

### **Chapter 111: Invitation**

Five months passed while the youths who were selected to enter the secret passageway cultivated steadily.

During these five months, instead of cultivating, Davis wholeheartedly trained in Alchemy. He learnt to use soul flame, which helped him in making pills without using a burnable material like coal.

Soul flame could be only created with people who had an affinity with fire. This stringent requirement made many people give up on learning high-level alchemy because as the level increases, it'll get difficult to control the fire manually without using the soul to control the flames.

Besides, using the soul flame to create a pill has its advantages, like being easily able to control the intensity of the heat as long as one has high control over their soul energy.

During the first month, Davis had difficulty with controlling his soul energy to manipulate his soul flame, which caused him to ruin many materials and cauldrons.

During the second month, he was able to control the soul flame proficiently.

During the third month, he was able to create Earth Rank pills.

During the fourth month, he consolidated his pill making skill and practised diligently.

And during the last month, he finally succeeded in creating a Low-Level Sky Rank Pill.

Alchemist Highwood was totally astonished by his speed and couldn't help but admit that this lad will surpass him in a year.

Most importantly, Davis didn't forget his promise with Evelynn, but instead of going to see her, he explained his circumstance by sending her letters.

Evelynn understood his plight and warmly replied to him. After that, they communicated by sending letters once a week, telling each other about what they did that week.

To Davis, it made him smile as he had never experienced these kinds of emotions before. Heck, he had no experience in doing this kind of actions either.

Furthermore, they could have communicated using transmission crystals but didn't do so for some reason. It was like they avoided meeting or talking to each other for some awkward reason.

Both had an inkling of what they wanted to tell each other but refrained from it.

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"This is truly frustrating..." Davis muttered under his breath.

He sat at the table as he massaged his forehead while thinking about a certain problem.

Davis was now eleven years old. His height grew, making him exactly five feet tall. His face started to portray some masculine features, combined with the black imperial robes he wore, he looked absolutely handsome.

"What's frustrating?" A cute voice echoed behind him.

He looked behind to see Ellia seated in a lotus position.

She looked mesmerizing with her beautifully shaped almond eyes, perfectly shaped small nose and dainty lips. Her height seemingly increased to four feet, five inches tall while her long silky black hair reached chest length. She wore dark blue clothes which looked expensive and elegant.

She opened her eyes and looked at him with a curious gaze.

"This..." Davis thought for a moment before he explained to her.

It turns out that he had received an official letter from Emperor Ashton. The letter indicated that Princess Shirley Ashton would be celebrating her birthday in a month's time and it seems that he was cordially invited along with his fiancée to attend the birthday celebration.

"What's so frustrating about that?" Ellia had a confused expression on her face. She couldn't understand what kind of a matter was there to fret about.

Davis sighed, "I get why they are inviting me, but I don't understand why they're inviting Evelyn. It's like adding insult to the injury for them."

"Adding insult to the injury? What do you mean?"

"You still don't understand because you're still small."

Ellia rolled her eyes on hearing his statement.

"Emperor Ashton was originally dissatisfied with the dismissal of the marriage engagement of me and Shirley, so he would in no way invite Evelyn over to Shirley's birthday celebration. From my guess, this letter must be the work of Shirley. If I had to speculate on why she had to do this, then..." Davis contemplated for a moment before he continued, "Her Royal Father is still dissatisfied with her and pressured her into inviting me by taking advantage of this upcoming birthday celebration. Then she had no choice but to do it, so she sent me an invitation, but instead changed the details of the invitation so I could bring Evelyn with me, giving her a reason to tactfully decline her father's wishes."

Ellia stayed silent, her face had a weird expression as if she were looking at an idiot.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Davis got uncomfortable and questioned her.

With a slight grin on her face, she replied, "I'd most likely say it was Emperor Ashton who sent you the invitation."

Davis looked at her and laughed, "Huh!? Why the heck would you say that?"

"Emperor Ashton is trying to use the jealousy in Shirley's heart to make her marry you."

Davis got dumbfounded on hearing her speculation, "Using jealousy? You mean he somehow plans to have Evelyn and me induce jealousy in her?"

"Yes, more or less." Rolling her eyes, she answered.

Davis chuckled, "Haha, you have quite the imagination. Besides, getting jealous because of me? You sure like to raise my worth!"

Ellia suddenly looked at him with a displeased gaze, "Why do you always humble yourself normally? You're the Crown Prince of the Loret Empire, the disciple of the mysterious senior. In this world, I don't think anyone has a status higher than you excluding your master."

He spread his hands wide, "... I don't know that myself, guess I just feel myself to be retarded when acting arrogantly for no reason."

"..." Ellia was speechless but she couldn't help but accept on what he said had a point.

Pointing up her finger at him, she said, "Firstly, you are the strongest genius alive in this continent. Secondly, your prestige is so high that all single women in this continent would not decline your advances." Her gaze avoided him as she thought, 'Including me.'

Returning her gaze on him, she questioned with a dissatisfied gaze, "What exactly makes you think you're not worthy of getting jealous?"

Davis slightly laughed, "You say that no one would refuse me? Then tell me this, why did Evelyn refuse the engagement until I managed to convince her?"

"At that time, she was older than you, and you were still a kid. The age gap must've been quite awkward as well. Ultimately, she must have had some misgivings until she met you. Even now, many women admire you and want you to notice them. I dare you to court a single woman after you've turned sixteen years old. Let me see if anyone dares to refuse your advances by then."

Hearing that kind of speech from her, he was quite ticked off, but at the same time, he looked at her with a dumbfounded gaze. He slowly blinked as he thought about the words that had escaped from her mouth.

'I did teach her to be bold, but not this bold! Especially for her age!' Shouting in his mind, he berated himself for teaching her things he shouldn't have had taught.

## **Chapter 112: Variation In Cores**

Davis suddenly stood up, grabbed Ellia and threw her off to the bed. He then closed in on her as he removed his black robes revealing his well-shaped muscles, his body was covered by purple coloured top and black coloured bottom.

"You! What are you doing!?" Rolling on the bed, she managed to make herself sit straight as she shouted in a confused manner.

"What am I doing? Just checking if your words are true or not?"

Climbing up the bed, he caught her wrists and pushed her down.

Ellia's eyelids gently trembled, she looked at his roaming eyes which were suddenly filled with an inquisitive gaze.

He moved his lips closer to her lips slowly as she started to tremble. Finally, he stopped when there was only an inch left to move closer until their lips met.

"Not gonna push me away?" He asked as he looked at her eyes in a serious manner.

Ellia didn't reply, she continued to look into his eyes as her eyelids trembled. She felt his hot breath blowing on her lips which made her legs go temporarily limp.

Seeing that there was no reply, he released her wrists and stood up, "I don't understand. Why won't you push me away? Don't tell me that it's because you want to prove that your words are right!"

Ellia stayed silent for a moment before she replied, "... No"

He furrowed his brows as he simply couldn't understand her actions, "Then why?"

