, and we lost quite a lot of fans as a result. Of course, fewer fans mean less income. That's why I was hoping to make use of this opportunity to regain our popularity," Louis explained honestly.

Bobby simply cleared his throat awkwardly, but Anne's hot temper got the better of her.

"Hey, Louis! You've only just met that guy! Why are you telling him everything? I feel like you treat him better than the rest of us!"

Louis flashed her an apologetic smile as he said, "Sorry, I just couldn't help it. Alex just gives me such good vibes that I feel like pouring my heart out to him! Besides, our fans are all aware of this, so it's no secret anyway!"

From what I can tell, Louis is an honest man who is nice to everybody. Sylvie seems pretty honest too. Given her good looks, I bet the reason she'd date Louis is because he's a nice guy. Well, I've already advised them against this idea several times now. Since they're still adamant about going through with it, I won't try to stop them anymore.

Alex thought to himself as they got closer to the mass grave.

He glanced at his watch and saw that it was about a quarter after nine at night. There didn't seem to be anything strange about the mass grave in front of them. All they saw were some huge holes in the ground and tons of bones nearby.

Each and every one of them felt awkward and uneasy the moment they arrived at their destination. It felt like they were being watched by countless eyes.

Stay calm... All we have to do is spend the night here, and we'll receive twenty thousand from that wealthy fan of ours! If we're lucky, we might even get some donations from our other fans too! We could very well make about thirty thousand from doing this!

"Hey, Bobby! It's almost nine-thirty now! Get the filming equipment ready! We should be able to get some ghosts on camera in a place like this, right? Even if we don't, that rich guy will still pay us twenty thousand anyway!" Anne said as she tugged on her coat. Feeling a little scared, she instinctively leaned closer to Conan.

Bobby made an OK sign at her and immediately began setting up the equipment. When it was time to start the livestream, Anne stood closest to the camera with a friendly smile on her face. She looked completely different on camera compared to her usual self.

As Anne and Sylvie were the two beauties of the group, they were the main focus of the livestream due to their ability to attract viewers.

Bobby was the cameraman, Louis was in charge of props, and Conan was the leader of the group. His main job was simply to oversee the entire filming process and manage the livestream from the side.

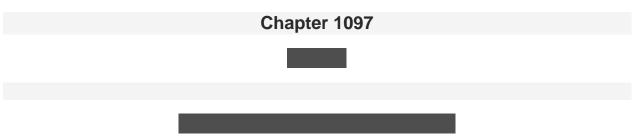
Alex began examining the mass grave upon arrival, and the first thing he noticed was the stench of decay that had become increasingly stronger.

That incident happened a long time ago, and yet this place still reeks of rotten smell. Looks like those who died during the incident aren't the only ones here. I bet a lot of people who died in the mountains had their bodies dumped here too! Alex thought to himself.

"Hello, everyone! Welcome to Anne's livestream! As per the request from all of you fans, we have come to the infamous mass grave in this mountain! We encountered a lot on our way here, but we pushed through them all for your sake! Just so you know, Sylvie fell down a cliff along the way! Luckily for her, she didn't suffer any serious injuries! All of us got a little banged up as we got closer to the mass grave, so it seems this place might just be haunted, after all! Please stay tuned for our adventure!"

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Because they had done a great job on advertising this event of theirs, there were about two to three thousand viewers watching the stream seconds after it started. The sight of the huge amount of viewers motivated Anne and Sylvie to give it their best. Comments flooded the entire screen in a flash.

Is Sylvie okay? Come here, I'll check your body for injuries!

Don't trust that guy, Sylvie! He's obviously a pervert with bad intentions! I, on the other hand, am a certified doctor! I can definitely give you a proper examination!

You sure are wearing a lot of layers today, Anne! I feel bad for your 36D boobs!

With two beautiful livestreamers like these, it was only natural to have a bunch of perverts watching the stream. Fortunately, they were only a minority of the viewers. Most of them were actually thrill-seekers who wanted to see some paranormal activities on stream. Hmm, the place looks pretty normal if you ask me! Anne, are you sure you're at the right place? Or are you guys just trying to fool us again?

I know, right? The place is so dark that you can barely see anything at all! If it weren't for these two beautiful ladies, I wouldn't even be watching this stream right now!

While the contents of those comments weren't all that positive, the number of viewers did continue to increase. It took Anne quite a while to find a few decent comments to reply to.

