

EMPEROR 461

Chapter 461 Jackson Larss Revenge

The people in the hall turned silent as they looked at the elegant yet gorgeous Claire. Her radiance as a supreme beauty was of secondary concern, however, the information she revealed sounded like an explosion in Daniuis's ears.

Daniuis's mood which had been gloomy and cautious flew away like a kite that its strings cut.

Davis froze the moment he heard his mother calling Daniuis her uncle. It took him a moment to understand what she was uttering. He even thought of it as nonsense.

However, when he looked both of their faces, he found that there was a slight resemblance, although not perceivable in a glance.

Daniuis stared at Claire for a long while before he nodded his head in understanding.

"If brother knew that you were still alive, I wonder how happy he would feel..."

"What happened to father!?" Claire's face changed as she instantly asked.

'Could it be that they have killed my father!?' Claire's heart turned cold as her hatred soared when she heard the nuance in Daniuis's tone.

She had been prepared for such a result when she had come to the First Layer!

Daniuis hurriedly shook his head, "I didn't mean it that way."

Suddenly, he paused before saying with a solemn expression on his face, "Let's escape from here before engaging in small talk!"

Claire calmed herself down and nodded her head in understanding.

No matter which results she was forced to face, she was prepared to face it with her determination as a cultivator.

Davis activated his Death God Eyes and his eyes turned red which he quickly blinked away causing people to think if they were hallucinating.

'So he really is Daniuis Alstreim...' Davis was still unsure and under the impression that his mother caught the wrong person, but it seems like it wasn't the case.

Daniuis gestured for his children and Nina to come closer.

At that time, an anxious voice echoed out, "Wait!"

All of the people in the hall turned to look towards the source of the voice.

It was none other than Jackson Lars!

Jackson Lars's lips trembled as he tried to ask for help. If he didn't, he exactly knew what would happen to them after this event.

He would be undoubtedly hunted down by the Tripartite Alliance in the name of investigation. He might even be framed to be one of the members of the masked group or by these people who were collapsed.

If that happened, then his ending would be extremely worse, or so he imagined.

As for Imryll Berilan and Katrine Blackwell, their endings could be even worse than him. These two women also understood this point, so they had a worried expression on their faces as they stood by him.

He gulped and brought out the courage within him to speak up for help.

"Help us! We want to join you! I swear we will not betray your group under any circumstances!" Jackson Lars had a desperate expression on his face as he looked towards Davis. However, his words weren't temporary but came from his heart.

He really wanted to repay his gratitude to Davis, the raven-shaped golden masked person who saved them, however, if they were left behind, their ending wouldn't be any different than the one that happened just a while ago.

They wouldn't be able to escape from the Arc Song Mercenaries which was being backed by the Tripartite Alliance even if they have sprouted wings, so the only way for them to survive was to latch on to this group of people who seemed to be part of a mysterious group who dares to go against the Tripartite Alliance!

Davis went silent.

He too knew the consequences that Jackson Lars would be faced with once he left. If he left the other party now, it would be no different from not saving them in the beginning.

He pondered for a few seconds before nodding his head in agreement.

Jackson Lars turned ecstatic as he saw his benefactor. The gratitude he had felt reached the peak as he kowtowed to the ground by smashing his head.

"I'll never forget this kindness in my entire life!"

Davis was inwardly flabbergasted but just nodded again.

He had remembered Young Master Jackson Lars to be arrogant when faced with others who were even slightly powerful, however, it looks like the robbing he had done and really changed his temperament.

Or maybe it was a lesson that he learned from others after that event.

At this time, Jackson Lars looked glanced at Young Leader Baris before looking at Davis.

Davis nodded his head again.

Jackson Lars turned ecstatic as his gratefulness reached the peak! With wrathful steps, he walked towards Young Leader Baris's frothing figure.

Just when he was about to wake him up and torture him, he received a soul transmission.

"Make it quick."

Jackson Lars instantly abandoned his plan of taking his time to torture Young Leader Baris, instead, he lifted his leg up and positioned his shoes above the frothing face.

"Die you bastard!" With a furious cry, his shoes plunged down and stomped on Young Leader Baris's face.