"Because I simply have accepted to be your women from the moment you started treating me like an equal, regardless of whether if I'm a slave or not!"

"You!..." Davis got dumbfounded, he moved back as he picked up his robes while he shouted. "You are still a kid! What do you know about pledging yourself to someone? Don't confuse with being cared with being affectionate! Remember that I cared for you just because you're my friend, nothing more, nothing less!"

Saying that words, he exited the study and closed the door in an enraged manner.

Ellia paid no heed to his words, instead touched her lips with her finger as she muttered silently to herself, "Just now, I tried to kiss him, right?"

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Walking by the corridor in a confused manner, Davis got a headache, "Honestly what's with her today? Suddenly talking about stuff like this. Did someone in the royal castle manage to twist her reasoning to this mess, or is it because she really liked me to that degree?"

He truly considered her to be his friend after these 3 years. In no way did he see her as a woman except that one time when he was curious about women.

After all, to him, she was still a child and someone to be taken care of in the right sense.

"There's no way right!?" He asked himself as he smiled wryly. He didn't know what to think anymore as he couldn't deny that possibility.

He then sighed, "Life is long, only time will resolve this matter."

He stopped in front of a door and knocked, "Mom!"

The door immediately opened and Claire smiled, "Come in..."

Davis walked in as he got to the point, "Mom, I didn't have time to ask you before, care to explain why you didn't allow me to reach Revolving Core Stage?"

Claire giggled in a light tone, "I've been waiting for you for all these months, but seeing as you're working hard in alchemy, I decided to wait until you come looking for answers."

But suddenly she furrowed her brows, "I thought your master would have taught you, but it doesn't seem likely to be the case..."

"Mom, my master only teaches me about soul forging cultivation." He knew that his mom would ask this, so he thought of an excuse beforehand.

"Oh, seems like you have your own difficulties. It doesn't matter, mom will teach you!" Claire smiled resplendently, causing Davis to beam as well.

Sitting at the table, she started to explain, "I told you not to cultivate to the Revolving Core Stage because there is an unknown amount to the stages and variation in the core you could cultivate."

"What?" Davis was astonished, he thought this world's method to cultivate to the Revolving Core Stage was possibly wrong or incomplete. He didn't think it was inferior.

"During my time here, I managed to observe that people here mostly cultivate the lowest grade core that exists, the fifth-level core. Your father has a fourth-level core while I possess a second-level core." She replied as she shook her head as if she lamented for this continent's ignorance.

Davis nodded his head and replied, "So the levels of the core determine the battle prowess of cultivators?"

Claire smiled, but shook her head again, "Yes, not only that, but it's a foundation for one to step into the latter stages of the Energy Gathering Cultivation System."

Davis's eyes widened in bewilderment, "Then does that mean that I can't cultivate to the latter stages of the Energy Gathering Cultivation System unless I cultivate a high-level core?"

Claire shrugged, "It necessarily isn't the case."

"Hmm?" He was confused.

Seeing his confused expression, Claire giggled and explained, "You can still cultivate to the latter stages but it will be difficult as going against the heavens! Which makes it quite impossible to achieve."

Davis nodded his head in understanding and asked another doubt he had in his mind, "Oh, then what about the variations you mentioned?"

"The core we people cultivate is mysterious. It can sometimes change and vary according to one's body physique, even luck. Some manage to etch laws into their core, which gives them an advantage when comprehending laws in the latter stages. Some people who possess special physique like Clara will unquestionably have their own mutated core."

Davis opened his mouth, forming an 'O' shape. He felt incredibly envious of the benefits of special physiques.

"Clara is so incredibly lucky to have born with a mighty physique in this barren continent where the heaven and earth is weaker." Claire smiled as she felt proud of herself. She thanked the heavens as she got a blessing. After all, special physiques are entirely bestowed upon the people by the heavens will.

### **Chapter 113: Ellia's Sickness**

Claire lectured Davis till she made sure that he knew whatever she knew about cultivating to the Revolving Core Stage.

Meanwhile, Davis was shocked to hear that his father will soon cripple his own Energy Gathering Cultivation until it drops to the peak of the Meridian Refinement Stage.

Davis couldn't help but admire his dad for taking such a decision.

On the other hand, about the safety and security of the Loret Empire, Emperor Ashton and Emperor Ruth had promised to protect the Loret Empire during this time in exchange for the information of the land of immortal inheritance.

Claire and Logan both decided to reveal this information as Claire revealed that once the entrance to the inheritance has been opened, it will send a symbol of light to the sky indicating that the inheritance is open to all.

From Claire's explanation, they got that this was the inheritance's way of being fair, meaning that regardless of who found it first, the worthy and the talented will have the final laugh.

Davis was fine with it as he had faith in his own abilities. If he couldn't the get the inheritance, then he could only blame himself for his lack of talent.

The very same day, he invited Evelyynn to the Royal Castle in the name of official matters.

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The next day.

Royal Guards stood in front of the Royal Castle in a diligent manner. Each of their faces was covered by helmets, which made it unable to see their emotions but gave an imposing presence.

Davis stood at the front, waiting for an important guest, while Ellia stood beside him calmly as if nothing had happened yesterday.

A carriage arrived in front of the Royal Castle, putting a smile on his face.

The carriage promptly stopped and Evelyynn got down from it as she smiled back at him.

"Welcome to the Royal Castle, Miss Evelyynn."

"To be invited by my Prince personally, I feel honoured." Evelyynn clasped her hands as she bowed slightly.

After that, they exchanged quite a few formal words as they headed inside the Royal Castle.

"Haha, that was quite the facade you've shown." Evelyynn closed her mouth as she giggled.

"Don't we do that all the time? Something that is known as maintaining our face in front of the crowd." Davis replied indifferently as if it were a matter of fact but suddenly continued, "Right, my parents said that they wanted to meet you."

"The Emperor and the Empress called for me?" Evelynn got nervous. She made a slightly frightened face as she asked him.

"The Emperor aside, the Empress wants to see you it seems." Davis shrugged.

Wearing a worried expression on her face, she asked, "Is she going to test me?"

"Probably, have you prepared for it?" He replied and questioned in a serious tone. In fact, he was just teasing her.

"Even if I did, I don't think I'll get her to accept me." Replying in a sad tone, she put her head down.

Looking at her hanging head, he thought as he sighed, "We got a serious inferiority complex issue here!"

"Haha, it will be fine. My Mom, the Empress has already decided on you. Just make sure you don't make her angry for some reason."

"Hmm, I'll do as you say." Evelynn nodded her head and smiled lightly.

Davis also nodded his head and headed to the throne hall.

Halfway through the corridor, he felt something was amiss, 'Eh? Why are we exchanging words as if we are already married and are on our way to see my parents for acceptance? Something is clearly weird!'

At that moment, their gazes met for an instant before they separated simultaneously.