A huge majority of the viewers were accusing them of playing tricks on them again, much to their dismay.

It felt especially demotivating as they had gone through a lot of trouble just to get there, and yet nobody seemed to believe them at all. Suddenly, the wealthy fan who promised them twenty Virtual Rockets joined their livestream.

Having noticed that, Anne quickly smiled at the camera and asked politely, "Hi, Lorenzo! We're here at the mass grave as promised! Isn't it time for you to fulfill your promise too?"

Those words had barely left her mouth when twenty Virtual Rockets began soaring through the screen one after another.

The fact that Lorenzo had donated to them on stream meant they were really at the mass grave, so the other viewers stopped doubting them after that.

They didn't find anything unusual at the start of their adventure. As the mass grave wasn't too big, they were able to go one lap around the area in about thirty minutes. All they found were bits of bones sticking out of the ground everywhere.

The highest amount of viewers they had watching the stream was tens of thousands, but a lot of them stopped watching when they saw no action. Had it not been for the two pretty women, they would surely have less than a thousand viewers watching.

Alex found himself a spot to sit down and wait until it was time for him to make his move. Honestly, teenagers these days just keep finding new ways to get themselves killed! He thought to himself while watching them do the filming from a distance.

Right when the livestream was starting to get a little boring, Bobby shouted all of a sudden, "Where's Conan? Wasn't he just sitting there moments ago? How did he just disappear without a trace?" Upon hearing that, Louis, Anne, and Sylvie all turned toward the spot where Conan was sitting earlier. Surely enough, all they saw was an empty bench, and Conan was nowhere in sight.

Alex felt surprised too when he glanced in that direction. Because his attention had been focused on the four of them the whole time, he didn't notice how Conan had gone missing either.

"What are you freaking out about, Bobby? Maybe Conan just went to relieve himself or something! Why do you have to cause such a huge scene? We've been here for so long, and we haven't encountered anything at all! Honestly, I don't even think this place is haunted!" Anne exclaimed in displeasure after being startled by him.

Louis, on the other hand, felt a little worried as the place felt rather eerie. While they hadn't encountered

any paranormal activity, the fact that they kept hurting themselves on the way there was a bad sign in itself.

Since he wasn't occupied with anything at the time, he decided to go looking for Conan. "Conan! Hey, Conan! Where are you?" he shouted out loud, but there was no response.

Everyone began to panic at that point. "Oh, no... You've got to be kidding me! Is this place really haunted? Maybe we should just leave! I don't want to die!" Anne exclaimed in fear. Whatever arrogance and pride she had in her earlier were completely gone.

"No, we can't leave until we find Conan! Let's all start searching for him!" Louis said as he stepped in front of her to stop her from leaving.

He then walked up to Alex and continued, "Alex, one of my friends is missing. Could you help us look for

him?"

Had they been some random strangers, Alex would never have agreed to help them out. However, Louis was a nice guy and was practically pleading with him, so he had no reason to refuse his request.

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Chapter 1098

Instead of getting up and searching for Conan, Alex simply told Louis, "I suggest you guys leave this place right now. It's almost midnight, and you don't want to be here when the clock strikes twelve. Things aren't going to be as peaceful as they are now. Also, having your group split up to look for your friend is an extremely dangerous act. I'm only telling you this because you're a nice guy. It's up to you whether you believe it or not, but keep in mind that I won't help you again if anything happens later on."

While Alex was talking to Louis, something else happened to the group.

"What the heck are you doing, Bobby? Why are you lying on the ground and stuffing soil into your mouth? We still have food in the bag if you're hungry! Stop eating that, man! It's freaking disgusting!" Anne shouted while shaking his shoulders.

Although his behavior was extremely creepy, she couldn't just stand by and watch her friend harm himself like that.

To her surprise, Bobby simply brushed her arm off

and shoved her to the ground.

Naturally, Anne felt a little angry as she got mud all over her clothes. She was about to lash out at Bobby when she noticed something off about the look in his eyes, and she quickly backed away in fear.

Bobby was glaring at her like a hungry wolf as he continued stuffing his face with soil.

"I'll eat you up if you try to stop me again!"

Although those words had come out of Bobby's mouth, it didn't sound like him at all. If anything, his voice sounded like that of an old man's.

