

EMPEROR 1391

Chapter 1391: Battling It Out?

Shirley continued, "However, there is one family that moves in the dark and does not govern any cities or places, almost like assassins. They're the Burnwinds, a very small group of around a thousand or so people, but they consist of nothing but feys like people who have turned into feys by fusing more burning phoenix blood."

"Oh?" Davis became a bit interested as he decided to ask a stupid question, "What about pure feys who're born between humans and magical beasts? Do they still exist?"

"Well, they have gone extinct because an offspring between a human and a magical beast could not be conceived unless the two parties reach the Immortal Stage, or so the legends say, so I could not be sure."

"I see..." His doubts were swiftly confirmed, but considering that Immortals existed here way before the Fifty-Two Territories came into essence, he could understand why they no longer exist.

Probably, only their descendants were lurking somewhere in this world, and some of the Burnwinds also might truly be a descendant of a union between a human and a Burning Phoenix.

"Nevertheless, these ten families are rather overly complicated with so many characters and personalities in them, so even if someone from the Strom, Stein, Bach, and Burnwind families obstructs you, it could also mean that they are secretly in cahoots with the Rein Family. You don't need to show any mercy towards them."

"I know..." Davis's expression was a bit cold, "I will just warn them once if I feel like it, and if they don't heed it, it will become their fault for hindering me because I probably wouldn't have the luxury to care about wasting lives."

He already had seen a Burnwind who had turned coat, working for the Rein Family. He was that fey whom he had enslaved but was quickly killed by Grand Elder Valerian, so it was a given that not all people from the Weiss camp were his temporary allies.

Afterward, Esvele explained more about the things Shirley didn't know, such as the relationships between the Grand Elders, the enmities they possessed with each other, and a lot of other things. As if preparing for a practical exam to kill, Davis listened patiently.

It was a strange sight if one viewed with the modern perspective.

"Good! Just find a way to survive and escape after the deed is done. It would be all good by then...!"

Shirley cheered and clenched her fists, raising her hands as she smiled at him.

Davis just smiled, not providing an answer.

"Alright, the chat is over. Go back to your cultivation room and start cultivating..."

"Geh~" Shirley uttered a sound of reluctance before her shoulders drooped.

"Okay~"

She went back to her room, leaving him and Esvele behind.

"You're not gonna run away this time...?"

Davis's voice echoed, causing Esvele's face to blush imperceptibly.

"I would like to apologize again for my rudeness a while ago..."

"I'd like to say that there's no need for an apology from you as I was aware of what I was doing, but if it makes you feel better, then your apology is accepted. Just don't mind it and cultivate by using the vial."

"Thank you~"

Esvele bowed towards him one eighty degrees before she left. He watched her leave, his gaze subconsciously landing on her swaying butt. She became immensely popular with her mature body and status in the Burning Phoenix Ridge now, a delectable target as much as Verona Stein, so he couldn't help but feel worried about her a bit.

Likely, she wasn't even looking at her own safety, enough to even sacrifice herself to him so that she wouldn't betray Shirley again.

What kind of loyalty was that? It was practically self-harm that he couldn't help but look at her with a bit of tenderness.

'She would make a perfect protector for Shirley with her character, but it's a pity that she's not powerful...' He inwardly sighed.

Davis was about to close the door while Esvele hadn't even crossed the corridor yet when a small silhouette suddenly pounced on her.

"Ahh~!"

Davis shook his head, knowing that Freya had ambushed Esvele's bosoms again. Magical Beasts sure had it easy, absorbing energy and sleeping all day long that they would become bored to do things like these with their personalities.

Nevertheless, he hoped that Esvele wouldn't get attacked like this by someone else if she went outside for some errands.

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Time passed.

The next few hours were filled with silence in the crimson palace.

However, messengers from the eight families, Weiss, Strom, Stein, Burnwind, Bach, Rein, Schatz, and Rayn, arrived shortly at this moment.

Davis inwardly fumed at the sight of the eight messengers dressed in auspicious red robes. While the two Grand Elders allowed the Weiss's side to go through first to have an advantage, Davis raised his hand and instantly used his soul force to burn all eight of the letters they had in their hands.

"What!?"

"Are you out of your mind!?"

Grand Elder Erich Weiss and Wolfram Bach bellowed, their expressions seemingly becoming unfriendly.

"All marriage proposals are banned. Shirley is cultivating, and she doesn't want any disturbances to her state of mind. I'll just say a word, leave..."

Davis dropped these words and headed inside as he turned back. They looked at his back angrily, wanting to tear him apart into pieces.

He returned to the main hall, sitting along with Freya, who poked his face with her delicate-looking finger that was actually strong enough to rip a hole in his face inside out.

"Master, don't be angry..."

Davis looked at her as he gave her a side-eye before he chuckled. He had purely wanted to look at what was up with the commotion outside, but he didn't expect there to be an entourage from the eight families in a formal manner, all having their wedding proposals ready.

Of course, it seemed that they only came to deliver these letters and not talks, but still, he burned them all before they could even step into the crimson palace.

'While Sect Master Lea Weiss is burning the wedding proposals from other powers, I am burning the local ones...'

He couldn't help but laugh, feeling wicked.

Shirley was his already, so why would he let other proposals make their way to her? It was an insult to him if even one made it to her.

If Shirley had to reject these proposals herself every single time, then he had no need to call himself her man, of course, unless he was absent.

'But as expected. None of them have the courage to intrude the crimson palace. After all, the orders from Sect Master Lea Weiss for those two Grand Elders were to kill anyone, no matter who it may be, if they forcefully enter Shirley's Crimson Palace without her invitation or consent.'

Yes, it wasn't a restraining order but a kill order. If they weren't invited by Shirley or let in by the Sect Master, they were to be killed. It was such a throat-slitting approach that was rarely adopted in a sect because matters would be taken by the Disciplinary Hall to be given a verdict, but this kill order was something straight from the Sect Master herself, overturning any authoritative bodies that may be present here.

While everything became normal again, the wretched Top Disciple came back again, this time with three more Elders from the various families on Rein Family's side.

"Shirley! I'm back!"

Top Disciple Azzuren Rein's voice echoed, causing Davis to place his hand on his forehead.

'Is it finally time...?'

He stood up, heading towards the entrance again. Strangely, there was no sound as if Top Disciple Azzuren Rein seemed to be waiting for Shirley to truly come.

'He hasn't just sat there in the entrance, had he?'

Davis's soul sense hadn't reached that spot because he didn't want those two Grand Elders to overly examine his soul sense if theirs were to be in contact with it. Although he doubted if they could garner anything, he didn't want to needlessly underestimate.

He arrived at the entrance but was stunned to see Top Disciple Azzuren Rein be engaged in a dispute with another man, a rather familiar man that Davis's eyes couldn't help become wide.

Surprisingly Elder Karlheinz Strom was also here. He was none other than the person Davis first met when he entered the Burning Phoenix Ridge Territory.

Elder Karlheinz Strom and Top Disciple Azzuren Rein seemed to be engaged in insulting each other. It was almost like a slugfest of words to see who could outwit and humiliate the other party more, but it was so low-level that Davis felt mortals would win this hurl of insults.

'As expected of people born and brought up in a sect...'

Of course, with only their ability to use their mouths, Davis also felt mortals were pitiful beings because they could be easily erased with a single wave of these cultivator's hands.

How could these mortals win if they weren't even there to speak?

In the end, Top Disciple Azzuren Rein had been overly insulted that his slightly thick face shattered. A fight almost began to break out, but Top Disciple Azzuren Rein seemingly suppressed his anger, turning around and leaving.

'What...? It didn't escalate into a fight again...?'

Davis became confused, looking at Top Disciple Azzuren Rein leaving again. Even if they're civilized as a sect, their violent heart could not be curbed.

Nevertheless, looking at Elder Karlheinz Strom, he guessed that he had arrived because of Grand Elder Claus Strom.

To deal with the opposing Elders, it was appropriate to deal with Elders of their own. This way, the Grand Elders could be saved from insults. Otherwise, there was a chance that they might go berserk and kill from being unable to hold back.

He understood this but just turned around, went back in, and waited.

Night fell.

The next day came, and Azzuren Rein appeared early morning. If that was the end of it, Davis would've been happier, but at noon, the evening, and even before midnight, Top Disciple Azzuren Rein arrived every freaking time, even with Grand Elders in tow the last two times!

However, they always ended up leaving without a fight!

Even before this point, Davis's mind clicked, but at this moment, he practically confirmed it.

'This pattern... Damn, it feels like they're plotting something...'

Davis rubbed his chin, feeling like playing a game himself along with them, but since it was his woman they wanted, he understood that he had to keep calm and not let her come under any danger.

Early morning, both Shirley and Esvele had come out of seclusion, having stabilized their foundations to a healthy degree. He had been engaging with them in chat as he was bored when that irritating voice echoed out.

"Shirley, come out!"

This time, the tone was overbearing instead of pleasing, making Davis's lips curve into one of a knowing smile.

"They're ready to commence their plot, huh..."

Chapter 1392: Beginning Of A Massacre?

"Stay inside, and if anything happens, activate the defensive formation here..."

Davis left these few words and walked towards the exit of the main hall.

Shirley watched him leave, a sudden impulse gripping over her heart. When she came back to it, she was gripping his hand, keeping him from leaving.

Davis turned to look at her, wondering what it was before he saw Shirley took a deep breath, her lips moving as a smile emerged on her face.

"Be careful..."

Davis blinked before his solemn expression faded, replaced with a heartened smile, "I will..."

Shirley let him go, and he turned around and left, closing the door while Shirley seemingly activated a formation that displayed the outside. She, Esvele, and Freya all watched it, looking at Davis arrive outside while Top Disciple Azzuren Rein waited, seemingly having two Grand Elders and a few Elders as his entourage.

She bit her lips, wondering why she had to stay here while Davis had to go through all the trouble to protect her. Why wouldn't he just take her away forcefully? She really wouldn't say no if he insisted, and she that he knew it too.

'Fortunately, it is his soul body. Otherwise, I would absolutely not let him do this...'

Looking at the line up outside, she braced herself for a change in the status quo, the Sect Master's Distress Spatial Talisman ready in her hands. Even though the Sect Master would be nearby to react, this would be way faster, almost requiring a few instants at best.

Davis arrived outside at this moment, looking at the growing number of Grand Elders and Elders. At this moment, there were three Grand Elders on his side with the addition of Grand Elder Claus Strom, all of

them at the Mid-Level Law Rune Stage, while there were a dozen of Elders, including Elder Karlheinz Strom.