The face instantly caved in as blood spurted and eyes flew out of his sockets!

"Argghh!!" With a painful cry, Young Leader Baris tried to stand up but a forceful stomp repeatedly smashed his head into the ground!

With bloodshot eyes, Jackson Lars concentrated all his Body Tempering Cultivation towards his leg and repeatedly stomped like a madman.

Stomp!~

Stomp!~

Stomp!~

Young Leader Baris's face was utterly crushed and the state it was in left the others who were conscious looking away in disgust.

With a few last stomps, Young Leader Baris's hands which were twitching finally stopped moving and the place where his head was supposed to be was like a head that was crushed flat with blood and brain matter flowing around his neck.

With Jackson Lars's actions, all of them could feel his hatred towards the dead man. Nevertheless, they watched the spectacle with indifference since they knew what kind of a person the dead man was...

Davis didn't ponder on it anymore as he turned to look towards Claire before gesturing her 'let's leave' and at the same time, three more masked people appeared through the entrance.

They were none other Mulia's group who were told to come to this place by Davis through Soul Transmission when Jackson Lars was about to crush Baris's head.

In a minute, they had arrived here, but when they saw Jackson Lars's who had bloodied shoes, they were flabbergasted.

With his Soul Sense, Davis could already sense since Sixth Stage Cultivators in the distance, far away from the Loseris Capital heading in their direction. That was why maybe Danuius also stated for them to talk later.

"He is?" Danuius asked Claire through Soul Transmission as she seemed to be a member of this mysterious masked group.

He did not point at Davis afraid that he would inadvertently offend him. Everyone in the masked group seemed to follow his instructions, effectively increasing the mystery around him.

However, Claire knew who her uncle was asking for but she just smiled as she opened her mouth, "My pride..."

Daniuis turned confused.

Could it be that he was her lover?

In any case, since they were all safe and their combined strength could possibly hold against the Tripartite Alliance, he made a decision to move towards his hideout.

He flew away with Lucia, Lucas, and Nina in tow while Claire's entourage followed them along with Jackson Lars and his two women.

Chapter 462 Daniuiss Pas

Around thousand kilometers to the west of Loseris Kingdom's Capital, there was an enormous river that could actually be considered as a sea as it stretched towards the horizon, as far as one's eyes could see.

A group of people suddenly arrived above and suddenly stopped. However, they continued and entered the river as they dived straight in.

They swiftly aimed and reached for the depths in a few minutes. There were numerous magical beasts in this river however they swam away once they felt the powerful undulations from the group.

Davis looked at the numerous tunnels which existed underground. At the same time, he saw Daniuis move towards a wall before passing through it.

Even without someone telling him, he quickly realized that the majority of the entry holes should be fake, possibly filled with traps.

He and the others swiftly followed behind Daniuis, and their eyes caught sight of coral reefs and the like before they exited the tunnel, out of the cave water.

There was visible space, extending to the horizon. It was not narrow but wide, however, it was empty.

Daniuis just waved his hand and in the distance, a transparent veil of cover disintegrated and the atmosphere became noisy.

Numerous people were moving to and fro, their blue attires familiar, belonging to the Cloud Spring Mercenaries.

"Husband!" Came three shouts at the same time.

The concealment formation was in the control of four people. Namely, Daniuis, and his three wives; the triplets.

Thus, they knew that their husband had arrived the moment the Concealment Formation was retracted. The three of them quickly came out of the crowd but they all turned aghast when they saw Lucas's miserable figure.

"Leader!" The others in the area shouted, however, they all turned silent when they too glanced at Lucas.

One of the three women let out tears as she instantly closed the distance between her and Lucas. It was none other than Su Hualing.

She embraced her son as she let out silent tears while her son placated her to not worry.

When her husband had barged out of seclusion without saying anything, she thought it was for an emergency, but she didn't think it would be this worse.

Fortunately, all of them were alive.

Daniuis groaned as the other two women came to embrace his half-scorched silhouette while they too let out tears. He withstood the pain and embraced them as well.

He sighed and then gestured a few people to arrange a place to stay for Claire's group.