'What the hell was that about?' Davis' eyes narrowed as he contemplated. Suddenly he looked at her as yesterday's event flashed passed his eyes, 'She? Has she already accepted to be my woman!?' He asked himself in an incredulous manner as if he were questioning his own rationality. A moment later, he shook his head and continued to walk.

A few minutes later, they finally reached in front of the throne hall.

"Well, go inside..."

"Ah? You're not coming?"

Davis suddenly stopped walking beside her. Evelynn realised that he was not walking with her anymore, and got a little more nervous at the prospect of meeting her in-laws alone.

Davis shook his head indicating that he won't accompany her anymore. A moment later, he lifted his hands and gave a thumbs up.

Evelynn pouted with her hands placed on her waists. She then nodded her head and went inside the throne room.

Davis wryly laughed and turned back to head to the study as he had no reason to continue staying here. Just as he turned his head, he froze.

Ellia stared at him with her eyes narrowed. He suddenly felt as if he had been caught doing something unscrupulous.

She continued to stare at him before he could take it no more.

"What are you staring at me for?"

"... Nothing. It's just that I thought the relationship between you two had suddenly become way more inti... amiable."

"Of course, I and Evelynn are going to marry soon. This is totally normal and something to be expected. Besides, what's with you nowadays? You are acting totally weird, Ellia." He replied it as a matter of fact and lastly used a worried tone to ask her.

Ellia had a complicated face as she tried to say something.

"Do you feel sick?" Davis randomly asked as he checked her pulse.

He knew a one or two things about sickness since he studied Alchemy.

Cultivators can also get sick as there are many unexplainable things that can affect them without them being able to notice.

"... No. It's just..." Her complicated face turned sad.

He raised his brows and questioned in a solemn tone, "What is it? Say it! Don't hide anything from me!"

"... I have some weird dreams."

He narrowed his eyes, "Dreams?"

"They're like nightmares..." Her body trembled slightly.

Davis contemplated and hurriedly checked her soul for any anomaly. He then continued to question, "What is that nightmare about? If you're afraid to recall, then you don't need to tell me about it."

#### **Chapter 114: Unease**

Ellia clenched her teeth and replied, "The nightmare I experienced... is kinda hazy. It's like I am being chased down by numerous people. They creepily laugh at me and hunt me down as if I were nothing but a prey for them."

Davis lifted up his brows, 'That's a gruesome experience...'

He then nodded, "I see, from when have you been experiencing this?"

"I've been experiencing these dreams for about a month." She put her head down as she answered sadly.

Hearing that, he narrowed his eyes as he doubted himself, 'Am I that unreliable that she won't even come to find me to talk about it?'

Still, without being disappointed, he continued asking questions, "Do you get these nightmares when you're sleeping?"



"Yes, but not only at that time," Passing for a moment, she resumed, "I get these nightmares while I cultivate as well."

He nodded again and thought, 'Weird, during cultivation? So far, her soul is normal from what I've seen. Could it be a heart demon? No, she's too pure for that. Then what else could it be?' He kept pondering about the reason for a while before he decided to think later, 'For now, let's just comfort her.'

Davis patted her head as he said, "There's no need to worry, it's just a dream. I am here for you. If people in this continent dare t..."

\*Pah!\*

Davis widened his eyes in sheer incredulity as he froze. He couldn't believe his eyes or the feeling of being rejected.

Ellia slapped his hands away from her and clenched her fists slowly as she pointed at him. "You were not there!!" She shouted in a suppressed voice.

"No matter how I called for your help, you were not there! They lynched me! Cut me into pieces while I shouted your name! You were still not there!" Grievance welled up in her eyes, her voice cracked as she sobbed.

"And here, you distance yourself away from me while I try to not let you go!"

"Ellia!" He came out of his reverie and once again reached out for her with his hands.

She took a step back as she wiped those years away, "You two can act intimately all you want and I don't care." She turned back and ran away.

He stood there stunned as if he had just experienced a catastrophe.

A few moments passed before his dumbfounded face became normal and turned bewildered.

'Is that Ellia?' He asked himself in a confused manner.

To him, she was always a quiet girl who cares for him when he doesn't even say anything. He just maintained a certain distance from her because he could see her growing up to be a fine woman.

'Her personality took a 180° turn...' He thought as he smiled wryly.

He then sighed as he muttered, "It's all my fault again... but judging by the fact that she said, this has been happening for over a month."

Suddenly a creepy laugh echoed in his mind, "Hehe... Truly interesting."

"Oye! You know something don't you!?" Davis's eyes widened, not so surprised.

"Not really, besides I don't have to answer for every unexplainable matter that happens to you..."

"You! What did you do to her!?" Seeing that the death note didn't answer his question, he doubted it as his anger flared up. Nightmares were seemingly its fault for Davis.

"Nothing, I was in your soul the whole time. How can I possibly do anything without you noticing?" It casually replied.

Davis gritted his teeth and closed his eyes before he opened, "I hope that is the case."

It sneered as it challenged, "Or else what?"

Davis just stayed silent as his eyes and expression grew cold.

"If you care about her so much, then why don't you just make her your woman? She doesn't need to practice cultivation and can live with you till she dies peacefully..."

"That's not up for you to decide." A cold reply came out from his mouth.

"Hehehe" The voice creepily laughed as it slowly became inaudible.

Davis clenched his fists as he felt worried for her. At the same time, he felt that something was clearly wrong with Ellia, especially after what the death note expressed.

"I must get to the bottom of this matter!" He swore as he found the resolve to find out the abnormality even if it meant that he could somehow possibly offend her in some way.

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In the throne hall, there were only three people. As a matter of fact, all the others who were supposed to be here have had been dismissed temporarily.

"Evelynn greets the Emperor and the Empress!" Evelynn bowed down as she clasped her hands. Her expression was one of determination while her thought was of to leave a favourable first impression on them.

"Good!" Logan said as he looked at her and glanced at Claire. In truth, he didn't know what to say in this situation, so he glanced at Claire for help.

Evelynn felt good at receiving a compliment from the Emperor. She now felt that she could somehow gain their acknowledgement.

Claire rolled her eyes. She didn't even know why he spoke in the first place as she was the one who called Evelynn to the throne hall.

Claire flicked her sleeves and spoke, "Evelynn Cauldon was it? Do you know that you are in no way deserving of my child!" Her frosty expression made her look cold and vicious.

Evelynn trembled as she heard it. Her previous thought disappeared as soon as it came. She slightly put her head down and replied, "You are absolutely right, my Empress."

"If it weren't for the promise we made to your father, the Cauldon Family's Head, you would have no chance to even be here, much less marry my first son!" Claire ended her sentence with an irritated tone.

"I've known it since ages ago." Evelynn lifted up her head and answered back, she knew long ago that status wise or talent wise, she couldn't match up to him.

Claire harrumphed as if she was displeased, "Girl, do you know your wrongs!?"