It was rather obvious that Sect Master Lea Weiss sent three Grand Elders to protect Shirley. It was such a line-up that had Davis feel dizzy if he were to be in his main body, clearly not able to see a path to live in this mess if a battle were to ever break out.

After all, Top Disciple Azzuren Rein had two Grand Elders on his side, one of them at the Mid-Level Law Rune Stage and the other at Low-Level Law Rune Stage, while there were more than two dozen Elders. It was more than enough for at least one of them to get him if he were close; that was on the condition that they attacked first before he could kill them.

Nevertheless, although the numbers were more on Top Disciple Azzuren Rein's side, Davis knew that his side had the advantage in terms of cultivation prowess unless one of the three Grand Elders were planning to turncoat at this moment.

"You just don't give up, do you?"

Grand Elder Claus Strom's solemn voice echoed, frightening to a degree. He had his long red hair tied into a ponytail like a young master, but his aura and posture commanded immense respect that Top Disciple Azzuren Rein seemed to cower imperceptibly under the cold stare.

"Stand behind me, young sect leader..."

Grand Elder Artur Schatz moved in front of Top Disciple Azzuren Rein and matched gaze with Grand Elder Claus Strom while having a mocking look in his eyes.

"I'm rather suspicious of this protection you're all giving Top Disciple Shirley. How come Shirley doesn't respond a single time, and yet, you never even let one of us check what could've possibly happened inside for her to not respond."

"She is cultivating in seclusion... Do I have to spell it out for you all again and again? Come another day if you want to gain Top Disciple Shirley's invitation. Until then, not even we could enter. Furthermore, we do not live in the same world. Her status is entirely different now that in some meaning, her status over-precedes us."

Grand Elder Claus Strom scoffed after explaining the difference.

"How could it be? You all cannot enter? No wonder you're all here from day and night. To think Grand Elders in the Burning Phoenix Ridge had been reduced to mere watchdogs! Ahahahaha!"

Grand Elder Artur Schatz began to laugh as the others behind him burst out into an echo of mocking laughter while Grand Elder Claus Strom, Erich Weiss, and Wolfram Bach had veins popping out of their heads. Indeed, it was kind of humiliating to be here all day long, not even being allowed to enter. However, Sect Master Lea Weiss's orders were absolute, and that was what loyalty meant when following someone to the bitter end.

They digested their anger and kept their calm.

"Well, I think we can share the same fate." The other Grand Elder from Top Disciple Azzuren Rein's side spoke up.

Davis recognized this person. It was none other than that devious-eyebrowed Grand Elder who tried to be smartass about framing Shirley but ended up being humiliated by Sect Master Lea Weiss into utter silence.

"We'll wait here and protect Top Disciple Shirley out of our own will while we wait for her to come out. Sigh, there are so many things to speak about, but we as the elders should understand that her current prowess is something that she gained through constant effort in cultivating. In any case, she would have to come out within a few weeks if we keep protecting, hehe..."

"Ah!" Grand Elder Artur Schatz looked as if he had a moment of epiphany, "I didn't think Grand Elder Ulrich Hector would think of something very sympathetic and caring! How magnanimous! This way, we can share the same fate as these Grand Elders and shoulder their burden, the burden of the sect!"

"Ah, this must be the beginning of our brotherhood!"

Grand Elder Claus Strom and the ones behind him gritted their teeth in anger as they tried to suppress their fiery bellows. They were clearly being humiliated without using any vulgar words. They were being egged up on to act violently, but they were deeply aware of this, controlling themselves instead as their mental states took a hit.

In the end, all of this dropped down to who made the first move.

Davis, who was in the back, could tell that this was just the beginning of their plot.? There was probably more to it than it meets the eye, but he couldn't help but feel sad, sad for them because it was unknown if they could even put this plan into motion past this point.

"Azzuren Rein, if you're this insistent, then can I assume that you truly want to marry Shirley with her consent?"

His voice echoed out in an exasperated manner.

Top Disciple Azzuren Rein's eyes lit up as he placed his gaze on the protector, who was said to be a family relative of Shirley's despite his blue hair. He already had some enmity with him because of the last time how this protector forcefully brought Shirley away from the top disciple battles.

Nevertheless, it was said that this protector had the most say in Shirley's life as it seemed that she obeyed his words as though her family was important to her. For all he knew, this protector could even be her master before she joined the Burning Phoenix Ridge.

"Elder Chu Feng," A smile appeared on his face as he adopted a courteous facade, clasping his hands with a straight posture.

"I believe that we yet have to make acquaintance, but it is true that I wholeheartedly love Top Disciple Shirley and want to make her mine through her explicit consent. My heart fell for her the moment I saw her dazzling self in the top disciple trials, and it was even more so when I saw her ultimate performance in the top disciple battles. But now, I am afraid that there are rather too many powers eyeing her that I couldn't help but feel the pressure to court her."

"I may come off as rude and petty, but I have no choice but to take actions like this to court her."

He dropped his hands, looking like an intelligent scholar with his pleasant smile.

"I see..." Davis nodded his head with an indifferent expression, "What if I said that the only way you can marry her is for you to kill your current wives?"

Top Disciple Azzuren Rein's expression froze. A surge of hostility escaped through his eyes as he viewed Davis, but he seemed to suppress it while smiling again.

"I'm afraid that I'm not that ruthless. I love all of my women and could not bear to even hurt them, much less kill them. If that is truly the only way that I could marry Top Disciple Shirley, then..."

He smiled more, making everybody present understand that he would have no choice but to force Shirley, but Davis's eyes were a bit approving as he could feel that he was really intent on not forsaking his wives. Such perseverance in front of a massive temptation like Shirley was something that he admired.

Besides, it seemed that he was almost unable to maintain his facade when it came to his wives.

'Wait...! Why are you respecting him?'

Davis slapped his Heart Intent away from influencing his emotions. His Heart Intent had a bad habit of taking advantage of his emotions, making him subconsciously sympathize with people with whom he hadn't even intended to sympathize in the first place. The only way to counter this was to have a calm, unmoved heart, which was directly in opposition to someone practicing the Heart Intent.

Davis knew that he probably wouldn't improve in Heart Intent if he rejected understanding other people's emotions, but the end result of whether to accept their emotions or not and sympathize with them laid with him.

"I understand. I think I didn't even have the need to think about letting you meet her because, unfortunately for you, Azzuren Rein, I'm afraid that I would have to make all of your wives, widows..."

"Huh...?"

Top Disciple Azzuren Rein possessed an amused expression on his face as he heard the implication that was beyond ridiculous to him, but he couldn't even see himself collapsing out of the blue before all the color on his face vanished, his eyes looking dull as he crashed face-first on the surface.

Plop!~

The sound of a body hitting a floor could be heard, causing everyone's expression to change!

Chapter 1393: Under Invasion?

Grand Elder Artur Schatz's expression fell while Grand Elder Ulrich Hector's brows furrowed. They waited for a moment, but looking at Azzuren Rein's unmoving body as well as hearing Elder Chu Feng's words; their expressions become filled with doubt before some of their faces went aghast!

However, confusion again filled their expressions the next moment as their brows furrowed.

"Young master, this isn't the time to act like a fool..."

Grand Elder Artur Schatz uttered, musing that even if Azzuren Rein wanted to humiliate this Elder Chu Feng, there was no need to lie on the floor to act dead for this long. It was rather unbecoming than hilarious.

Didn't this young master know the art of humiliating without letting the other party know that they have been humiliated?

For the first time in his life, he disapproved of Azzuren Rein's actions.

"Ahaha. We all get it, young master. There's no longer a need to prove a point..."

Grand Elder Ulrich Hector approached. He arrived before Azzuren Rein and bent down to respectfully wake him up when it suddenly looked as if he lost his footing and fell on top over Azzuren Rein.

"...!"

Grand Elder Artur Schatz's scalp tingled at this moment as his body jerked as he took a step back. A few Elders on his side also displayed a similar reaction while Grand Elder Claus Strom, Wolfram Bach, and Erich Weiss looked skeptical, possessing disgusted expressions on their faces, musing what under the heavens they were trying to pull.

What kind of drama was this?

"You... Go check them..."

Grand Elder Artur Schatz couldn't help but secretly gulp before he looked towards an Elder and ordered him. The moment he uttered that, the atmosphere abruptly became solemn, but Elder had no choice but to follow the Grand Elder's words.

To that Elder, this whole situation seemed odd. Even if these two people were 'that', shouldn't they go get a room? Why were they on top of each other here? Moreover, why didn't they move?

Feeling incredibly strange, he inwardly encouraged himself but then felt that it was ridiculous!

There's no way two important and powerful characters would drop dead suddenly!?! Right...!?

A smile lit up on that Elder's face as he walked towards the two.

"!!!"

However, the moment he neared them, he fell on top of them as Grand Elder Ulrich Hector did!

Ding!~ *Ding!~* *Ding!~*

"THE SECT IS UNDER ATTACK! A GRAND ELDER AND AN ELDER HAS DIED ALONG WITH A TOP DISCIPLE!~~~"

"Fuck!!!"

Grand Elder Artur Schatz shot behind, gaining as much distance a hundred kilometers in an instant as he heard the resounding alarm bells from the Burning Phoenix Tower that was used to alert any emergencies like an invasion, especially in case of sudden deaths while the cause could be assassins.

It was near to the Life Tablet Hall so that the Burning Phoenix Tower would be able to quickly announce any dangers and emergencies to the entire sect, amassing all the experts and powerhouses present to respond, and in this case, hunt down the escaping assassin, but Grand Elder Artur Schatz's left the gazes of the three dead bodies and landed on Elder Chu Feng, his scalp tingling as he caught sight of a red-eyed killing intent seeping into his heart!

At the same time, a kind of greyish black energy surged around Elder Chu Feng, seeping out of the pores while striking deep fear into his heart as he sensed its aura.

"Die!"

There was a brave Elder who stepped forward, his body trembling as intense blazing flames of the burning phoenix emerged out. However, it died down as quickly as it came while he fell face-flat like the other three, causing all of the other Elders who thought they had an advantage from numbers to severely reel back as some of them even fell butt-flat as they looked at Davis in sheer terror.

Their entire body trembled as they felt the unholy aura seeping out from this mysterious Elder Chu Feng!

"This... This is Death Laws...?"

Grand Elder Claus Strom's voice resounded at this moment, filled with disbelief as he looked at Elder Chu Feng's back.

Davis's attention was attracted as he cast a look back, his indifferent expression and his ominous exterior that was greyish-black striking fear into the hearts of the three Grand Elders and the Elders, including Elder Karlheinz Strom, who reeled back to the entrance along with the other Elders.

"Anyone who enters Shirley's Crimson Palace will die..."