=====

A Law Manifestation Stage subordinate of Daniuis brought them a little far away from the conspicuous part and let them stay in a place where there were no to few people around.

There were a few caves enough for all of them which eventually let them make themselves at home.

Davis's Family, Mulia's Group, Princess Isabella, and Jackson Lars's Group took one cave each and spread out.

Once Claire's Family settled in a cave, Davis finally spoke, "Mother, you never said anything about Cloud Spring Mercenaries's Leader, Daniuis being your uncle."

Claire turned a little embarrassed as she had not thought that he would be in the Tripartite Alliance Territory.

She tried to explain, "Davis, I didn't know that my uncle was present here. If I knew, I would've told you when you shared your experiences with us. There are simply many people with the name Daniuis out there, how would I know?"

Davis went speechless but sighed, "It's my fault, I should've displayed his facial feature through my soul force when I explained it to you all."

Logan couldn't help but nod, "Claire, your carelessness almost cost your uncle's life, even almost ending his children's lives who are actually your cousins."

Logan had already heard the details from Davis during their journey. As a father figure, although he was powerless to do anything, he felt that he should at least know of the situation beforehand.

Davis did explain what had happened to all three of them, after all, he has promised this to them when he left them behind safely to help Lucia.

Claire couldn't help but wryly laugh but she stared at Davis as she turned proud. Fortunately, Davis had moved to help them for the small kindness they had shown him once in the past.

And their support of his endeavor in return had led their son to save them!

'Su Hualing, right? I should thank her for saving my son at that time...'

Claire saw Su Hualing outside but the latter was busy treating Lucas's injuries.

Her saving Davis had helped them in the long run.

Was this called Karma?

Claire simply shook her head to ones who controlled fate; the heavens.

Meanwhile, Davis's expression went stiff.

Cousins? Daniuis's children were cousins to his mother? Doesn't that mean Lucia and Lucas were his aunt and uncle respectively?

At that time when he commanded them by using his position in Cloud Spring Mercenaries, he had ordered around them a lot.

Now, they were his aunt and uncle.

What kind of a twist was this?

Davis's lips imperceptibly twitched.

But how can this be possible?? He had viewed both Lucas and Lucia's name through Death God Eyes before! Their names didn't have Alstreim on it!!

Could it be that Daniuis truly choose to not name them Alstreim? Was that the reason?

Davis couldn't help but doubt.

As for Daniuis, he was unable to use Death God Eyes on him since his Soul Forging Cultivation was weaker at that time.

By the time Davis had increased his Soul Forging Cultivation, he could no longer meet Daniuis since the Cloud Spring Mercenaries was destroyed, forcing the latter to hide.

"So why is your uncle here instead of being in the Alstreim Family?" Davis got to the point.

"Uncle Daniuis was exiled." Claire spoke, "The last time when I saw him secretly with my father was when I was nothing but a child. I remember that he had the same expression as then when he left the Alstreim Family."

"Exiled? For what reason?" Davis became curious.

"Well..." Claire pondered for while before speaking, "I'm not sure of the exact reason but from what I've heard, Uncle Daniuis disabled a lascivious family member who tried to have his way with his maids."

Claire explained, "However, Uncle Daniuis managed to stop that lascivious man from violating his maids, however, the aphrodisiac they had been fed caused some internal damage to one of them."

"Uncle Daniuis was already angry, so when he heard the maid who was internally injured cry out in pain while spurting out blood from her private, he couldn't help charge towards the lascivious man to kill him out of fury."

"It was said that Uncle Daniuis grew up those three maids, hence the reason for his anger."

"However, the lascivious man wasn't killed but only crippled."

"Let me guess, that lascivious man is probably a silk pant who has a powerful father, right?" Davis interrupted.

Claire nodded her head but then shook, "His father isn't powerful but his mother is..."

"And as you can guess, the mother protested to the law enforcement and forced Uncle Daniuis to be exiled along with those three maids, whom she called whores who seduced her son and Uncle Daniuis at that time."

"I heard from my father that Uncle Daniuis was a respectable and morally upright man who cares deeply for his family. So after that event, it was said that he disappeared from the family and went to another territory out of shame."