The moment Evelynn heard that she widened her eyes in confusion, "Wrongs? My Empress, I truly don't know what you're talking about!"

### **Chapter 115: Grievance And Recognition**

Claire had a disgusted expression on her face, "Oh... An act huh? You're just making me dislike you more and more!"

Evelynn's determination and will, lessened, "My Empress, I..."

"Insolent! You dare to talk back!?" Claire made an enraged face as she shouted at her while she stood up.

Narrowing her eyes, she sat back and continued, "Fine, let's have it your way. Firstly, I heard that you didn't want this marriage in the first place. Secondly, you seduced my son and had him at your beck and call. Thirdly, you even managed to make him head over heels for you that he even divulged the secrets of the Revolving Core Stage! Finally, you even dare to come here and meet us without fear? What gall! You're truly a vixen who lusts after glory and power!"

Evelynn felt aggrieved at the accusation, "No! I..."

"What? You thought that I didn't know all this? Do you realise your mistakes? This blunder of yours is punishable by death!"

Evelynn shed tears as she thought back to the first time she and Davis met. She didn't want this marriage, but he fell for her. She couldn't help but admit that she involuntarily seduced him with her charm.

"Since you don't want this marriage and we can't go back on our word, you will tell your father that you have no interest and will obediently back out. If you do that, I will allow you to live and marry the second prince when he grows up. What do you say?" As if granting her amnesty, Claire spoke up and harshly questioned her with a scrutinizing gaze.

Evelynn froze, her eyes glared at the Empress with some hostility as something suddenly broke in her mind, "I'd rather kill myself than obey your tainted words!"

"What? You dare to disrespect us?" Claire stood up with a ferocious expression on her face.

Evelynn chuckled slightly and sneered, "Since I know that I'm going to die, what do I have to fear?"

"You!" Claire made a disgruntled face but was secretly happy with Evelynn's performance so far.

Normally, a woman who had wished for power would have settled with her proposal after being threatened with death, but with Evelynn, Claire could see her resolve to be with Davis.

"This is why! This is why I didn't wish to be married to the Royal Family. You are all full of yourselves that you even dare propose me to marry the second prince when I wholeheartedly love Davis! What assurance do I have that you people will not harm my child when I have one!?"

Claire raised her brows in astonishment, 'She really thought ahead of her future.' After that, she turned her head towards Logan as if asking what kind of family did he have?

Logan smiled wryly and raised his palm a little, indicating that she had gone too far and should stop testing her right now.

Claire pouted as she felt bad, but she wanted to make sure that she was the right woman for her son.

She sighed a little and questioned, "Do you truly love him? Without any deceit and schemes?"

"I love him with all my heart and no matter what, you people can't change that!" Evelynn replied, her tone was forceful which indicated that even if they tortured her, she wouldn't change her thoughts.

Suddenly a voice laughed as if clearing the tension in the throne hall away, "Hahaha, she passed the test, right?" It was Logan, who was silent all this time.

"Fortunately, yes. If she didn't, then I would have killed her myself!" Claire let out a huge sigh and smiled warmly at her.

Evelynn stood there dumbfounded by the turn of events, her mind rapidly worked to understand the current situation, 'Test? She passed the test? Killed if she didn't pass?'

She finally realised what she had been put through and muttered in a bewildered tone, "I was being tested!?"

"Of course, you were. I can now see why my son chose you!"

Having been reminded of Davis, Evelynn thought back to what he said before coming in.

[ "Haha, it will be fine. My Mom, the Empress has already decided on you. Just make sure you don't make her angry for some reason."

"Hmm, I'll do as you say." ]

Her face turned red from embarrassment as she remembered his advice. She knew that she was going to be tested but, 'Isn't this way too much?'

She thought as she bit her lips, her grievance from the accusation wasn't small after all.

Claire got up from her seat and flew to her, "Alright, alright, I'm sorry to have made you go through with this but your actions clearly do not conform with your thoughts. I still do not understand how much you love him, nor do I know what made you love him. That's why I had no choice but to test you harshly."

Hearing that, Evelynn wryly smiled, "It's your son's fault for confusing my feelings."

"Haha, somehow I can't deny that. Isn't he quite unique?" Claire asked proudly.

Evelynn smiled but didn't reply. Her smile had a certain glow to it that said that he was quite unique to her.

Regaining her bearings, she hurriedly said, "I apologise for being rude to you, my Empress."

Claire suddenly felt even worse to have had her made go through this ordeal, "It's fine, it was my fault for being rude in the first place. Don't be so distant, come on, quickly call me mother-in-law!"

Caught off-guard, Evelynn stuttered as she quickly uttered, "M... Mother-in-law!"

Claire hurriedly hugged her, "Good! Quickly greet your father-in-law!"

"Father-in-law..." Evelynn called out while hugging Claire.

Logan nodded at her acknowledgement and felt satisfied as well, but his face was solemn, "I hope you really forgive your mother-in-law as she had experienced too many betrayals in her short lifetime. That's why she wanted to make sure that her son's bride will be loyal to him."

Hearing that the Empress has suffered from betrayals, she couldn't help but take a look at Claire's face one more time, "I... I understand. I won't take any offence, neither will I hold much resentment against you. Furthermore, I apologise for sticking my nose into the Revolving Core Stage's secret."

### **Chapter 116: Unknown Explosion!**

Laughing gently, Claire replied, "Haha, you don't have to apologise for it. I knew it was my son who decided to trust you and tell you about it. I also knew what kind of a person you are, after all, I've been keeping tabs on you for all this time."

"I'm being monitored?" Evelynn's smile froze when she heard that.

Claire laughed as she patted her shoulders, "Hahaha, you believed that? I was just kidding! Anyway, you don't have to look down on yourself anymore. Raise your self-esteem and become a worthy bride for my son!"

"I... I'll try my best!" Evelynn nodded and felt awkward at the sudden change of events.

First, she was accused of seducing the Prince. Second, she was told that she was being tested. Third, they then told her that she passed and should work towards to being a genuine bride.

The whole change of events was too fast for her to process that she had no choice but to continue with the flow of events.

That said, she was happy with the results as she had managed to get her in-laws' acknowledgement.

Claire smiled at her reply and was suddenly reminded of a certain thing, "As an apology for my actions before, I'll tell you about something that even my son hasn't realised yet."

Evelynn showed interest at the mention of him, "Is it about me?"

Claire giggled at her curious face and replied, "It's not about you, but it's certainly related to your future."

Evelynn's face was one of confusion, "Related to my future?"

"You should be wary of that girl who is always with my son."

A silhouette appeared in her mind who always looked at her with an unexplainable gaze, "Ellia..."

Boom!!

Suddenly an explosion resounded out as it shook the whole Royal Castle.

Logan and Claire's expression turned heavy and their pupils dilated as they shuddered when they felt the wave of soul energy which brushed past them.

Evelynn fainted as she felt the soul energy brush past her, but was supported by Claire before she could collapse.