A cold voice echoed out from Davis while a High-Level Emperor Grade Defensive Formation sprang out from the inside as it sealed the crimson palace, causing those Elders to stop in their tracks.

He looked at them, where they all looked back at him with wide eyes filled with incredulity and understood that they were finding it hard to comprehend what had happened while there seemed to be Grand Elder Claus Strom who seem to have an answer or at least assume one.

Grand Elder Claus Strom's answer also garnered the attention of Grand Elder Erich Weiss and Grand Elder Wolfram Bach as they turned to look at him for more information, but the former kept shaking his head, seemingly denying his own thoughts yet the sight in front of did not let him think otherwise.

'As expected... So this power is truly called Death Laws...' Davis didn't expect someone to recognize this power.

He became interested in wanting to ask the specifics or any history about Death Laws so that he could learn more about it, perhaps even techniques concerning it, but still, the current situation didn't allow him to have a chit-chat.

"If anyone one of you wants to interfere with me protecting Shirley, then feel free to release your undulations. If not, just stay here and protect Shirley as you've been ordered to."

Davis raised his voice as he spoke in a domineering tone, a tone that didn't allow for any rebuttals before he turned his head and looked towards Grand Elder Artur Schatz, who had retreated far away, a few hundred kilometers by now and stopped, looking at him with intense hostility as well as trepidation.

"You're smart, and I hope that you stay that way for your own good..."

Davis's voice resounded out towards Grand Elder Artur Schatz, echoing throughout the area while many experts and powerhouses began to converge towards this place. However, they all either stayed in the distance, joined together in a battle formation, or took messaging talismans to inform the situation to whomever they served.

Grand Elder Artur Schatz's expression went ugly as he heard the bit of mocking voice in Elder Chu Feng's tone. However, he didn't dare to near as he had no idea of what this Death Law was supposed to be!

The way those three died on top of each other while falling flat without warning... it was even horrifying than the terrifying Hex Laws he had heard about!? There was absolutely no sign of a Low-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse dying!

Even now, he still couldn't believe Grand Elder Ulrich Hector died just like that! From the unmoving and uninjured corpses, he could understand that it should almost be a soul attack at the Peak-Level King Soul Stage prowess, but what kind of soul attack was that!?

He didn't even see it coming!

Grand Elder Claus Strom and the others were thinking about the same matter. It should actually be impossible to kill a Low-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse just like that, even if they were caught off-guard with a soul attack at their level, but Grand Elder Claus Strom suddenly recalled a phrase that he read in ancient texts unearthed and claimed from ancient sites.

"Death Laws, the absolute bane of souls..."

He muttered, causing the others to feel a severe bone-chilling cold in their spines that made them tremble. It made him feel more convinced that this power that Elder Chu Feng held was undoubtedly Death Laws.

Davis waved his hand at this moment, the thick greyish dark death energy swaying around his body shot towards the three dead bodies. It was like the manifestation of an evil god's palm as it slapped the three stacked bodies before they all began to disintegrate along with the other abandoned corpse of an Elder.

Everyone's expressions changed as they watched with incredulity. The tens of Ninth Stage Powerhouses who had already gathered were watching the scene with disbelief, not knowing left from right.

Why were the three Grand Elders behind not taking action?

Could it be that internal faction wars that were suppressed with both sides maintaining the status quo had already begun?

"My son!!! Ahh! How dare you!!!?"

An enraged voice reverberated from a faraway distance. It was actually hundreds of kilometers away, but the immense pressure the voice exuded along with the incredible aura that surged throughout the Burning Phoenix Ridge caused everyone's expression to change again!

However, Davis didn't stop using his death energy. Despite the immense pressure that descended on him, he kept his attack up as he kept his hands raised, finding it hard to keep up maintaining his soul force.

At this moment, almost everyone became aware of the limitation he possessed.

Elder Chu Feng was not able to handle the overbearing pressure from Ninth Stage Powerhouses! They were quick to assume that he had used a secret self-sacrifice art to kill Grand Ulrich Hector!

"Kill him!!!"

Someone shouted from the skies, and the Elders who were nearby in a formation instantly moved. It seemed that they were from the Hector Family, their crimson eyes blazing with the intent for revenge!

Chapter 1394: Reaping Lives

Davis shot a look at them, his eyes flashing deep red while his Death God Eyes instantly saw through their names, but even before he saw their names, Fallen Heaven's infallible soul imprint extermination landed on their souls, killing them in an instant.

Thump!~

The sound of many hearts pounding could be heard from the living cultivators as they saw the formation collapse while all the Peak-Level Law Sea Stage Experts plunged towards the ground, falling as if they were kites that had their strings cut.

Davis imperceptibly smiled, aware that he didn't need names as long as he could see or perceive their existence with his perception.

"Impossible! That's the Emperor Flame Soul Defense Formation that's capable of defending against soul attacks to a remarkable level! How was he able to kill them while they were using it!!!?"

Grand Elder Artur Schatz screamed while everyone had their eyes wide in sheer disbelief as they saw that twelve Elders of their Burning Phoenix Ridge were killed in an instant!

Bzzzz!~

At this moment, a majestic crimson-robed figure appeared in the skies, their expression looking twisted as they looked at the place where not even a single speck of dust remained other than three spatial rings, a protective talisman, and a crimson robe of Grand Elder Ulrich Hector.

He was none other than Grand Elder Valerian. The greyish black energy retreated, making him see that not even a strand of his son's ash could be found. Not even Grand Elder Ulrich Hector's body survived this strange and ominous energy, so it was painfully obvious that he was not even going to see a speck of ash from his son's remains.

Not even the High-Level Emperor Grade Protective Talisman he had on his son reacted, lying lifeless along with the other objects that couldn't be destroyed.

"..."

The atmosphere in the dawn red skies of the Burning Phoenix Ridge was abnormally calm like it was the calm before the storm. The death count at this moment remained sixteen, unknown if it would grow if someone were to ever make a hostile move.

Davis cast a look at the twisted expression of Grand Elder Valerian, who seemed to be immersed in the sorrow and rage of losing his son. His expression was constantly twisting like Davis had never seen before, making him aware that he really cared about his son instead of just treating him like a pawn or a way to continue life.

"Unfortunately, you all should've never had your eyes on Shirley. No matter what kind of schemes you may have been plotting and are going to plot, it is all but meaningless in front of my power. I will kill every single one of you until you stop bothering Shirley as she doesn't want any kind of disturbances in her cultivation path at the moment."

"Is that so difficult to understand, or are you all pretending that you didn't hear her before proceeding to force her while you can because she is still weak?"

At this moment, everyone instantly realized that it wasn't an invasion or the actions of an assassin but the aggressive action of a protector who overly cared about the woman he was protecting.

A maniacal protector!

"Chu Feng? I've never heard of your name before, nor does it seem like it resounded in the current Fifty-Two Territories, but your power is indeed rather terrifying. Death Laws, was it? If the killing method isn't visible, it should be similar to some techniques used in Karmic Laws, Mandate Laws, and Hex Laws alike."

"Nevertheless, no matter how strong your laws and techniques may be, your mere King Soul Stage Cultivation will not penetrate through my Mid-Level Law Rune Stage defense. You had merely caught Grand Elder Ulrich Hector off-guard. Nothing more, nothing less..."

Grand Elder Valerian Rein's voice resounded like thunder, instantly boosting the morale of his side immensely. His voice seemed calm, as if he didn't care about the death of his son, but they could all tell that he was hiding it from the way he acted before.

"If you want to battle with me to the death, then you have to use your Essence Gathering Cultivation and Body Tempering Cultivation. Or, is it that you don't have both and crippled alike? After all, not one of us can seem to garner your Essence Gathering Cultivation as well as Body Tempering Cultivation, including the grand me."

Davis smiled as his eyes widened, "How perceptive of you, Valerian. The cost of the Soul Forging Art I'm using is to indeed abandon my essence and body. In turn, my soul becomes extremely powerful while it has the special property of... concealment!"

"What!!!?"

Davis instantly disappeared from the place he stood, causing everyone to panic!

Everyone retreated as far as they can to a safe distance before they saw Davis reach the same heights as Grand Elder Valerian, whose killing intent was blazing at this moment with burning phoenix flames releasing scorching heat from his sleeves as his palms were set ablaze.

"Concealment? No wonder you could kill without being perceived, but what kind of heretic art is that? I've never heard of its name before..."

"I think you know enough for a dead person..."

Davis indifferently replied while Grand Elder's cold expression chalked out a freezing chuckle.

"Hehe, your confidence in that crappy crippled art would be the cause of your downfall."

"Crappy art?" Davis's expression became one of mocking, "Careful... I can discern greed taking over the pupils of your crimson eyes, so stay wide-eyed, lest I'm afraid that you won't even catch a glimpse of the end of your life."

"Insolent little fool! Your measly usage of this overbearing law does not scare my great Burning Phoenix Flames!!! Take this...!"

Grand Elder Valerian's entire being sprang into crimson flames that turned into a mini-sun! The light and heat his Mid-Level Law Rune Stage emitted caused even the Mid-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouses to know the difference between their own strengths, that Grand Elder Valerian was undoubtedly the one with the most prowess among them!

He was like a Law Dominion Stage Cultivator who had learned a third-level Impeccable Domain, looking down on ants who had just possessed a second-level Mediocre Domain. His prowess overwhelmed theirs as a rune with shot out from the center of the mini-sun!

"Grand Elder Valerian is going in for the kill!"

"Marvelous! Grand Elder Valerian must be burning with immense rage right now to unleash his Six Sun Burning Phoenix Rune!"

Two Elders of the Rein Family clenched their fists in happiness as they saw the rune fly out. Not only was its corporeal body filled with countless tiny lines and marks, but it also seemed to have six rune wings carrying it in the wind, immensely propelling its speed. It had never once failed to hit the target and cause massive damage to their body and soul! It had once killed at Mid-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse from the wicked path!!!

However, their expressions suddenly faded.

The rune disappeared mid-air, seemingly being cooled down by the atmosphere before it dissipated, leaving behind a scorched air that burned enough to tear a few punctures in space.

Meanwhile, Davis had his hand stretched out, seemingly looking like a death god who erased the Law Rune. Deathly greyish energy revolved around him while everyone noticed that his hands were clenched, drenched in blood while blood also seeming to be coming out of his seven orifices.

"Blood-Soul Sacrifice Art: Death God's Descent~"

The cultivators of the Burning Phoenix Ridge then saw a figure plunge towards the ground as Davis's voice echoed out, striking fear into their hearts.

"..."

That familiar crimson-robed Grand Elder... Wasn't he Grand Elder Valerian?