Chapter 463 Situation Of Claires Father

Claire smiled wryly, "It's just that, I didn't think that he would be in the Tripartite Alliance Territory, establishing himself and running a mercenary group."

Davis finally understood why the Cloud Spring Mercenaries was able to become the king of mercenaries in the Tripartite Alliance Territory sooner than any other power once it was established.

And the three maids who were by Daniuis's side were none other than those triplets, the three Su's, his current wives

As for the one who had her womb injured, Davis conclusively felt that it was none other than Su Hualing.

He also finally understood why Su Hualing had been so good to him, 'No wonder she was nice to me and all the kids in the Cloud Spring Mercenaries... For a long period of time, she was unable to birth children till she was cured and had Lucas and Lucia as a result...'

As for Daniuis's anger with lascivious man... He wasn't surprised because of the sequence of these events in the past.

He understood that in the cultivation world, men mostly fought for three things with their strength, even dying in the process with glory or in vain.

Wealth, Women and Reputation which was also known as Face.

As long as one is involved, blood was bound to flow like a river.

=====

While Davis was discussing Daniuis's past, it didn't take long for Daniuis to arrive towards the cave where Claire and the others stayed.

Daniuis could rest and restore his essence energy but he had said to his niece that they can talk once they arrived at the hideout, so he didn't feel well to delay any longer. Besides, without confirming who these mysterious group of masked experts were, he did not dare to relax too much.

He stepped inside and saw all four of them were with masks on their faces.

Claire saw that the burns on her Uncle were nowhere to be seen, or either hidden by his clothes. She took off her mask as she got straight to the point, "Uncle, what happened to my father?"

Daniuis straightened his posture before explaining, "Your father no longer bothered about the Alstreim Family after you 'died', instead he opted to enter closed-door seclusion, intending to cultivate."

Claire's heart pounded faster but when she heard that her father was still alive, she inwardly heaved a sigh of relief. Her sigh of relief was rather huge that everyone present was able to understand her complex emotions.

"Your father only contacted me twice in these two decades. One was around ten years ago and the other was way back when the news that you 'died' circulated."

"I see... What did my father say to you about me before going into closed-door cultivation?"

"He didn't say much. He just said that he was going to concentrate on tempering his body."

Claire nodded her head in understanding. Her father was crippled but that didn't mean he couldn't entirely cultivate. Only her father's meridians were crippled making his Essence Gathering Cultivation useless, not his body.

However, crippling the meridians also puts a strain on Body Tempering Cultivation which increases the difficulty by two or more times depending upon the stage one would try to reach.

The higher the stage, the higher the difficulty would be, unless the person can successfully heal their meridians.

'More than twenty years of Body Tempering Cultivation. I wonder what stage father would have reached...' Claire pondered as she knew that her father was at the Third Stage in Body Tempering Cultivation when she left towards the Immortal Inheritances.

Her father's Body Tempering Cultivation fell from the Gold Stage to the Iron Stage when he crippled himself to save her from being honor killed by the Alstreim Family.

Now, more than twenty years have passed and it was possible that her father had reached the Gold Stage or even above!

After a short pause, Daniuis asked, "Are you going to return to the Alstreim Family?"

Claire nodded her head, not hiding her intentions, "I'm going to force them to give me justice!"

Daniuis frowned as he rubbed his temple. He couldn't help but advise Claire, "Niece, don't you think this is too hasty?"

Claire shot a glare towards Daniuis, "Hasty? I already waited for more than 50 years for this! You want me to wait for even more!? Impossible!"

Claire heatedly spat out as her bosom heaved but she let out the breath and calmed down.

"Originally, I opted to settle this grudge by using the rules of the family. I fairly fought for the spot of Young Mistress and was even so close to it even though my chances were less, yet, they played dirty again!"

They had once used a lame reason that steemed from the honor of the family to punish her father. They were playing dirty and they did the same thing again!

"I went to participate in the entrance of the Forsaken Phoenix Realm to gain further advantage in my quest to become the Young Mistress, however, I didn't think they would go so as far as to ambush me at that time!"