"What was that!?" Logan asked as he looked at a direction.

"Part of the Royal Castle has collapsed!" Claire's eyes widened as Logan flew over to that direction.

Logan hurriedly extended his soul sense to find out the powerful intruder while Claire rushed off in an incredible speed to her chambers, wanting to protect her children.

A few seconds passed before they arrived at their separate destinations.

Claire felt relieved on seeing Edward being safe but fainted. She quickly carried him and located Clara and Diana with her soul sense as she promptly headed to their direction without wasting a single second.

Logan half kneeled in front of the collapsed part of the Royal Castle, his eyes were narrowed and the soul pressure he was facing made him unable to stand up with his two feet.

He raised his face to look at the scene which he was unable to process with his knowledge.

A little girl strangled Davis with a single hand as he was lifted up into the air.

"Who are you!?" Davis shouted hoarsely as his neck was strangled.

"Me? You don't need to know that you lowly swine. All you need to know is that your fate ends here!"

Davis's eyes trembled as his face contorted in pain. He suddenly grinned with difficulty, "I want to see you dare kill me in the presence of my master!"

...

A few minutes earlier before Logan arrived at the scene.

"Honestly I don't know how to speak with her anymore. She couldn't make it any clear that she loves me. If I still don't realise that, then I'm freaking dense as a rock!

"Besides, how dare she runs away while we are talking and leaves me hanging there like a fool? Her courage has grown greatly since the time of the Grand Sea Continent Meet!"

Davis kept complaining incessantly at her actions, but at the same time, he had a faint smile on his face that said he couldn't still help but care about her.

He kept walking towards her assigned residence as he reminisced about their time together in these three years.

["So...Sorry, Master. I am called Ellia."

"Mi... miss Ellia? Your lowly servant doesn't require that much of an honorific, my Prince."

"Anything but that! I'll accept any punishments, please punish this lowly one."]

"Sigh, that timid little girl grew up to be a tigress. When I first met her, she wasn't even able to form a proper sentence when she spoke in front of me. And now, I'm the one who is getting berated by her?" Laughing wryly, he continued to contemplate.

"This is certainly a quick growth which is quite impossible for a child. But the foundation for a person's personality gets established in their childhood. I guess it isn't a stretch to say that her change in personality is possible for her age group. Wait! Could it be that she had reached puberty and had her first period that it drove her mad?" Countless possibilities raced through his mind as he thought of the reason for her weird actions.

He finally reached in front of her residence and stood in front of the door.

"Sigh, let's just ask her by myself and be done with this mess." He muttered to himself as he knocked on the door, then shouted, "Ellia, I'm sorry if I have done anything wrong. Just open the door so we could discuss and come to an understanding!"

A few seconds passed before he tried to open the door after seeing that she didn't reply.

"It opened? She didn't lock the door?" He pushed the door and looked inside, "She's cultivating!?"

Confusion was visible on his face as he quickly went up to her.

Ellia sat in a lotus position as she cultivated. Her face was still stained with two lines of tears.

"Ellia! Ellllia! Elllliaaaa!" He tried calling her but she still didn't stop cultivating, "Holy smokes! Did she seal up her five senses? Is she that mad at me?" Davis scratched his head as he muttered wryly.

"Sigh, didn't I tell her to wait a little more until I can find some resources which will enable us to develop a first level core? Is this her way of getting revenge on me?" He worriedly asked himself as he felt bad for making her behave like this.

### **Chapter 117: Sorry, I Messed Up**

Suddenly, undulations fluctuated around Ellia as the surrounding heaven and earth energy condensed into a semi-liquid form and entered through her pores over her fair yet pale skin. The energy all traveled in her meridian pathway, leading towards her dantian.

Davis narrowed his eyes, "She's condensing her core!? Why is she hastily cultivating? Even if she wanted to get back on me, she could have waited until I get the required resources..."

An eerie laugh echoed in his mind. He noticed the Death Book's voice but thought that it was just laughing at him.

'Isn't she forming her revolving core in the dantian too fast?' He instantly noticed the peculiar situation and shouted involuntarily, "Ellia, calm down and cultivate slowly!"

However, when he instantly realized that she couldn't hear him, he clenched his fists, "Tsk, she can't hear me! It's no use!"

After this, he felt that he could only pray to the heavens for her to not make a mistake and encounter cultivation deviation as a result.

A few seconds passed before the surrounding atmosphere turned tranquil as the heaven and earth energy silently dispersed as if its dense presence was never there in the first place.

Ellia's small figure sat in a cross-legged position. Her entire silhouette remained the same, pretty, and adorable, however, she faintly seemed different.

Abruptly, Davis felt a vague chill while looking at her! He subconsciously stepped back before he grit his teeth and went forward.

"Ellia, are you fine?" He reached out his hand and placed it on her shoulders.

Ellia's eyelids trembled. She slowly opened her eyes and looked at him, but a confused expression could be seen on her face. Suddenly, tears formed in her eyes as her expression changed, "Sorry, I messed up."

Davis abruptly felt his knees go weak! Alarm bells rang in his mind!

'Danger!'

"Sacred Soul Shield!"

\*Boom!~\*

The area collapsed as enormous waves of pure soul force exploded out from her body, painting the whole place with blinding light.

Rubbles, debris that was at least of Peak-Level Earth Grade quality flew all over the area as the place looked as if it was struck by a meteor.

The whole Royal Castle was still intact, but the place where the explosion occurred had a spherical chunk of it taken away!

Davis felt like he was going to die when he got hit with that pure soul force wave. His face contorted in pain while his barrier didn't even last a second before breaking into bits which made his soul force grow awry.

He felt a stinging pain in his glabella which made him shut his eyes as he grimaced.

When he finally opened his eyes, he felt that his head was swelling with the pain that stemmed from his soul. His clothes were absolutely tattered from the explosion.

Tilting his head to the side, he saw Ellia floating in the air with her mouth wide open as if she was suffering from excruciating pain. Formless soul force swelled around her as it entered into her body, creating a space of vacuum which isolated her screams.

"What is happening!?" Davis shouted atop his lungs but his voice was hoarse which made it unable to reach anyone's ears.

He could sense her soul force increasing rapidly like a flood that had been released by a dam. He couldn't make head or tails of the situation, including her status, but one thing he was sure of was to knock her unconscious before something untoward might happen to her.



Focusing on gathering every bit of energy in his body, he prepared to move while he planned to break through that space of vacuum.

"Piercing Sacred Lance! "

\*Boom!~\*

"Ellia!!!"

Piercing through the vacuum with his face contorted in a grimace, he headed towards her frail floating body as he frantically shouted!

Suddenly, the world inside his eyes came to a standstill as his neck was strangled by a frail hand. His eyes went wide at the present sight presented before him!

At this moment, his eyes registered a girl who had pale skin, black hair that was tinged with a few strands of white. Her eyebrows were pure white and her facial structure was the same as Ellia's, pretty and adorable.