Everyone's mind reeled sharply as their hearts churned with dread! They all took a step back in fear and disbelief, their hearts beating in doubt as they truly didn't know if Grand Elder Valerian met the same fate as his son!

However, they recalled something.

A Law Rune is something that requires the consciousness of the cultivator who unleashed it. Otherwise, it fails to contain itself and fades away, sometimes even exploding if its energy contained within had already been unleashed. It was the same for some techniques in the lower stages as well. If the energy isn't able to sustain itself from the laws of heaven and earth's attraction, then it would collapse.

This phenomenon of retraction or dissipation was something natural that almost every cultivator knew, but of course, there were always outliers in any concepts.

However, was Grand Elder Valerian an outlier?

No!

Crack!~

The sound of bones breaking echoed throughout the area as Grand Elder Valerian hit the High-Level Emperor-Grade Tiled Floor with his face first, his teeth and nose smashed into the surface while blood splashed all over the crimson-white tiles.

The Elders all had their mouths agape, and even the Grand Elders witnessing the scenes weren't any different. At this moment, they were all acutely aware that Grand Elder Valerian Rein was undoubtedly dead as they looked at his unmoving yet bloodied body.

Davis took deep breaths as his chest heaved, taking time to act as if he had sacrificed both his blood and soul essence from the technique's name he had yelled out.

Naturally, he had made sure to let Grand Elder Valerian unleash a technique before he killed him so that it didn't seem too overpowered while the others might realize the weakness and try to kill him before he could react, but he didn't expect it to be an ultimate move like unleashing the rune.

He almost deluded himself into thinking that he was practically gone at that moment just from the sheer pressure of the six-winged rune that targeted him, but as expected, Fallen Heaven's prowess could reach till here in the blink of an eye to the extent that sensed no delays.

Nevertheless, the moment he bestowed death upon Grand Elder Valerian, the latter ended up dead without a doubt before his rune could even enter his range!

Chapter 1395: How Do You Want To Die?

Davis looked around as he panned his cold gaze filled with hostile intent that said if anyone were to make a move, they would undoubtedly die like Grand Elder Valerian and the sixteen others. His face and hands that were covered in blood also seemed to give him a terrifying look as though he were the reaper in various legends.

If some stranger had laid their eyes over him the first time in their lives at this moment, they would unquestionably think that he was from the wicked path!

Nevertheless, the blood that covered Davis's face wasn't fake but real.

It wasn't an illusion as Davis understood that it wouldn't be able to deceive the likes of these experts and powerhouses after a moment, but it wasn't his blood either. He collected blood from Shirley's spatial ring that possessed the people she killed for offending her, their bodies still intact.

He wasn't just chilling in the crimson palace all this time but also made sure to be prepared. The blood was mixed with a lot of cultivator's blood that a Mystic Diviner would find it rather hard to find who they were tracing, only to trace dead people in the end.

Before this, he also made sure to give his possessions to Shirley so that his spatial ring was practically empty right now. No one could find his origins unless they forced Shirley to confess!

Shirley's Crimson Palace was encased in a bright fiery defensive formation. She looked at the scenes from the projection with her lovely yet worried eyes remain steep with disbelief.

Where the hell were those talismans he used to kill? She wasn't able to see them, nor couldn't she even tell if the bleeding was real or fake as he told her that he needed the blood of many bodies.

On the other hand, Esvele and Freya's expressions were seething with incredulity as they had their mouths agape. Then, it was as if they suddenly connected gazes with Davis, causing them to come out of their trance as they took a deep breath!

Davis removed his gaze from the crimson palace as he saw that it was still safe before his gaze stretched to the horizons at this moment, his eyes connecting with Sect Master Lea Weiss's as he looked at her with his ominous red, Death God Eyes.

'As expected, I couldn't see shit without sacrificing my soul essence. She's blocking me with her High-Level Law Rune Stage essence energy like Artur Schatz and Valerian did... quite cautious indeed...' Davis mused while he wasn't surprised that she was here.

She was hundreds of kilometers away, but this kind of distance didn't matter to Death God Eyes as long as he could see them and differentiate their features like their face.

In fact, all the experts and powerhouses here already had their souls encased with both their essence energy and martial energy in fear of being attacked by his soul technique, except their martial energy did nothing to impede Fallen Heaven's deadly attack as they weren't Martial Overlords.

Davis's main body in the Purple Guest Palace was actually twitching right now in throbbing pain instead of twitching inside his wives. The seventeen percent of soul essence he had to sacrifice to kill Grand Elder Valerian had put a heavy toll of soul injury on the main body, but it wasn't anything significant,

considering that he had it way worse before in the Purple Thunderflame Island, where he had killed hundreds of Scorched-Crystal Crimson Apes.

At that time, he had consumed thirty-eight percent of his soul essence, but this time, for just an Essence Gathering Cultivator who was a little above a stage and a level, it cost him a whopping seventeen percent of soul essence, actually more than killing a Scorched-Crystal Crimson Ape that was directly a stage above him in terms of the soul while Grand Elder Valerian's soul was only at Mid-Level King Soul Stage.

This fact also meant that Grand Elder Valerian was well within Davis's limit to kill without sacrificing his soul essence, but because Grand Elder Valerian's soul was protected by his strong Mid-Level Law Rune Stage Cultivation, it cost Davis seventeen percent of his soul essence to break that defense and kill him!

The consumption of soul essence was undoubtedly a far cry from before as he recalled that he hadn't had the need to spend this amount of soul essence for breaking the defense of an Essence Gathering Cultivator. And this was actually the result after he had strengthened his soul essence with all that refining of soul essences!

Clearly, the Ninth Stage influenced a massive gap between its cultivation levels. Still, if considered in stages, specifically the Eighth Stage and the Ninth Stage, the gap these two cultivation stages constituted could be said to be the difference between heaven and earth!

'Seems like I have to do what I did in Supreme Soul Stage in King Soul Stage to kill Ninth Stage Powerhouses like cutting cabbages, but... where under the heavens can I find so many Ninth Stage Soul Essence for me to kill and collect?'

Magical Beasts were the answer because, publically, it was said that only nine Soul Emperors were present, and nine soul essences were clearly not enough for him!

"!!!"

Bzzzz!~

Davis abruptly raised his head in response to the overwhelming pressure descending on him!

"Insolent brat! You dare to kill my descendants!? Who let you be this unbridled in my Burning Phoenix Ridge!!!?"

The aura of Burning Phoenix Flames exploded in the distance as a figure directly arrived at this place, his widened expression looking enraged while his long white hair was seething with burning phoenix flames as if he were a true fire god.

Davis possessed difficulty hiding his endangered smile as he saw the monstrosity that arrived in front of him in an instant, having no fear towards his death-attributed soul force. His lips moved, wanting to say something.

"An-"

"Brat, how do you want to die?"

Davis pursed his lips as his eyes momentarily went wide, feeling the space around him suddenly become airtight, locking him up in place!

'This is spatial laws!!!'

In the Crimson Palace, Shirley's expression became aghast as she saw the character towering above Davis. Her arms began to shake, her palm threatening to break the spatial talisman she had had in her hand. However, would Sect Master Lea Weiss be able to battle with this incredibly powerful character?

An Ancestor-level character in their Burning Phoenix Ridge!?

Indeed, Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression became a bit twisted.

She was reeling in absolute disbelief and happiness when she saw Davis kill Grand Elder Valerian like it was nothing, but she also didn't let it show on her face as she knew that she couldn't be framed for this massacre on the grounds of allowing it to happen.

Nevertheless, looking at Ancestor Magnus Rein, the person who had lived for around twenty-five thousand years, almost five times her age, she gritted her teeth in anger. He was the man who always stopped her from making a decisive killing move on Grand Elder Valerian. Except for this time, he seemed to have been too slow to react to save Grand Elder Valerian.

'No, it is this mysterious yet terrifying elder, Elder Chu Feng who was faster!'

She couldn't help but recall the time she spoke to him, unaware of his terrifying prowess in Death Laws.

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"What if I said that I could kill that hateful Valerian for you...?"

"!!!?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss turned to look at Elder Chu Feng, possessing a confused look on her face as well as feeling amused.

"Shirley, is your protector crazy, or is his main body just strong enough to spout nonsense like this?"

"Whether I can kill or not is none of your concern." Davis blinked his eyes, looking indifferent, "However, if you accept, you have my word that you will see Valerian drown in his own blood."

"Don't tell me you're going to ambush Valerian outside because that isn't enough, and-"

"There's an Ancestor-level character behind Valerian, right?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression withdrew, looking at Davis with a reevaluating gaze for a few seconds before she nodded her head.

"There's a character called Ancestor Magnus Rein whose living status is unknown to the public but known among us upper echelons of the Burning Phoenix Ridge. Just like how I have given a spatial talisman for Shirley, Ancestor Magnus Rein has given a spatial talisman to Valerian that keeps him from facing absolute death, so no matter what your plan may be, it is inevitable that you would end up dead instead."

She then saw Davis's expression become tinged with a teasing smile.

"So you're convinced that I would not be able to kill Valerian, huh..."

"You cannot...!" Sect Master Lea Weiss unamusedly spoke, "And you have no need to kill him since I'm already looking after and protecting Shirl-"

"I'll kill both of them..."

"...!" Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression became dumbfounded behind her veil as she subconsciously let out a bellow, "Do I hear you right?"

"You're going to get yourself killed! The Ancestor is a powerful High-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse whom even I cannot afford to battle and hope to win! Even if you're able to kill Valerian somehow, you'll still end up being killed like an ant, being stepped upon in an instant!"

"So what?"

"...?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss didn't know what to say as she looked at his confused expression that turned into one of overbearing confidence.

"I only need you to promise me one thing..."

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Sect Master Lea Weiss's fists clenched tightly.

'I should save him using my authority... He has done enough...' She released her fists, about to make a move that might brand her a heretic, but her expression abruptly froze as her body became stiff.

The Grand Elders who had thought this maniacal protector's berserk actions came to a stop with the interference of absolute power like their Ancestor also had their expressions change!

"I want to die by committing double suicide. Care to tag along to the reincarnation cycle with me?"

"You!?"

Boom!~

Davis's voice echoed as a crazy smile filled his face, his body abruptly exploding into a blood shower as Ancestor Magnus Rein's scalp went numb! The blood splashed all over his face and robes as he tried to shake it away, but the light in his eyes also dimmed as he dropped dead like everyone else whom Elder Chu Feng faced.

"..."

Utter silence permeated into the dusky Burning Phoenix Ridge, making them doubt their eyes for the third time in their life for a single day! Looking at the Ancestor, whom they did not even know existed, fall and splat his white head into the ground, some of their eyes rolled back into their sockets as they fainted, especially the Rein Family Elders and Grand Elders who knew that they had lost their Ancestor!