Claire tried to suppress her emotions, however, it instead fuelled her rage, "They have gone too far!"

Davis noticed their Grand Sea Continent being called Forsaken Phoenix Realm and so did Logan and Evelyn.

Claire had once told them that the Grand Sea Continent held the Ice and Fire Phoenix Immortal Inheritance but at the same time, she was unsure if it pointed at a single Immortal entity or two entities. Hence, its name was Forsaken Phoenix Realm.

The 'Forsaken' from the Forsaken Phoenix Realm should be because no matter how they tried sending their youths or Fifth Stage Experts, it all ended in failure when faced against the Guardian Alliance of the Grand Sea Continent.

It could be seen that from this that the three major powers, The Alastreim Family, Towering Cloud Hall and Falling Snow Sect have really stopped encouraging their strongest to take part in the entrance to the Forsaken Phoenix Realm since they would face the fate of death in front of the Guardian Alliance's defense.

Daniuis thought of stopping his niece again but decided against it. He didn't know how Claire managed to survive their ambush but that was her own story.

He didn't know how much she could have suffered because of it.

Instead, he sighed, "You intend to get the Young Mistress position again? Or..."

Claire's lips curved, "Originally, I intended to do so, however... I decided that I don't need to do it anymore as it would only cost me, my family."

"Family? Ah, you mean that you're giving up for your father?" Daniuis's expression relaxed, "I thought..."

"Who said I'm giving up?" Claire interrupted, causing Daniuis to stop in his tracks.

Daniuis experienced a headache.

His niece wasn't giving up but choosing another method other than choosing the Young Mistress status? Didn't that mean she was practically going to turn hostile and wage war against the Alstriem Family?

Daniuis quickly wanted to stop her but Claire seemed to be part of a mysterious group.

Could it be that this mysterious group was strong enough to wage war against the Alstreim Family?

"I'm going to send my pride to the Alstreim Family to show them how a Young Master should be!" Claire arrogantly spoke as a proud face accentuated her beauty.

Daniuis turned stunned as his gaze couldn't help but land on that so-called 'pride'.

Chapter 464 Behind The Prides Mask

Claire did mean to send him to the Alstreim Family to fight for the Young Master status. Then that would mean that the so-called 'pride' would marry into the family through Claire.

He didn't know who exactly her pride was but from the sound of it, it looks like it was Claire's lover.

He stepped forward a little bit towards Davis as he once again bowed, showing his gratitude, "I am grateful to you for saving us at that time. Please convey my gratitude towards that masked woman as well."

He stood up straight and opened his mouth again, "I wonder what you are to my niece?"

Initially, Daniuis didn't dare to probe the other party's identity, however, since he seemed to be his niece's pride, he felt that he needed to know!

Otherwise, if his niece was cheated or betrayed by this so-called 'pride', it would be a cause for another tragedy!

Claire walked towards Davis and took his hand into her embrace, further strengthening Daniuis's assumption that these two were lovers.

"My son!"

"Yes, your son..." Daniuis nodded his head as he heard her exclamation. However, he was quickly stunned, "Son!?"

His eyes widened and his body trembled in uncertainty. Such a powerful person was her son?

"..."

For a moment, he was stumped and his disbelief that was etched on his face was visible for all to see.

He quickly retracted his disbelief and his mind promptly moved in another direction, thinking that her son was adopted.

However, the next scene he saw left his mind reeling absolute disbelief.

The raven-shaped golden masked person took off his mask and revealed his face to Daniuis with a calm smile.

"It's been a long while, 'Leader' Daniuis..." Davis emphasized when he said 'leader' with a rather inoffensive wink.

Daniuis jerked his neck as he took a step back! He felt his mind was playing tricks on him!

He couldn't believe that this powerful person was none other than the youth who had once been able to handle a single strike of his Soul Forging Cultivation when they first met! At that time, this youth's cultivation was at Adult Soul Stage!

Close to ten years had passed but the youth had already grown into someone powerful Soul Cultivator?

Furthermore, this youth was none other than his niece's son?

Daniuis still felt disbelief with these turn of events.