She lifted him up as she looked at him with a scrutinizing gaze. Her snow-white eyes induced a bone-chilling coldness in his heart.

At the next moment, Davis swiftly realized that the person flying in front of him wasn't Ellia anymore!

"Who are you!?" Davis shouted, but his voice echoed hoarsely with his neck being strangled by her. He felt his power being restrained and realized that he was simply being suppressed by her soul pressure.

This made him unable to use soul force to a great degree!

"Me? You don't need to know that you lowly swine. All you need to know is that your fate ends here!" Replied the snow-white girl with an icy demeanor. Her cold eyes seemed to have the gaze of a person who wanted to kill.

Davis's eyes trembled as his face contorted in pain. He suddenly grinned with difficulty, "I w-want to see you dare kill me in the p-presence of my master!"

"Arrogance!" Her snow-white eyes glowed as the words left her mouth.

Her hand which held his neck suddenly grew bright and a wave of letters formed around her wrists.

Whoosh!

The swirling letters suddenly erupted and transformed into a beam of light that shot towards him. The beam of light entered his glabella and transformed into chains of light.

Davis suddenly felt as if he was submerged in the mud, and felt his mind going blank and dull. The next second he felt his conscious return and the feeling of being submerged in the mud disappeared!

"..."

The snow-white girl looked at him with a scrutinizing gaze for a while before some icy words escaped her mouth, "Consider yourself lucky for now. I'll return to kill you when I get my cultivation back!"

Her cold eyes suddenly turned cautious as she spread out her soul sense. Her eyes darted left and right if she were searching for someone.

Davis fell and started to have a coughing fit from having his neck released by her.

The snow-white girl opened her mouth and spoke in an indifferent tone, "Which expert is protecting this scumbag?"

Davis coughed heavily after being called a scumbag. He didn't know what he did to this existence to be called a scumbag... It was as if this existence held an enormous amount of hate for him.

But after all this, he couldn't help but get really angry with her actions. Initially, he kept his anger suppressed as he knew this unknown existence could be using Ellia's body to kill him, but he couldn't control himself anymore after being strangled and called a scumbag.

"Who are you? Scumbag!? What did I do to deserve being called like this?" Davis shouted as he continuously coughed.

The snow-white girl didn't seem to listen to his words but narrowed her eyes before continued in a cold tone, "Silence? Fine with me, I expect you to do the same when I return to kill this scumbag."

### **Chapter 118: Speculation**

"You! I'm not a scumbag!" Davis tried to stand up but was inadvertently suppressed by her vigorous soul force.

"I assume that your silence in this matter means a vivid yes... Then I hope you don't regret it later on. Hmm? What, you ask? About the fact that you missed the perfect opportunity to kill me!"

The uncanny laughter of the snow-white girl echoed throughout the area!

Davis abruptly stood up and staggered, but the moment he looked in her direction, he stared at nothing but an empty space.

"She disappeared..." Narrowing his eyes, he looked left and right and realized the pressure on him had disappeared. It left a completely bad taste in his mind, as he was totally ignored and one-sidedly crushed to the ground.

However, more than that, that entity had taken away Ellia's body!

"Davis!" At that moment, Logan who had been suppressed by the soul force quickly made his way to him.

Davis looked at his father who had a solemn expression on his face.

Logan stood beside him as he held his shoulders, "What exactly happened!?"

Shaking his head, Davis replied as he felt his headache, "I don't know. Ellia suddenly turned into a nonsense-spewing white witch after she experienced a breakthrough and disappeared."

Logan became taken aback before he hurriedly checked Davis's injuries, "Are you injured?"

"I'm fine, but my soul is injured. I'll go back to the study to recuperate."

Davis replied as he heaved a rather painful sigh. He felt saddened at Ellia's disappearance and to further worsen it, he still had no idea of what really happened to Ellia.

How can an unknown existence suddenly take over her? Even if some existence intruded into the Royal Castle, shouldn't he be its prime target?

'The unknown existence is female? Hence, she chose Ellia rather than me?'

"Alright, make sure to heal yourself completely..." Logan uttered as he checked his surroundings, but if one carefully looked at him, they could see that he was trembling slightly.

Davis could tell that he was quite shaken from the events that had happened just now. He couldn't blame him because the pressure he experienced had frightened the soul out of him as well. The pressure that snow-white girl let out was quite intimidating, to say the least.

"Father, there's no need to worry. She left, but didn't cause any casualties."

Logan looked at him and finally heaved a sigh of relief before widening his eyes incredulously, "You're right... But how did she? Wait! Did you say Ellia? How did she gain that much power!?"

Davis became taken aback as he mused, 'Was he that cautious when he came here? He must be scouring with his Soul Sense the entire Royal Capital right now...'

"I don't know, it might be because she was possessed by some unknown existence. The only matter I'm sure of is that body is undoubtedly Ellia's!" Davis said as he gritted his teeth.

Anger surged in his eyes as he thought of Ellia's innocent smile and tender eyes turning into a cold one.

Walking away silently, he headed to the study while Claire arrived at the scene before she started to investigate.

=====

A day passed before things turned calm, but at that moment a certain piece of news exploded in the Royal Capital.

"The High Line Slave Traders had been exterminated?" Davis questioned as his pupils flickered.

Claire nodded her head, "More than ten thousand people who belong to it are dead. Witnesses say that they saw a little girl with black and white hair flying around the headquarters of the High Line Slave Traders."

He narrowed his eyes as he thought, 'Strange, isn't the headquarters of High Line Slave Traders the place where Ellia grew up?'

"They were the ones who auctioned off Ellia." Seeing his expression, Claire confirmed his thoughts.

"But it doesn't make any sense! Don't tell me that the one who possessed Ellia wanted to help her get revenge? If that is so, then why did she try to kill me?" David had a frustrated look on his face.

Yesterday, after he had returned to the study, he questioned Death Book but it was not at all willing to answer. It said that it was only willing to tell when he reaches the next level in Soul Forging Cultivation.

On top of that, even if he had wanted to confront with the possessed Ellia, it was not possible as he was overwhelmingly weak in front of her Soul Forging Cultivation.

"What if it turns out to be the same case as you?" Claire suddenly asked with a concerned expression on her face.

"Same case as me?" Instantly, he thought of his origin and how he came to this world, 'A transmigrator?'

He quickly erased the thought and looked at her.

Claire was also looking back at him as they came to an understanding and said at the same time, "A reincarnator!"

Davis instantly stood up as he banged the table, "It all freaking makes sense! All the weird and suspicious actions that Ellia did before was undoubtedly under the influence of her previous incarnation!"

His eyes glowed as he became fifty percent sure of his speculation.

He then widened his eyes as he clutched his head, "Ellia mentioned that she had been experiencing nightmares for about a month! I am an idiot! If I had just listened to her problems, then I should've been able to do something about it!"