Chapter 1396 - Hiding Somewhere?

The projection inside Shirley's Crimson Palace displayed the scene of Davis exploding into a shower of blood while Ancestor Magnus Rein dropped dead to the surface like everyone else.

Shirley's expression was pale as her heart clenched when she witnessed this scene. She had to constantly remind herself that Davis hadn't died and that he was only faking it to seem like that he was truly dead.

However, she didn't see a sign of using a single talisman.

So, how could he have killed the Ancestor whose cultivation seemed to be at High-Level Law Rune Stage? She simply did not believe that it magically happened, thinking that Davis must have absolutely sacrificed something to achieve this feat.

She was left unsure and anxious whether if he had truly used his blood essence and soul essence to achieve this feat. Otherwise, this kind of instant killing was unthinkable to her, even more so after he revealed that Davis had no master and it was all fake to make people not offend him.

She quickly took out a messaging talisman, screaming into it.

"Davis, are you fine!?"

Zummm!~~~

At this moment, a fiery light abruptly encased the entire Burning Phoenix in its illumination. The disciples, elders, and grand elders all witnessed the sudden change in the sect, noticing that the sect's defensive formation had been activated.

The entire sect was now both defended and sealed by a Peak-Level Emperor Grade Formation, known as the Sect Encompassing Phoenix Embrace Formation that used the skull of a Burning Phoenix as a core. The core was a preserved skull from a Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage Burning Phoenix, such that the defense it amounted was extreme enough to defend against many Peak-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouses until the energy of the formation ran out.

Looking at such a formation become activated, they were all dumbfounded.

Wasn't this formation activated a bit too late? And even if it were activated before, it was practically useless to kill. They felt that a killing formation should've been activated instead, but now, it was already too late.

Casting a gaze at the distant Sect Master Lea Weiss, they became confused why she would activate it now instead of earlier. They quickly began to form some assumptions based on their intelligence and perception, mostly feeling that she took delayed action of her enmity with Grand Elder Valerian.

However, they suddenly noticed that even Sect Master Lea Weiss looked puzzled before they followed her gaze towards the distance and noticed a crimson-robed silhouette with the majestic representations of the burning phoenix etched on his robes.

The bellowing undulations emerging from this person left their mind reeling in shock! They hurriedly all kneeled. They didn't bother if they were on the surface or mid-air. They all kneeled without hesitation,

lowering their heads in trepidation. Even the Grand Elders were similar, looking at the person who arrived directly in the skies above them, at which point he seemed to be casting a look at the dead Ancestor.

Sect Master Lea Weiss followed suit as she arrived behind this Ancestor, seemingly expecting an answer for the activation of this sect-saving formation.

This Ancestor seemed to be looking at Ancestor Magnus Rein with wide eyes, seemingly unable to believe that someone of their cultivation level had died without a fight. It wasn't like he wasn't watching. The moment Ancestor Magnus Rein stepped out of the secretive Ancestor Palace, he kept his eyes on him, but he certainly didn't expect for him to be even injured, much less drop dead without even being able to put as much as a fight!

"How could this have happened....?" His voice seethed with intense disbelief, echoing in the silent atmosphere.

The cultivators of the Burning Phoenix Ridge all felt the same, feeling incredulous that they lost almost a three-fifth of a chunk of their prowess. It deeply hurt their hearts and even made their souls feel pain.

Their Burning Phoenix Ridge had actually lost an Ancestor at this moment, and what's more painful was that it seemed to have been done by a maniacal protector who was just at Low-Level King Soul Stage.

They couldn't help find it utterly shameful and laughable, but when they recalled that he possessed unorthodox arts of Death Laws that bordered on the level of heaven-defying, they couldn't help but suck in a cold amount of breath in a stupor, feeling all their bones tremble in fear.

They were actually glad that they didn't make a move on one side, contrary to their thoughts that said that they could've sacrificed themselves to let their Burning Phoenix Ridge stay strong! These were the thoughts of the majority of the group, especially the cultivators of Rein's camp.

Their expressions were now a bit ugly and even sorrowful. It was apparent to everyone that they could no longer be lined up against the Weiss Family as they lost the two strongest powerhouses of their Burning Phoenix Ridge.

The Ancestor who had just arrived looked at the aftermath, his wizened old face twitching in disbelief. Nevertheless, he looked at the two spatial rings on the surface as a greedy light flashed in his eyes. He reached out his hand in a domineering manner before the two spatial rings instantly flew towards him.

However, instead of binding Ancestor Magnus Rein's Peak-Level Emperor Grade Spatial Ring, he bound Elder Chu Feng's Low-Level Emperor Grade Spatial Ring before his expression changed.

The spatial ring was actually empty!

"As I thought, that bastard must be still alive. Search for him. We cannot let him leave alive, or else, we face extinction for gravely weakening him to this state."

The crimson-robed Ancestor's solemn voice echoed, causing Sect Master Lea Weiss to blink.

"He died... I'm certain of that, Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss." She spoke up, making it known that this Ancestor was from her family.

"Then explain why his spatial ring is empty." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss turned to look at her.

Sect Master Lea Weiss frowned, "Perhaps he didn't expect an Ancestor to show up and lock him in space, simply believing that he could escape after killing Grand Elder Valerian, no?"

The reason why the Weiss and Rein Family maintained supremacy in the Burning Phoenix Ridge was rather apparent, but whether if these Ancestors were living or have died in closed-door seclusion was something the world did not know because they rarely appeared.

If they appear in public, it would usually be for a sect-threatening reason. Once these Ancestors tackle it, they might usually be injured or even gravely injured from battling an equal level expert, so it was unknown if they would survive, existing, crippled, or dead that after so many years, the outside world would believe that they have died or generally tend to forget their existence with the passage of time and only tend to recall if their name once again pops up.

"Since that Chu Feng didn't expect it, he ended up having no choice but to commit double suicide by using an ominous, otherworldly art that required greater sacrifice like his entire life. In the end, he did make sure to bring Ancestor Magnus Rein along with him to death, so I think he had truly died."

Sect Master Lea Weiss lowered and shook her head as if she was musing to herself, "Otherwise, his existence wouldn't make any sense."

However, she turned around as her voice boomed out.

"Search the entire sect! Leave no stone unturned for that Chu Feng to survive and escape to see another day!"

Waving her hand, she commanded in an authoritative tone as equal as Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss.

"Yes!"

The Grand Elders and Elders quickly responded along with the collective voice of the disciples resounding inside the sect. Numerous figures quickly scrambled to search while Sect Master Lea Weiss and Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss simply watched.

However, it seemed like they were grasping on empty straws as they seem to believe that Elder Chu Feng was undoubtedly dead.

Soon, Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's concentration was now on his fellow Ancestor's spatial ring.

On the other hand, Sect Master Lea Weiss knew that Elder Chu Feng was in his soul body, but his last explanation of the usage of his heretic arts that required the sacrifice of his essence and body left her feeling that his words might be true. Otherwise, this kind of terrifying prowess just didn't make any sense, even if the legendary Death Laws were taken into account.

No matter what law it may be, if there isn't enough energy to use the move or technique, that law is bound to be useless. This was basic common sense that even a kid would understand.

Nevertheless, she was almost convinced that Elder Chu Feng had truly died if it were not for the fake blood he used to make it look like he had been fighting in his real, physical body. If it weren't for that, she would practically be the same as everyone else, believing that Elder Chu Feng had undoubtedly died.

She pursed her lips, feeling anxious like she had never felt before.

'Lay low and hide as long as you can... Otherwise, it would be far too difficult for me to save you...'

She believed that Elder Chu Feng was hiding somewhere in the sect since his ability to conceal was off the charts, and the most likely place she could think of was...

"This Chu Feng was Top Disciple Shirley's Protector, wasn't he? I heard about her manifesting a Perfect Domain, but to think she would choose a crazy yet powerful person to be her protector, becoming the eventual harbinger of a calamity. Who under the heavens is he, and what is her background? I want to see the true reason behind this calamity of our sect..."

Sect Master Lea Weiss's pupils dilated as she heard Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's voice. She turned her head, finding him looking at Shirley's Crimson Palace with a complex glint in his crimson eyes.

Chapter 1397 - Disrespecting

Sect Master Lea Weiss closed her eyes and spoke, "I would like to say that the whole cause for this disaster to our sect is the Reins themselves. If they weren't intent on making Shirley theirs, her protector wouldn't have had a reason to make a move, much less make a crazy move like killing himself."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's white brows furrowed, "I know you have enmity with Valerian as he had secretly poisoned your Burning Phoenix, trying to take advantage of you back then in the succession rights to become a Sect Master. But, even if that brat Valerian deserved to die along with that hateful Magnus Rein, they are still a part of our sect."

He turned to look at her, his wizened eyes looking sharp.

"As the Sect Master, not only did you watch what was happening without making a move while our sect's overall prowess was dwindling, but you're now hindering me from investigating about the culprit? Considering that Chu Feng is dead, the only way to know who he truly is through that child Shirley. She owes the sect an answer."

Sect Master Lea Weiss's heart trembled as she knew that the Ancestor discovered her intent like it was nothing.

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss was from obviously her family, but more than thirty generations separated them. They were distantly related that they couldn't even be considered family from a mortal's point of view. Nevertheless, as she was born in a cultivator family, respect was ingrained deep in her soul for this character from her childhood that she couldn't help but keep her mouth shut at this moment, finding it difficult to rebuke or say a few words back.

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss took away his gaze from her and flew towards Shirley's Crimson Palace while Sect Master Lea Weiss quickly came back to herself as she followed. It didn't even take two seconds for them to arrive in front of the entrance, but the defensive formation that still glowed with intensity barred their way.

"Tell her that it is safe and that she can deactivate the formation..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss spoke with an indifferent expression before Sect Master Lea Weiss sighed. She didn't think Davis would truly kill Ancestor Magnus Rein, inevitably making this a big matter that was out of her authority. But fortunately, it looks like the last alive Ancestor remained in seclusion.

Otherwise, she would truly be helpless in the extreme sense, but it made sense to her that the remaining Ancestor didn't show up, considering that the threat has already been taken care of while another Ancestor was already on the scene.

As a sect, it was never a good move to reveal all the trump cards to the public, and as a Sect Master who faced many dangers as well as having to make harrowing decisions while battling the wicked path, she gritted her teeth and moved her lips.

However, no sound came out.

Both of them looked at the defensive formation retract before three people walked out.