At that time, this youth had said that he had just left the mountains after his master had died? Was that a complete lie?

'He came from the Forsaken Phoenix Realm!'

Suddenly, Daniuis thought back to the year and realized that it was the year when the opening of the entrance took place!

Nevertheless, Daniuis still couldn't feel the reality of these turn of events.

"... You! H-how?" He could only point at Davis and stutter.

"Allow me to introduce myself..." At this point, Logan stepped forwards as he removed his mask, revealing his lady killer looks.

Daniuis's attention was grabbed and his gaze turned towards Logan.

"My name is Logan Loret. I'm Claire's husband, and he Davis Loret is none other than our son." Logan introduced himself and then pointed over to Davis.

Davis smilingly waved his hand, "Never thought you would be my mother's uncle."

Daniuis looked as if he saw a ghost. He had been under the impression that Davis died since the information came to him that the latter disappeared in the West End Valley.

Even the Tripartite Alliance came forward to ask about Davis's whereabouts stating that he had been involved with some sort of shenanigans, with his life and death unknown.

He didn't know that the Tripartite Alliance wanted to know about the existence which lay in West End Valley.

Could it be that it turned out to be fortune instead of disaster?

In his perspective, there were now two people who walked out of the grave! One was his niece and the other was her son!

Daniuis gulped and laughed out loud as if one of the burdens in his heart had been lifted up, "Can I call you Logan?"

"Of course!" Logan replied as he too laughed.

He was initially surprised that they had quickly met a family member of Claire, however, he never expected the one they found would be someone exiled.

'Looks like the Alstreim Family is more messed up than mine...' He couldn't help but speculate.

Nevertheless, he was happy for his wife since Daniuis seemed to be her father's blood brother.

"So it's you!"

"Yes, it's me..." Davis imitated Daniuis's expression but it changed, "I want that Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe!"

His expression looked as if he was demanding his grand-uncle for gifts on the new year's eve.

Daniuis became flabbergasted, however, it was only for a moment. He obediently took out that Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe and handed it over to Davis.

In any case, since Davis is his niece's son, he didn't see the disadvantages of gifting it to him!

Forget gifting! Daniuis owed a debt of gratitude now and had even promised to give anything in the treasury if Davis could gather enough points before the year ended at that time, however, even without the latter taken into consideration, the former reason in itself was enough to give the Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe to Davis.

He even had the urge to gift something at King Grade to Davis!

Davis's eyes displayed a hint of excitement as he took the trembling Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe into his hands.

Unlike the Mid-Level Sky Grade Dark Crimson Scythe which was red and black in color, this Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe had a shimmering blade that had the same proportions and design of the former, however, the shimmering silver blade had its tip and edges encase with lustrous green.

The lustrous green edge of the blade looked like it was glowing and was jagged at some ends while the green glow was also visible on the bottom and top of the shaft.

"Its grade is able to break into King Grade as long as you take it to a King Grade Blacksmith to temper it once again with suitable materials, however, don't do it unless you reach the Seventh Stage since you wouldn't be able to control it once the Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe reaches the King Grade." Daniuis echoed a fair hint of warning.

"Did you reach the Seventh Stage in any one of the cultivation systems?" He asked, not sure if Davis had reached the Seventh Stage.

He only knew that Davis had a stronger Soul Forging Cultivation than his current Elder Soul Stage, however, he couldn't guess as the latter's soul force seemed elusive to the extreme, rendering him incapable of gauging his Soul Forging Cultivation.

Davis simply shook his head, indicating that he hadn't entered the Seventh Stage in any one of the Cultivation System.

He had only entered Low-Level Law Seed Stage/ Fifth Stage of Essence Gathering Cultivation, Low-Level Martial Ascension Stage/ Sixth Stage of Body Tempering Cultivation, and Low-Level Mature Soul Stage/ Sixth Stage of Soul Forging Cultivation, which none of them were at the Seventh Stage.

"Then don't try to upgrade its grade as it will become useless to you."

Davis knew this point too but he nodded his head in agreement. However, he inwardly thought about using Fallen Heaven's power on King Grade Weapons to see what would happen. He was curious to see if those weapons would submit to him or still stubbornly deny him.