Scared out of her wits, Anne screamed as she ran toward Louis. "L-Louis... There's something wrong with Bobby! He's shoving soil into his mouth, and that voice isn't his own at all! I-Is he possessed or something?" she stammered in a shaky voice while hiding behind him.

Sylvie, who was still looking for Conan nearby, came running over the moment she noticed the commotion.

Louis was doubtful of Anne's words at first, but he freaked out as well when he saw Bobby munching on the soil.

Even the hungriest person in the world wouldn't just start eating soil like that, especially if the soil in a mass grave! For all we know, someone might've been buried right there!

"What's gotten into you, Bobby? Get a hold of yourself!" Louis was a little scared too, but he mustered up the courage to give Bobby a shove in hopes of snapping him out of it. The next thing he knew, Bobby turned around and bit Louis on the arm without warning.

"Argh!" Louis screamed in pain with his face all twisted and drenched in sweat as Bobby tore a chunk of flesh right off his neck.

"Mmm... This is so tasty..." Bobby mumbled to himself as he chewed on the flesh with blood dripping from his mouth.

Both Sylvie and Anne were utterly terrified when they saw that.

"Let's go, Louis! I want to go home! Screw the money! I'm too young to die here like this!" Anne started sobbing as she said that. She was desperate to get out of there, but her legs were too weak for her to even stand up. Sylvie was scared out of her mind too, but she couldn't just leave her boyfriend like that. She then ran up to check on him and felt her heart ache when she saw the wound on his arm.

Alex quickly rushed over and knew Bobby was possessed the moment he saw him.

"Stay away from him! He's not your friend anymore! He has been possessed by a ghost! Now that he has gotten a taste of human flesh, he might want to eat the rest of you too!" he warned them.

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Chapter 1099

Anne was still in a daze but shrieked in fear when she heard the possessed man would turn into a cannibal. In an attempt to run away, she tried to stand up but to no avail.

After helping Louis with his wound, Sylvie hid behind him and shivered. Her reaction might not be as dramatic as Anne's, but she was just as terrified.

Louis had no clue why Alex knew all that, but the turn of events had proven that what Alex said was true. Bobby would not have acted so strangely and bit his arm had he not been possessed.

"Alex, do you know what's going on? Could you please help him?" Louis pleaded with Alex.

Now that Conan had gone missing and Bobby was possessed, Louis was the only man left. He could

have shirked his responsibility and escaped with Sylvie, but he did not want to abandon Bobby.

Alex nodded. To him, dealing with the demon that possessed Bobby was just a piece of cake.

When Alex first arrived, he knew there was something evil with this place. That was why he drew some pieces of talisman and brought them along. Now was the time to put them to good use.

Everyone was dumbfounded when Alex drew out a talisman and tossed it in the air. The talisman then landed on the back of Bobby's head.

Bobby roared, and his body twitched as if he was in a lot of pain.

A few minutes later, a black apparition emerged from Bobby's body and dived straight into the ground. Before Alex could do anything to the ghost, it had vanished in the blink of an eye.

Bobby was extremely weak as the positive energy was drained from his body. Besides, the ghost made him swallow a lot of dirt and that caused him to feel unwell. His face was so pallid as if he was dying!

"Wh-what's that black thing? Is that a gh-ghost?" Anne stuttered. She was as ashen-faced as Bobby for she had never come across a ghost in her life.

Likewise, Sylvie was just as stunned. Since the ghost had vanished into the ground, Louis mustered up the courage and stepped forth to check on Bobby to see if he was out of danger.

Alex gave Anne the cold shoulder, and no one else was bothered to answer her question. The air became

still in an instant.

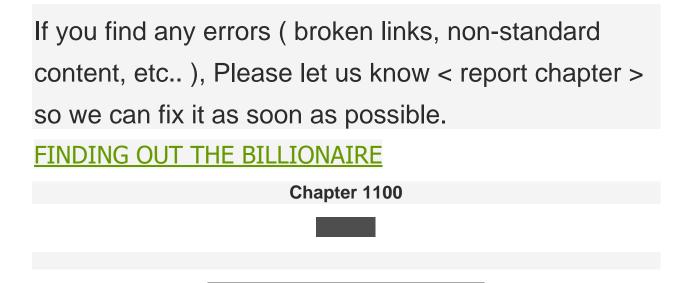
"You all better run. Those ghosts will appear more frequently when this place is overwhelmed with negative energy after midnight. I won't be able to take care of all of you if they emerge all at once," Alex warned in a serious tone.