At this moment, Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss turned around and stepped forward, space twisting while it distorted to the horizon. They all abruptly appeared somewhere else, in the Ancestral Palace of the Burning Phoenix Ridge. However, to the onlookers like Grand Elder Claus Strom, their expressions became astounded as they witnessed Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss use Spatial Distortion and Spatial Compression to instantly travel to another place.

The theory was the same as using a Spatial Gate, but to do it requires immense comprehension of Space Laws which they have yet to perceive other than its Elementary Intent.

One should know that Space and Time weren't supporting laws, that one would eventually be able to learn as their cultivations became higher. No, it didn't work like that. It was just as essential as any other law, something that is required to be comprehended every step of the way while also requiring affinity towards it, again, just like any other law.

Some people could only hope to comprehend the Elementary Intent of Space Laws, and some other people had the ability to comprehend more than Elementary Intent. Only time could tell how far a cultivator could reach even with a mediocre affinity, and Grand Elder Claus Strom recalled that Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's affinity towards Space Laws was mediocre at best.

He couldn't help but think that living for so long sure had its perks as he smiled in a relaxed manner, assured of his future from the nightmare he had just awoken from. One wrong move and he would've been a goner too!

However, things weren't as relaxed as he thought in the Ancestral Palace of the Burning Phoenix Ridge.

"You followed me here..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss looked at Sect Master Lea Weiss, his eyes creasing in annoyance. When he used his Spatial Laws, he didn't carry Sect Master Lea Weiss with him, but she tagged along of her own volition. It was such a huge disrespect cast towards him.

"I am interested in Shirley's answers..."

Sect Master Lea Weiss simply replied, not bothering to look back at her Ancestor.

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss gave a long skeptical look that caused Sect Master Lea Weiss's heart to palpitate. Nevertheless, he took his gaze back and looked at the three people in front of them, especially the one at the center who had just said something audacious before he confronted Sect Master Lea Weiss.

"What are you saying, child? You want to kill all the Reins?"

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss confusedly looked at the teary-eyed Shirley, blinking in incredulity as he saw immense hatred swelling in her ruby-like eyes.

"Those bastards! All my master was trying to do was protect me from the schemes the Reins hatched. Master had to give up his life in order for me to live! This isn't fair!"

Shirley shed tears, which didn't even appear like crocodile tears at all. She lowered her head, her body trembling to her need for revenge as her eyes flashed in hate. Indeed, the moment of his death was still burning her eyes like a curse. Her entire being had gone stiff at that moment, making her feel like going on a killing spree.

"That Chu Feng is your Master? Then tell me what your background is, and I assure you that I will investigate whoever tried to scheme against you, trying to obtain you. All the ten families shall not be spared, including my own. You have my word."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss spoke with confidence while rubbing his white-haired goatee.

Shirley raised her head, looking at the Ancestor that struck fear into her heart just by standing in front of his presence.

"That's irrelevant..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's brows furrowed, "Child, don't you dare talk back to your Ancestor."

Shirley barred her teeth, her mind churning with stories.

"I'm saying that my background is irrelevant because I'm an orphan! Doesn't Ancestor get it? My master is the one who picked me up from a river and made me the person I am today! If it weren't for you people who fail to protect your own disciples, my master didn't have the need to die for my sake!"

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss became stunned by her voice that seemed unafraid of him.

"...!"

He suddenly raised his hands, seemingly going to slap Shirley for her impudence, when Sect Master Lea Weiss suddenly stood in front of her, blocking his view.

"I knew it." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss took his hand back, placing it behind his back with a snort, "Hmph! No wonder this child was this brazen. It's all your fault for not teaching her how to respect, Sect Master Lea. Move aside."

Sect Master Lea Weiss trembled before she lightly moved aside, only leaving a bit of space while she stood in between. Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss looked at her with wide, threatening eyes before took

another step back, not wanting to aggravate the situation because it would certainly be stressful to stop an infuriated Ancestor.

Shirley came into his view as he looked at her with his overbearing gaze.

"Orphan? Your Master? Do you seriously expect me to believe that? Swear to the heavens for me then..."

Shirley bit her lips, looking solemn before she took a deep breath, "I swear-"

"I need you to sign a Blood Soul Contract along with your oath." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss added while Shirley looked taken aback before his expression continually changed.

"Bastard! You're just after my Master's Cultivation Manual and his secret techniques!!!"

She screamed as she clenched her fists that Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's eyes became wide while Sect Master Lea Weiss practically trembled, both pale as they couldn't believe what she dared to utter.

"Good...!" Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's gaze was cold as he cast a look at the trembling Shirley, "It seems like I need to make you suffer in the Burning Hell Valley for being this impudent, and naturally, you will be able to tell that talent means nothing in front of real power after your tempering session. You're just a growing chick, and yet you dare to disrespect me, a peak High-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse!!!"

He lifted his hand, looking as if he was going to slap Shirley again.

Sect Master Lea Weiss's fingers shook, wanting to stop it, but spatial laws instantly stopped her from moving, locking her in place instead. She looked at her Ancestor near Shirley, her expression becoming difficult as she truly didn't know how to save Shirley from this as it was her own undoing.

However, her mind suddenly recalled 'his' heartfelt voice.

[

"I only need you to promise me one thing..."

"What...?" Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression became skeptical, feeling that he was going to ask her for something outrageous.

"Protect Shirley at all costs..."

]

Whizz!~

A stream of Burning Phoenix flames rushed to the horizons in this cultivation hall, dividing the line between the two parties, making them look dumbfounded by the sudden interference.

Shirley felt the scorching hot flames were intense, but Esvele and Freya rushed to pull her back, standing in front of her to guard her against the heat waves even though they felt the melting heat themselves. The ninth stage flames at such a close range for them was almost too much to bear, but it seemed like all its prowess was turned to the opposite side.

"Lea! You dare defy me and protect this impudent child, even going as far as to offend me!?"

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's voice boomed out as he turned his head to the side to look at Lea Weiss.

"Of course, that was what I was doing all this time, you retard...!"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's brazen voice echoed out, completely infuriating Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss as his body trembled, his white hair hovering above as if he was truly angered!

However, Sect Master Lea Weiss's lips twitched. She accidentally repeated what she said to Davis, her expression twitching in awkwardness before a determined glint appeared in her eyes. Her figure burst into crimson flames as it shattered the invisible spatial lock on her before she appeared in front of Shirley and the other two, her crimson eyes staring at Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss in a threatening manner.

"I promised Chu Feng that I would protect Shirley no matter what. He even sacrificed his life to take revenge in my stead, so I am left with no choice but to defy you, Ancestor."

Her domineering voice boomed out again, causing Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's expression to twist in rage!

Chapter 1398 - Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's expression contorted, looking as if he was going to commit a murder. He didn't even seem to be exasperated by looking at the impudence of Lea Weiss. Sect Master or not, she was someone from his family who should be under him as long as he possessed the higher prowess, and yet she dared to be this brazen against him, leading him to feel enraged.

She was from his family, under his wing and protection. However, she dared to offend him, rebelling against his way of doing things!

He could even close an eye if it were a personal grudge between them, but Lea Weiss actually deigned to offend him for a mere top disciple who is unrelated and has yet to even grow, which further infuriated him. He agreed that this little girl Shirley had potential with her one in billion talent, but that potential was merely potential. It didn't amount to anything if Shirley died halfway.

Only after realizing that potential would a person truly gain status and authority. Otherwise, all were illusions, or such were his thoughts and belief ingrained deep into his mind and soul.

To receive an insult like that from her, from two juniors, how long has it been since he had been mocked like that? Thousands of years?

He was truly infuriated!

"Insolent fool, do you think you can defeat me? If you think just because we're on the same level that you would be able to win, then you're dead wrong."

Ssss!~

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss waved his hand, and the burning phoenix flames blocking his path were instantly snuffed out. The intense heat that radiated around this hall disappeared, replaced with stillness once again as if space was twisting ever so lightly.

Sect Master Lea Weiss's brows furrowed, her hands clenching in nervousness. Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's crimson eyes instilled a kind of dread in her. It was something developed from an early age, making her feel little in front of him. On the other hand, Shirley pursed her lips, still not looking afraid but possessed the same nervousness as Sect Master Lea Weiss.

However, both Esvele and Freya were trembling, looking as if they would faint from the pressure they're enduring.

"Obediently listen as you are supposed to... I'm willing to give you a final chance, Lea. Kowtow and ask for forgiveness, and then I'll take it as if this never happened."

Looking at Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss place his ultimatum in between, Sect Master Lea Weiss grimaced slightly. Her mind repeatedly advised her to retreat, telling her that she was getting into deep trouble, but her heart was demanding her to stay her ground and follow her ideals.

"What? It isn't as if you've never kowtowed to me before, your ancestor, so why the hesitation?" Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss coldly stared, "Did your pride grow unbridled after becoming the Sect Master?"

"Ancestor tried to bully a disciple, and I merely stopped it..."

"We are here to investigate Chu Feng, not find fault with each other or bully someone. You have merely saved a lying brat from telling the truth..." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss snorted, "You even have the gall to say that you promised that crazy man to protect this impudent little girl. Do you think that's worth enough to offend me, your ancestor?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss frowned, "I don't know, but a word given is a word that can't be taken back until the other party hasn't fulfilled their part. Did you forget the Weiss Family's teaching from our first ancestor, Ancestor?"

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss looked infuriated again, not knowing how to counter that statement since she brought up someone even more respectable than him.

"Hmph! Your brazenness has grown and ran unchecked while I was cultivating in seclusion, but you're still a little girl in front of me. I may find it difficult to defeat you, but don't you dare think that you can suppress me with the Grand Burning Phoenix Crown. In case if you forgot, I was the Sect Master twenty-three thousand years ago, and my blood was also refined within the Grand Burning Phoenix Crown. Although I cannot take it back, I am confident that I can stop you from using it to suppress me, which makes it so that only your prowess is ultimately reduced when Magnus Rein's Burning Phoenix Bonewood Sword is taken into account."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's fingers twitched, and a crimson wooden sword that looked like it could easily be broken with a punch emerged in front of him.

However, its aura suddenly yet intensely blazed with the burning phoenix blood that possessed a bit of suppression effect on her, almost negligible. The Burning Phoenix Bonewood Sword seemed to have accepted Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss as its master.

Nevertheless, Sect Master Lea Weiss knew that even the slightest difference amounted to a bigger difference in a battle between two Ninth Stage Powerhouse. One would not even see their end coming if the battle ended up prolonging.

Nevertheless, the pressure it emitted was stifling, but she couldn't do anything about it as that was a Peak-Level Emperor Grade Legacy Artifact, immensely powerful than just a Peak-Level Emperor Grade Armament.