Chapter 465 Grieving Emerald Scythe

Davis's gaze fell on the Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe and remembered its description that was posted on the Cloud Spring Mercenaries' Treasury.

[

Grieving Emerald Scythe

Forged by Blacksmith Helix, and described to one of his proud works up to date since he had managed to mix a tiny amount of Emerald Indic, a type of King Grade Steel into the blade and the staff of the Scythe.

]

"Who is Blacksmith Helix?" Davis raised an eyebrow. This person seemed to be intent on forging Scythes as he saw a lot of them being placed on Cloud Spring Mercenaries' Treasury.

"Blacksmith Helix was a person who was not known much in the Alstreim Territory but he was a person who liked to make weapons which were not mainstream; popular in the eyes of the cultivators. He dabbled on creating many weapons, even types of equipment such as hidden weapons, however, his creations were not received well."

"He offended another famous blacksmith who told him that his works were worth fart, so he was forced to leave the Alstreim Territory for his life."

Daniuis sighed, "He was a good friend of mine, so he gave some of his prized works to me, telling that I should spread his creations before leaving at that time."

"Even I was helpless at that time to help him..."

Davis perfunctorily nodded his head as he listened.

So that's what had happened.

After listening to Daniuis's speech about the Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe capable of becoming a King Grade Scythe, he wanted to know the whereabouts of Blacksmith Helix to get him to upgrade the Peak-Level Sky Grade Scythe for him.

It had been probably many years since the Scythe was created, and at that time, Blacksmith Helix was a Peak-Level Sky Grade Blacksmith.

Now, shouldn't Blacksmith Helix have crossed the bottleneck and surpassed the Sky Grade, reaching King Grade in terms of blacksmithing?

'That would be the case if he was still alive and well...' Davis inwardly lamented but his thoughts quickly got back on track when he heard Daniuis speak again.

"If I knew you were my niece's son when we first met, I would've treated you so well." Daniuis had an awkward expression on his face.

"Well, someone even went far as to check if I was even a human in the first place." Davis chuckled.

"It's all in the past..." Daniuis had an unfocused gaze as if he was lamenting why he couldn't recognize his niece's son at that time.

"See, my firstborn is only about 22 years old, however, he has reached the Law Seed Stage, Martial Ascension Stage and Mature Soul Stage!"

Claire had her cheeks glowing in pride. She pointed at Davis and was bragging like a small kid where no elegance be seen in her actions.

Maybe she had acted like this to Daniuis when she was a child but Davis could see her turn happy when she was bragging about him. He couldn't help but turn embarrassed for his mother while Daniuis had a stunned expression on his face.

Even his body turned stiff from hearing Claire's words.

Although he knew Davis would only be at a young age currently, when he actually heard it along with his cultivation base, it brought immense trembling to his mind, making him unable to think properly with all those denying thoughts popping up his mind.

"Is it true!?" He could only utter in disbelief.

Claire proudly nodded her head while her lips curved, "Yes, he tries to give equal attention to all the Cultivation Systems."

Daniuis's lips twitched as he turned speechless.

Tries to give equal attention? Why don't you just go equal attention to the whole world!?

He had been absolutely turned mum by this Mother-Son duo, and even envy took root in his heart.

Even in this First Layer, those geniuses who were 21 years old would've only reached Fourth Stage at best, while extremely few would manage to reach the Fifth Stage through various kinds of inheritances.

Meanwhile, his niece's son had reached above the Fifth Stage in almost all the Cultivation Systems?

What kind of achievement was that? He couldn't help but take a deep amount of cold breath into his lungs to calm himself down.

His gaze fell on Claire, "Could it be that he had managed to clear..."

Daniuis didn't speak anymore but sent a Soul Transmission, "... the Immortal Inheritance which is said to be in that Forsaken Phoenix Realm?"

Claire nodded her head, "He only managed to clear the Emperor Grade Trial of an Immortal Inheritance."

"Good... Good!" Daniuis continuously nodded his head while pinching his chin, his lips quirked and his face lit up in excitement.