\*Paah!!~\*

Claire slightly slapped him with an angry expression on her face, bringing him out of his self-blame session, "Don't be so arrogant! Your master might have noticed but didn't do anything to stop her previous incarnation from taking over her body! What makes you think you could have done something about it?"

Davis went silent as he couldn't rebuke his mother's statement.

"Leave her!" Claire's expression became serious.

"But mother! No way!" Davis instantly rejected as he shook his head and stepped back.

Claire also shook her head hurriedly, "I'm not asking you to leave her permanently, I'm asking you to become strong with the help of your master. Once you have enough strength, you can save her then if it is possible!"

Davis nodded blankly he heard his mother, "Alright, I'll do as mother says..."

Claire then hurriedly embraced him, "Good child..."

She looked at his calm face, but she knew that he must have taken a huge blow by not being able to save Ellia. She had been not able to save her father all this time, so she knew the pain of not being able to save their loved ones.

Claire caressed his head as she tried to comfort him. Davis stayed silent as he thought about what he could have done in that scenario but nothing came to his mind.

The Death Book wouldn't provide him with any help unless he broke through, but to breakthrough, he needed to kill the emperors who had a good relationship with him.

At that moment, he got a sudden urge to kill them to make himself powerful, but feeling the warmth from his mother's embrace, he slightly shook his head as he dissolved that thought.

It felt like he was stranded in an island all alone by himself without any help, except he was bathing in the warm sunlight which mended his soul to an extent.

Suddenly he felt his soul and heart beating in resonance, it was as if they were sinking in harmony, he felt as if he were floating in the warm sky.

He saw a golden light, floating in the airspace above him. He felt like he had to grab it no matter what, but when he tried, he couldn't move his body.

The feeling of harmony disappeared and he was back in his mother's embrace. He removed her hands and looked at her in confusion.

"What?" Claire asked as he looked at his confused face.

Davis then explained it to her on what he had felt like just now.

As he was explaining, Claire's expression changed midway into astonishment before later turning into excitement.

### **Chapter 119: Breakthrough, Mid-Level Adult Soul Stage!**

Claire hurriedly held his shoulders and shouted excitedly, "Davis! You must have almost comprehended the Heart Intent!"

"Heart Intent? Is it like Sword Intent?" With a curious face, he questioned. He hadn't read about this so-called Heart Intent before.

"It is not like those intents, it is mysterious and ethereal! Ancient texts recorded that those who have comprehended the Heart Intent could see through the hearts of people."

Hearing the use is its power, Davis thought that this Intent was close to the Truth Eyes of Clara.

"It has no offensive power?" He then questioned, what he needed was an offensive ability right now, not a supportive ability.

"Of course, it has, but not on the first level. You will be even able to influence the hearts of people, convince them to change their ways, or make them work for you."

Davis widened his eyes in astonishment, "This is better than placing soul seals on people and turning them into a puppet!"

'Besides, writing the name of some people might make them my slaves, but later kills them inevitably! This Heart Intent is way better!'

"Mother, quickly tell me on how to comprehend the Heart Intent!" Davis held her hands and excitedly asked.

Claire wryly laughed, "This... The ancient texts I read did not mention the method to comprehend the Heart Intent. All it did mention was that it depends on the person and their insights."

"What? So vague!" Davis's face changed into one of disappointment.

"It can't be helped. After all, it said that it was enigmatic and cannot be comprehended unless you receive an epiphany..." Claire said as she smiled slightly.

Suddenly, his saddened face froze!

Claire noticed it and couldn't help but worry, "What happened!?"

His frozen face turned incomparably jubilant as he grinned, "I feel like I'm going to experience breakthrough!"

Claire's expression also turned jubilant as she added, "Even though you failed to comprehend Heart Intent, it must have helped you to gain the momentum to break through the next level!"

Davis kept nodding his head. Finally, he could ask questions and get answers from the Death Book!

"Quick, concentrate on breaking through, don't let this chance escape!" Claire said as she went out of his study.

Davis hurriedly sat in the lotus position and concentrated on breaking through the next level.

Claire was outside the study, she waited for him to succeed as worry was visible on her face.

An hour had passed before Davis walked out of the study. He had a smile on his face, blazing with confidence which ultimately indicated that he had successfully experienced a breakthrough!

Claire looked at him and became quite satisfied to see him regain his previous calm mental state, "Congratulations on breaking through to the Mid-Level Adult Soul Stage, my son!"

"Hehe" Davis chuckled as he looked at his mother's proud expression.

"Now don't get so arrogant and try to do something about Ellia, you're still too weak." Claire reminded him, she did not want to have her son die in vain.

"I know..." Davis replied calmly as he thought about the conversation with the Death Book after he broke through to the Mid-Level Adult Soul Stage.

=====

A few minutes ago...

Resplendent white light shone brightly while the space around Davis turned incomparably misty as it shrouded the room.

Davis opened his eyes and felt stronger and pure. He suddenly thought of something but didn't ask, instead he tried asking what he wanted to know the most, "Now that I've achieved a breakthrough, I believe that you will now answer my questions!"

A crispy voice echoed in his mind, "Well well, I thought you will take some time to break through the next level, but who would have thought that you will encounter some luck! Heh, this ruined the fun for me as I wanted to keep you in the dark for some more time."

Replying coldly, Davis's face lit up with a slight grin, "How embarrassing, looks like you can even predict my next actions after being with me for so many years. It doesn't matter though, I just want to know everything that had happened to Ellia? I won't let you say no for an answer!"

It laughed crisply and replied, "Boy, I'll keep up my words! You don't have to worry about it..."

"Then say it!" Davis grunted in annoyance and anticipation.

"Alright then, listen carefully..." Echoed the voice as it chuckled lightly.

Davis nodded, he focused on its voice, "Your lovely little friend is possessed!"

Davis's face stiffened, "What? Then was my guess wrong!?"

He thought Ellia was a reincarnator, probably an old female cultivator who had experienced life, so he had thought of convincing her somehow to come back to him.

A displeased voice echoed in his mind, "Don't interrupt me! I told you to listen carefully!"

Davis then nodded lightly, he had no choice but to follow its instructions as he wanted to know the truth behind Ellia's transformation.

"She was indeed possessed, but the one who possessed her might be her previous incarnation from what I've seen so far." It then went silent.

Davis who had been listening to it, suddenly realized that it was waiting for him to ask a question, "So you mean to say that Ellia is not the reincarnator?"

"Glad you asked, she isn't! Her previous incarnation is the one who reincarnated in her body. So basically, the one who possessed Ellia is an invader, who is totally compatible with the vessel, which is Ellia's body!"

He turned silent but had a smile on his face as he continued listening.

"Your Ellia is still somewhere locked in her own soul sea. Her consciousness might have been sealed or imprisoned by her previous incarnation. Hey, what are you smiling at?"

Davis chuckled as he thought of something funny, "No, I was just thinking that if I should convince her to let Ellia go and make her my friend as well if..."