She, who only possessed a Peak-Level Emperor Grade Armament as an offensive weapon in that category, could not hope to counter a Legacy Artifact of the same stage. They were both armaments, but the Burning Phoenix Bonewood Sword was called a Legacy Artifact because of the special attribute that tied itself to the karmic luck of the sect.

The blood of so many Ancestors, Sect Masters, and Grand Elders helped strengthen these Armaments or Artifacts to a level that they could be called powerful Artifacts, but only when the destiny of its karmic ties is also connected to a sect or an individual would it be called a Legacy Artifact!

Sect Master Lea Weiss's pupils trembled because moreover, she knew that Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss still possessed another Legacy Artifact, the Burning Phoenix Bonewing Crystal Shield, a unique treasure that was tempered with a Peak-Level Emperor Grade Fire Ore; to provide the ultimate defense, especially against another fire-attribute powerhouse liker herself!

In terms of artifacts and treasures, Sect Master Lea Weiss knew that she was severely outstripped and would be subdued within a few minutes even though they were at the same High-Level Law Rune Stage, except she had just entered it while Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss already lived with it for thousands of years, deeply perfecting his techniques and honing his skills.

Furthermore, the fact that Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss obtained Ancestor Magnus Rein's spatial ring just made it worse as it was unknown what kind of treasures would pop up to counter her struggle. She practically stood no chance against this monster, and this face made her bite her lips in reluctance.

Because... the only path to victory she could see now was to use the diluted blood essence of the Fire Phoenix, which she obtained from Shirley to turn the tides against him. However, once her peculiarity was known, she knew her Ancestor wouldn't treat her like a child or a rebellious teenager anymore but see her as a woman to be conquered!

If she failed, it would mean that she would be forced to become Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's woman! However, she had the confidence to defend herself, but what about Shirley?

Shirley would practically be suspected, and a small analysis from Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss would make it clear that Shirley also possessed immense Fire Phoenix blood within her, far more than herself. At that time, would she be able to protect Shirley?

Unless she escaped the sect with Shirley, she believed that it was practically impossible.

"I see you have made your choice..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's cold voice resounded out, chilling their hearts into one of a frozen nightmare despite the sudden spike in the surrounding temperature.

Sect Master Lea Weiss's brows twitched. She had thought for two long seconds, and it caused Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss to become impatient. Her lips swiftly moved, wanting to stop something untoward from happening.

"You cannot defeat me that easily while you will only cause damage to sect while our overall prowess has already diminished. Ancestor, this is unbecoming of you..."

"Heh..." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss chortled, "Unbecoming? Forgetting whether if you can even hold against me, do you think that you can protect the three behind you while having to use your full concentration against me to endure?"

"You dare...!?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss' eyes widened as her expression became angered.

"That's my line, you little woman..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's gaze became sharper than a sword as he looked as if he had run out of patience. He grasped the hovering Burning Phoenix Bonewood Sword and slashed. Crimson flames abruptly emerged from the strike, heading straight towards Sect Master Lea Weiss.

Sect Master Lea Weiss didn't delay. She waved her hands as her crimson sleeves danced. Essence energy flooded her entire surroundings in an instant as it transformed into a beautiful crimson wing that curved back to protect the three behind the intense heat directed in their direction, capable of instantly melting them.

At the same time, she took a step forward as the Legacy Artifact, the Grand Burning Phoenix Crown, appeared on her head suddenly, making her look majestic for an instant!

Boom!~~~

A frightening explosion echoed as it rocked the entire Ancestral Palace. However, the beautiful tiles on the surface didn't even seem to crack! Despite that, the crimson burning phoenix flames raged, bringing with it an apocalyptic might that twisted the space inside this hall.

The pieces of furniture and statues burst apart, making the entire place a mess from the intensity of the burning phoenix flames, but still, it didn't seem to do anything against Sect Master Lea Weiss as the flames covered her entire being were absolutely kept hindered by a crimson barrier that suddenly sprang out from nowhere.

"The Grand Burning Phoenix Crown..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss smirked, a mocking smile hanging on his lips. It fervently glowed as it defended against his attack, but he knew that Lea Weiss was unworthy of fully utilizing its potential.

"You can only endure until the Legacy Artifact's energy depletes, and when you supply it with your essence energy again, there's a slight window of opportunity that is created for me to use against you. You cannot protect them at that moment, nor can you endure my attack too long if you protect them. If you want to surrender, this may very well be your last chance, Lea..."

A teasing voice that mocked her plight while almost swaying her heart echoed, causing Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression to grimace.

She really couldn't battle someone powerful than her when having to protect someone, much less three people!

"Little Reinhardt... Do you think that it's fun to bully your descendant?"

An ancient voice of an aged woman resounded, causing both Sect Master Lea Weiss and Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss's bodies to become stiff. Their heads slightly turned in the direction of a hundred-meter tall and wide gate that was rumored to be both empty and occupied amongst the Grand Elders.

It opened as it creaked with a grating sound before the huge head of a Burning Phoenix, searing with crimson flames from its agape beak, appeared in front of their gazes!

Chapter 1399 - Burning Phoenix Ancestor

The flames receded as if Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss and Sect Master Lea Weiss lost control of their burning phoenix flames when in truth, they both took it back, not daring to look like children playing around in the slightest. The overwhelming magical beast aura directed at them left them feeling cold instead of hot from the searing crimson flames of the Burning Phoenix that ignited upon its wings and crown.

Its thirty-meter tall yet hunched body and ninety-meter wide wingspan became revealed.

Cough!~

Shirley's ruby-like pupils trembled as she s.u.c.k.e.d in a cold amount of breath that was rather burning, making her cough as the blazing energy in the atmosphere almost made her choke. While the others held their breath, she did something stupid that attracted all of their attention, making them gasp as they began to breathe again, taking small breaths so as to not choke like her.

Esvele had just panickingly moved to help Shirley when an aged voice of a woman echoed again.

"So surprised that you got your throat burned?"

Flap!~

The sound of the Burning Phoenix's wings flapping echoed, invoking a huge breeze of fiery wind before its entire being lit up into a glowing crimson light, abruptly shrinking into a five feet eight inches tall silhouette of an old lady clad in majestic crimson robes that had the patterns of her own true magical beast form.

She flew towards them and arrived between them as she landed on the surface, her back straight while the wrinkles on her face made her look like a wise woman. However, she still looked lovely as well as possessed a gentle expression on her face.

"Ancestor Cornelia..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss went on both knees as he bowed, clasping his hand in respect before he kowtowed. Sect Master Lea Weiss also quickly followed suit while Freya, who was absolutely

overwhelmed by her Ancestor's immense aura, was the first to kowtow even before the two powerful characters.

Esvele became overwhelmed at this moment as she followed panickingly kowtowed, but Shirley remained standing, looking at the old woman, no, the Burning Phoenix in front of her in sheer incredulity because of the extraordinary undulations coming out from her made her aware that she was a Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage Magical Beast!

"Little Reinhardt... It's been a long time since we met. Was that around fifteen thousand years ago? Sigh, I don't remember the time accurately, but I recall that your temperament wasn't this worse."

"Disciple Reinhardt admits his mistake..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss didn't rebuke nor say opposing words to Ancestor Cornelia. Instead, he directly admitted his mistake while still kowtowing even though he believed that was he wasn't in the wrong.

"...!"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's pupils trembled as she heard her Ancestor call himself disciple in front of Ancestor Cornelia. She knew why exactly. It wasn't because they were master and disciple, but it was simply a matter of respect and even reverence. However, she didn't know if Ancestor Cornelia was still alive or not because she had already exceeded her lifespan, just like Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss himself.

What they're living on are mere pills and heavenly resources that help them extend their lifespan, making them live as long as they could live as it dug out the depths of their vitality potential.

Nevertheless, the Burning Phoenix in front of them had already crossed the age of two hundred thousand years old, so it was absolutely a shock to her to see Ancestor Cornelia be still alive!

The lifespan of an Emperor Beast Stage Magical Beast was publically known to be around two hundred thousand years old, but Ancestor Cornelia was said to have already lived past that. It wouldn't be surprising if she dropped dead anytime, but here she was, smiling with a gentle demeanor!

However, her smile abruptly became cold.

"Little Reinhardt, since you apologized, I'll let this matter slide."

"But Ancestor-!" Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss raised his head as he pointed at Shirley, "This little girl is responsible for the death of an Ancestor of our Burning Phoenix Ridge just by bringing in that calamity, and yet, she won't provide an explanation."

"Explanation...?" Shirley's lips trembled, "I already told Ancestor that I'm-"

"Little Reinhardt," Ancestor Cornelia abruptly interrupted, "I am aware that Little Magnus had died, shrinking our overall prowess once again. However, I've seen many of you die in these two hundred and three thousand years that I became desensitized towards it. Powerhouses like you come and go, but none of you have managed to reach the Peak-Level like me, not to mention that you're already on your death bed as you've already expended your lifespan, simply living on stubbornly like me."

"On the other hand..." Ancestor Cornelia turned to look towards Shirley, "Before I die, I want to make sure that the Burning Phoenix Ridge at least has a Peak-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouse like me. I am also aware that this little girl possesses the potential to reach the Peak-Level Law Rune Stage, so why do you deign to even harm her, Little Reinhardt?"

"Is the Death Laws of that mysterious elder that worth it? Are you looking down on your Burning Phoenix Flames?"

Ancestor Cornelia's voice echoed with questions, seething with a sheer coldness that made the arrogant Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss trembled like anything.

Silence pervaded the hall as Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss shook his head like a child while Ancestor Cornelia smiled in response.

"You don't need to lie or be frightened. The legendary Death Laws are indeed stronger than the Burning Phoenix Flames. However, you're simply unworthy and inept at learning the intricacies of Death Laws that you won't be even needing that elder's secrets."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss trembled, knowing that his true intent behind the interrogation was easily seen through by this terrifying person.

Ancestor Cornelia raised her frail hand, extending her fingers.

"Do you know that the number of people who learned Death Laws in the two hundred and three thousand years I lived could be counted on a single hand? Right now, all of them are dead without a doubt, but without the same doubt, they all left their names marked in history as evil tyrants who destroyed countless sects and powers alike in the Fifty-Two Territories. Their ability to snuff out the souls as soon as they got past the defenses struck fear into the hearts of many but..."

"Are you trying to bring the Burning Phoenix Ridge to an end by wanting to offend that mysterious elder further? We don't even know if that person is truly alive or dead with his otherworldly secret arts. If that mysterious elder simply wants to protect Shirley, is it really hard for you to work together when our intent should be the same?"