Louis was impressed with Alex after seeing what he could do. He was even in awe of Alex's capability after witnessing what he did to Bobby. They would have left earlier if Conan were still around but now that Conan had gone missing, how could they just leave without him?

"Alex, I appreciate what you did for Bobby, but I can't just leave my other buddy behind and run away like a coward. We have to find Conan first since he's still missing," Louis said while carrying Bobby. Anne was taken aback by what Louis said. Are you kidding me? At this critical juncture, you are still worried about Conan? Do you want all of us to get killed?

"Louis, you've all this while been a nosey parker and acting as if you're a Good Samaritan, and I've never poked my nose into your business. But now that we're already on the verge of death, do you still have the time and energy to worry for someone else? For all we know, Conan might have been dead! Come on! Let's run and not waste time anymore!" Anne glared at Louis and expressed her dismay.

Just right after she finished her sentence, someone appeared from a distance. After taking a closer look, they realized it was Conan.



"Conan, you're back! Where have you been? You shouldn't have run around without us. Do you know that this place is full of-" Anne sounded anxious and as though she was complaining. Yet, she did not have the courage to say the word "ghost".

Now that Conan had returned, it was time for them to leave this cursed place, which had caused the possessed Bobby to chew off a piece of Louis' arm.

Anne might be a money-grubber, but she did not want to die in this hellhole. Since Alex said they still had time to escape before more ghosts emerged, Anne felt they should just leave at once.

Yet, all of a sudden, Conan vanished into the darkness. Frustration kicked in, and Anne was about to stand up and run after him.

Someone grabbed her by the wrist and said, "That's not Conan. It's a ghost trying to lure you over."

Anne thought the voice sounded familiar. She turned around and realized it was Alex. Though she disliked the man, she knew it was not the time to argue with him.

In an anxious voice, she said, "So the person we saw just now was a ghost? What are we going to do now? Louis wouldn't leave unless we find Conan. I don't want to stay here anymore. I just want to go home right now." "It's too late. Even if you go down the mountain now, you'll still bump into those ghosts. Their number might be small at this hour, but a few of them could easily take all of you down," Alex uttered calmly.

Anne stumbled and fell to the ground as if she had lost hope. "I'm doomed. We're all doomed. We're all going to die here. I should have listened to you and avoided coming to this place. It's not worth risking our lives for that da*n thirty thousand!"

I'm still young. I don't want to die like this! There's still so much more in this world waiting for me to explore! I can't just die like this. No way!

Anne looked up at Alex and instantly kneeled before him. She grabbed the edge of his pant and pleaded, "Since you're capable of exorcising the ghost in Bobby, I'm sure you can help me. Please save my life!" "I shouldn't have opposed you before this. It was all my fault. As long as I get to leave this place alive, I'll do anything for you! I don't want to die here, please!" Anne added.

Alex glanced at her and let out a sigh. Initially, he had thought of leaving them here since their life and death were none of his business.

But on second thought, Alex felt sorry for them. Anne might have kept finding fault with him before this, but she had not done anything that was unforgivable.

"I'll try my best," Alex said indifferently. He took out a talisman and gave it to Anne. "Take this. It will ward off any evil spirits that try to approach you."

Anne took it right away when she heard him say what the talisman could do. She viewed it as a treasure and clenched the talisman tightly to her chest. The talisman she received was the same as the ones Alex gave to Louis and Sylvie. They were all able to ward off evil spirits that tried to harm them.

After glancing at the time on his watch, Alex walked to Louis and patted his shoulder. "Your buddy might be dead. Bring the talisman with you and leave the mountain right now. You might still be able to make it out of here alive. But, if you insist on staying, you'll die for sure!"

Louis could sense how serious Alex was, but he hesitated for a moment. What should I do? Should I leave without Conan?

"Conan is like my brother, even though we're not blood-related. He's only thirty years old, and his son is only two years old. So even if he's dead, it's my responsibility to bring his body back to his family!" Louis covered his face, feeling conflicted. "I understand you two had a close relationship, but you should think of your family too. Let's heed Mr. Jefferson and get out of here!" Sylvie tried to convince Louis.

While Louis was still trying to figure out his next course of action, something happened at the mass grave. The wolf's cries that emerged from a distance sent chills down their spines.

"I'm afraid it's too late to escape now," Alex said in a calm voice.

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