"Oh, sounds interesting..." It laughed before its voice turned angry, "I can't wait to see you try that and get your head chopped off! Haha! Are you fucking stupid!?"

Davis became dumbfounded because he didn't think that it would get this angry, 'Is it even capable of having emotions?'

He had wanted to say that if the previous incarnation was obedient, then he wasn't averse to giving her a chance since he was also in a similar kind of situation.

He shook his head and replied with a chuckle, "I was just kidding!"

Harrumphing in a cold voice, the Death Book replied, "Kid, it was pretty boring but I liked your cold personality when you were in the third layer. Did you get soft and cozy while you were playing family all this while!?"

"It would be a real pity if your fake family were to suddenly die for no reason..." Laughing creepily in a crisp voice, it sneered.

"Shut your mouth!!" Davis expressed his anger with an enraged expression on his face. For a moment, he felt like destroying this Death Book even though he possibly couldn't.

### **Chapter 120: Decision!**

As if mocking him with a sneer, Death Book's voice echoed again, "Honestly, did you think that girl who possessed Ellia let you go? If it weren't for me who dissolved her slave seal which she cast on you, you would have been slaving for her right now! If it weren't for my power which made her believe that some expert is protecting you, she wouldn't have left! Instead, she would have slaughtered you and your whole family!"

Its voice then sounded exasperated, "And here you are shouting that you want to make friends with her? What? Is this one of those comics you read back in the third layer!?"

Davis's emotions turned complicated, 'Why is it worrying for me suddenly? Does it want me dead or alive?'

Clearing his mind, he asked with a confused expression on his face, "What do you want me to do then...?"

"Are you blind? You should have written her name on me the moment she glared at you with hostility!" It replied in an incensed tone.

"But! Her Soul Forging Cultivation was higher than mine! I couldn't see her name with the Death God Eyes!" Davis rebutted as he already thought about using his Death God Eyes on her at that time.

However, he was even hard-pressed to use his soul under her enormous soul pressure.

Chuckling in a cold voice, it explained, "Idiot, write that little girl's name. If you do that, then her other self, which is her previous incarnation will automatically lose its support to reside in this world. She will die along with her other self."

Davis suddenly turned confused, 'Write that girl's name?'

Shaking his head, he answered, "I don't understand..."

"If I'm correct, then the little girl's previous incarnation should have used a forbidden cultivation technique that was against the laws of the heavens or perhaps encountered a mishap while cultivating that forbidden technique causing both of their souls to be interconnected together. One needs the other, or they won't be able to live! That why I mentioned that your Ellia's consciousness might have been sealed or imprisoned, not killed."



Davis narrowed his eyes as the realization hit him, "You want me to kill Ellia?"

"That's what I'm trying to convey all this time..." It sighed. Its voice sounded as if it was talking to a slow-learner.

Davis raised his hand and pointed at his glabella, "I won't do it! I'm not a cold-hearted bastard like you who only cares about Death! Besides, your speculation might not be entirely correct!"

"Oh... What if I said that I have over 90% confidence in my speculation?" It raised its voice in interest and questioned.

"Then I'll believe that remaining 10%!" Davis gritted his teeth and answered its question.

It went silent for a moment before its displeased voice echoed in his mind, "Hmph, don't blame me for not reminding you! It's your choice..."

"I won't." Davis nodded his head calmly. He then remembered something.

"Oh, I forgot, thanks for saving me back then. I didn't realize that it was you who saved me from her attack... A few moments before, I didn't even realize that it was an attack!"

"Who said I saved you specifically? I and your soul are bound together. If she had placed a slave seal on you, wouldn't that mean that I would also be her slave? It will be an insult that I cannot stand for!"

"Ohhh..." Davis said as he nodded his head rapidly.

'Is it my imagination, or is it possibly acting like what you call it, a 'tsundere'?' Davis thought and felt disgusted. He hurriedly cleared away his thoughts and deemed that it was his imagination.

"Well, you still have two more questions to ask. Are you not going to ask?"

Contemplating for a moment, he replied, "I'll keep those two important opportunities in reserve..."

"Are you not going to ask for Cultivation Techniques?" It asked again as if it was tempting him.

"Even if I did, I probably wouldn't have the resources to cultivate it!" He replied calmly and chuckled.

It went silent before replying a moment later, "Tch, you've suddenly become bright!"

Davis smiled and stood up, he then left the study to meet his mother who had been waiting for an hour outside to see him succeed in breaking through.

=====

"I've decided to stay away from her previous incarnation until I grow strong enough to get Ellia back!" Davis strongly responded as he came out of his thoughts.

Claire smiled as she could see that he was not only optimistic about it but the worry that had been plaguing him has disappeared from his eyes.

"Oh, I forgot to mention. Evelyn's father, Duke Evan Cauldon came to take her away today. She waited for you the whole time, but seeing that you were busy and injured, she left without saying anything."

Davis's expression became blank as he suddenly felt like sh\*t. He was so lost in the matter of Ellia that he totally forgot about Evelyn.

He raised his hands and facepalmed himself while he immersed himself in self-blame again.

"Is she injured?" He asked softly, his voice was filled with self-blame.

Claire shook her head, "No, she had just fainted at that time. Other than that, she is fine..."

"How about the others?" Davis asked without relaxing.

"Everyone is safe, no injuries, except the Royal Castle only had a small part of it destroyed." Smiling brightly, she patted his shoulders which seemed to carry some burdens.

"I'm sorry. Mother, it's all my fault."

Claire was confused, but she responded, "If you think so, then make it up to us by taking good care of Evelyn."

Realizing her words, he looked at her in wonder, "Hmm... Does that mean you approve of her?"

"Yes. Unfortunately, I said some harsh things while testing her. Later, I explained to her that it was just a test. Although, it might take some time for her to..." Claire abruptly shut her mouth as she couldn't stand his cold glare anymore.

Davis's expression gradually turned cold while he kept glaring at her.

"I'm sorry..." Claire answered as she lowered her head, her voice couldn't get any meeker than now.

"Sigh, I'm not blaming you, mother. I know you did it for me. It's just that the timing couldn't be any worse. It's like the entire world is scheming against me."

Davis let out an exasperated sigh.

"I..." She wanted to say something but couldn't form the right words.

Laughing at himself, Davis continued, "I haven't even gone to your world, but I'm getting hit with misfortune. I couldn't help but think the curse which had plagued me in my previous life is still with me..."

Claire stayed silent. She felt all the more guilty for harshly treating Evelyn.

"Leave it, this isn't something new. Misfortune follows me all the way until I die, it won't change."

Claire couldn't understand his thoughts about his previous life but seeing her son blaming himself, she couldn't help but ask, "Davis, are you giving up?"

Davis looked at her and laughed, "Of course not! I know myself better than anyone... Guess I just wanted to share it with someone and actually, now that I have divulged my thoughts, I feel a lot better."