"I'm disappointed, Little Reinhardt. I dislike humans who scheme all day long~"

Ancestor Cornelia's voice became colder by the second. It induced a bone-chilling fear in Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss that he lowered his head again, not daring to raise it up while he felt immensely humiliated in front of the two disciples. However, the terror was more that he didn't seem to bother about the humiliation because he knew what kind of character Ancestor Cornelia was.

She was the sole guardian who kept their Burning Phoenix Ridge alive and well until this point from the moment she had become a Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage Magical Beast. It was unknown how many calamities she had saved the sect from when they, the Ancestors, were unable to battle the stronger invading enemies from the wicked path.

She was equally ruthless as she was gentle, and he had even heard tales about how she had killed two Ancestors who were at High-Level Law Rune Stage like him.

One of the two was killed more than a hundred thousand years ago when that Ancestor used so many female Elders and even a few Grand Elders as his cauldron to improve his cultivation, while the other was around seventy thousand years ago when that Ancestor tried to defect to the wicked path after getting caught robbing half of the treasury, including a Legacy Artifact of their Burning Phoenix Ridge.

It was such a disgrace, but even if they were two Ancestors who could get away with anything, they were dealt a death blow by Ancestor Cornelia. She was the revered guardian of their Burning Phoenix Ridge, garnering immense respect from the world, but most thought she was already dead because the last time she appeared in public was around thirty thousand years ago when she fended off the invasion from two wicked path powers, the Infernal Lightning Palace and the Blood Reaper Underworld.

Their Ancestors were at the same level as Ancestor Cornelia, but yet, as a magical beast, she had the prowess to fend off the both of them! Battling against two Peak-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouses and yet still living to tell the tale! She was just too powerful that he didn't dare be disrespectful to her!

Sect Master Lea Weiss was the same. She had never seen Ancestor Cornelia before in her lifetime. It was her first time meeting in the flesh. However, she had already heard stories and possessed immense respect for this person, and looking at her suppress Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss like it was nothing, the reverence increase manifold in her heart.

She slightly raised her head, wanting to etch the face of Ancestor Cornelia in her heart, but the other party shot a look at her, her cold expression becoming gentle as if wanting to soothe her.

"..."

Sect Master Lea Weiss's felt deeply honored.

Normally, people and even magical beasts who knew that they were going to die soon would be insane, but looking at her Ancestor Cornelia's genial smile, she knew that this Burning Phoenix had accepted her fate which is extremely commendable and honorable!

Chapter 1400 - Is That Chu Feng Still Alive?

"If you have nothing to say, you can leave, Little Reinhardt. Forget this matter and cultivate hard in seclusion so that you may reach the Martial Overlord Stage, managing to extend your lifespan to fifty thousand years. The fires of your already withered vitality can be reignited while you still have the chance, unlike me who have reached the peak of what I can achieve, so don't ever give up."

"Yes..." Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss gritted his teeth and answered.

Inwardly, he couldn't help but muse if only this magical beast knew the difficulty to cultivate the body. He couldn't help but lament magical beasts had it so much easier, only needing to eat and sleep to grow, but he couldn't deny that Ancestor Cornelia had her fair share of struggles because the onslaught of the bloodline thinning-out problem had begun a bit before her generation of Burning Phoenixes.

Ancestor Cornelia literally remains the last Burning Phoenix to have reached the Peak-Level Ninth Stage with her own travels and adventures in their Burning Phoenix Ridge.

"The matters of the sect would be overseen by Little Lea, who is the current Sect Master, while we Ancestors are not to interfere with the growth and well-being of the sect unless it required our true help, and not after the calamity has ended."

"..."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss fumblingly raised his head before he stood up, nodding his head.

"Yes..."

"Good, now return the spatial ring of Little Magnus to the Ancient Treasury. According to the rules of the sect, no family is allowed to hold the Legacy Treasures after the death of their Ancestor and applies the same even to another Ancestor of the same or a different family. Additionally, all High-Level Emperor Grade and above armaments, artifacts, and heavenly resources will be confiscated unless these treasures absolutely belonged to Little Magnus or the Rein Family themselves. Are we clear?"

"Yes, we are clear."

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss could only find himself saying yes and yes, again and again. He felt his face burn, but he also felt that he couldn't do much about it as he felt like a child being berated by his mother. Ancestor Cornelia's voice was no longer cold but pleasant to hear as if she was just chiding him to not do bad things.

Even Sect Master Lea Weiss was flabbergasted at this scene playing out in front of her eyes. What she considered a knot in her heart, a kind of fear towards her Ancestor, was easily broken by just watching Ancestor Cornelia suppress him.

Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss then left, leaving the three of them in this hall with Ancestor Cornelia. He did not look back at all, looking like he was heading towards the Ancient Treasury.

"...!"

Only then did Sect Master Lea Weiss suddenly noticed that Shirley still stood without kneeling, making her heart almost leap out.

"Shirley, what are you doing!? Quickly kowtow...!"

She looked back at Shirley as her eyes trembled.

Kowtowing is attributed to displaying immense respect to the receiving party, while not kowtowing is attributed to showing disrespect. In the cultivator's world, not kowtowing didn't mean that that the person was neutral, but when they see a sign of a superior person or a person more powerful than them, they would at least have to clasp their hands or bow, giving the basic respect that the receiving party commanded.

Not giving respect is considered disrespect. There's no in-between, especially in places like sects.

The last thing she wanted was for Shirley to offend Ancestor Cornelia, and Shirley did not seem to be sane as she even went far as to badmouth Ancestor Reinhardt Weiss, perhaps because she also didn't know if her protector or her master that she claimed was still alive or dead.

Nevertheless, she knew that she couldn't guarantee the protection that she promised if Shirley truly ended up offending Ancestor Cornelia!

"It's fine, Little Lea..." Ancestor Cornelia suddenly spoke out.

Sect Master Lea Weiss turned to see that Ancestor Cornelia still had that pleasant smile on her face. It was as if she didn't bother with the disrespect, making her doubt if there was something else to it.

People were demanding respect, and even magical beasts weren't any stranger to it. In fact, magical beasts demanded more respect than humans because it satisfies their instinct as a race to dominate another race. It was the common truth of the world, so she couldn't help but find it doubtful.

"Little Lea, we haven't met before, but I already know your accomplishments, and I profoundly like your way of doing things as I have nothing to do other than watch over the sect. However, you allowed a stranger to run rampant in the sect who caused immense damage to the prowess of the sect. Do you have any excuses?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's crimson pupils trembled. She took a deep breath, seemingly making herself relaxed before her lips moved behind the crimson veil.

"I wanted to merely have revenge on Valerian because he poisoned and killed my Raka. However, that Chu Feng was different. I had no idea he could use Death Laws, and neither did I know that he possessed the ability to kill Ancestor Magnus Rein. However, he did warn that he could kill them, which I believed was nonsense because there's no way a mere King Soul Stage or a Ninth Stage Powerhouse would be able to enter the sect and murder people left and right."

"It was simply a careless mistake on my part not to know about his Death Laws or his usage of that terrifying instakill arts. His killing speed was the fastest I had ever seen that I felt if I blinked, I might have died as well for all the insults I had hurled at him previously, thinking he was spouting nonsense before all this happened.."

She trembled as she thought back to the eerie scene of people simply dropping to the ground.

"However, I, Sect Master Lea Weiss, deserves to be punished...!"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's eyes widened, looking determined.

No matter what, she had caused immense damage to her sect, and now, she merely felt that she had to own up to the consequences.

Ancestor Cornelia watched her with her brows furrowed. After what seemed to be a long while, she opened her dried-up lips.

"Normally, a death sentence would've been in store for you for working with an outsider to kill one of the sect's Ancestors apart from your personal revenge. However, seeing that you confessed to this crime by yourself before Little Reinhardt or I asked, I believe that you only had the best intentions of the sect in your mind when deciding to kill Valerian, who wrongfully killed one of my children. Some scourges are destined and needed to be wiped out."

"Nevertheless, it is true that you caused immense loss while I also sat back and watched the destruction happen, mainly because I felt that Little Magnus would be able to take care of that rampaging Chu Feng.

However, it turned out to be a miscalculation on my part, the same as you. Therefore, if your words are true, I really find it difficult to single-handedly blame you for the death of Little Magnus."

"Ancestor..."

Sect Master Lea Weiss blinked, unwittingly feeling moved.

Was she given forgiven just like that?

Looking at Ancestor Cornelia shake her head, her heart fell.

"You still deserve punishment even if I think otherwise. But, I want to strengthen the sect before I die in a few or so years so that there would at least be a Peak-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouse left behind to protect the sect as I did."

Sect Master Lea Weiss pursed her lips, looking moved again before she kowtowed once more.

"Ancestor Cornelia is wise and magnanimous."

"Hahaha..." Ancestor Cornelia let out a peal of wry laughter, her aged voice echoing with irony, "Magnanimous?"

She looked at Sect Master Lea Weiss with a complicated glint in her eyes.

"In truth, I would've really punished you if it weren't for my ancestors' flames that I could feel burning inside your dantian..."

"!!!"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's crimson eyes widened as her expression froze. Shirley's body also went stiff. She even tried to take a step back to leave subconsciously but found that she was unable to move just from the sheer tension that she felt at this moment.

"Judging by this characteristic, this flame must be from my ancestor, the Fire Phoenix."

Ancestor Cornelia then turned to look at Shirley, a wry smile once again becoming deeply apparent.

"The intensity is even more here despite the difference in stages. I think I now know why you two decided to work together, you protecting Little Shirley while that Chu Feng used you to kill those who might harm Little Shirley here."

Sect Master Lea Weiss and Shirley slightly relaxed as they saw that Ancestor Cornelia was still talking amicably, but they were still stunned, tongue-tied to even reply to this situation.

When exactly had Ancestor Cornelia probed them? They didn't even see it coming!

"What? You two really thought you could hide it from me when I'm this close...?"

Ancestor Cornelia's lips twitched.

Was her finding out that they had this peculiarity within them so unbelievable? Could it be that they underestimated her prowess, the prowess of a Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage Magical Beast? Especially a one that had crossed its lifespan's limits and was now teetering on the edge of death?

It was okay for Little Shirley to be like this but for Little Lea to be shocked along with her was a bit intriguing to her when she suddenly realized that Little Lea could've failed to see that the person she was dealing with a magical beast that possessed a fully developed control over its soul.

She smiled genially, feeling like she was talking with little chicks.

"Forgive me, Little Lea. I had to probe you with my soul to know that you are not being controlled by that Chu Feng, although I am not sure about little Shirley."

"Mhm...?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss blinked, her gaze falling on Shirley with confusion when she suddenly heard Ancestor Cornelia's voice becoming filled with a sheer chill that permeated deep into the atmosphere.

"Elder Chu Feng, was it? Come out~"