Whatever his niece's son should've received would've entirely helped him increase his cultivation base, however, he couldn't understand why Davis's Soul Forging Cultivation was enormously high at this young age.

'Could it be the Immortal Inheritance is related to Soul Forging Cultivation?' Daniuis doubted but didn't voice out his thoughts.

If it were truly an Immortal Inheritance relating to Soul Forging Cultivation, then the entire human territories would try to invade the Tripartite Alliance Territory!

Immortal Inheritances that concentrated on Soul Forging Cultivation were so rare that only two had been found out of the hundreds spread out in the human territories.

If this information were to be ever leaked...

Daniuis couldn't help but take a cold deep breath as trepidation enveloped his heart. He quickly told his thoughts to Claire and the others, telling them to not even let out a single word of this information.

Claire's face turned solemn. Her world view was quite narrow so she didn't understand the repercussions of revealing this information. However, Claire knew that the Immortal Inheritances in the Grand Sea Continent didn't relate one's Soul Forging Cultivation.

Just as she was about to tell her uncle about Davis's elusive and mysterious master, she received a Soul Transmission.

"Mother, don't tell them about my master. I've already lied to them that my master had died to avoid suspicion the first time I met him. Just play it safe and accept his warning."

Claire paused for a moment before nodding her head at Daniuis, "Alright, I'll keep your warning in mind and not reveal this to anyone else."

Daniuis nodded and his wrinkled forehead relaxed as his gaze fell on Davis.

Davis was then suddenly reminded, "Should I call you Grand Uncle or Leader Daniuis?"

Daniuis laughed, "Hahaha! Call me Grand Uncle!"

"I'll call you that, however, wouldn't that reveal my identity to the others, like Lucia and Lucas. It's better if you kept them in the dark about this matter."

Daniuis blinked his eyes as the smile on his face left. He pondered for a moment before answering, "Alright, call me Daniuis when we're in the eyes of the public."

"Got it, Grand Uncle..." Davis echoed in a monotonous tone as he raised his brows.

"Pfft... Hahaha!" They both then laughed, however, Daniuis suddenly spoke, "Could you return Glyn's corpse? You know, Lucia badly wants to see him and bury him herself."

Daniuis would've never asked this if he didn't know that Davis was his niece's son but since he knew now, it wouldn't be a matter of offending but requesting.

Davis's face turned blank as he was put on a spot. Even he didn't know what he was going to do with Glyn's corpse but he felt that he needed it if he were ever going to do something!

His mind swirled and he casually came up with a lie without batting an eyelid, "I took away Glyn's corpse because I didn't want Nina to witness her little brother's death at her time of pregnancy."

Chapter 466 Start Of A New Era?

"Let it stay like this for a year. I'll preserve Glyn's corpse and hand it over once Nina has birthed the child." Davis added.

In truth, he was going to store Glyn's corpse in a rather big container which was used to preserve a lot of ingredients he brought from the Grand Sea Continent. Fortunately, he had brought some spares to store extra ingredients in his spatial ring.

Daniuis's eyes flashed as he nodded his head, "You've thought of them in your own way, good!"

He knew the event that happened in Farz Mountains since he heard it from his children on who saved Glyn and Nina at that time, so he wasn't surprised that Davis cared about them. He didn't doubt him one bit and casually got back to the topic of warning Claire to not go back to the Alstreim Family.

He explained to the best of his ability however, Claire remained adamant about her thoughts and argued.

At least, until he finally captured a point which almost convinced her.

"... Even if all that happened and you were accepted into the family, is it worth it? You know how our... your Alstreim Family is... They will stoop to any level and might even cast a slave seal on your son on the grounds that he holds the key to the Immortal Inheritance and they would even reason that he should benefit the entire family."

Claire was suddenly startled. Her body experienced a jolt as she processed the information in her mind.

Yes, even if the Alstreim Family accepted her into the family while naming Davis the Young Master of the Alstreim Family, wouldn't they still demand the entire Grand Sea Continent to be theirs, much less the Immortal Inheritances?

The situation would change and they would be forced to handover the independent spatial gateway to the Grand Sea Continent. Blood and rivers of tears would flow in the Grand Sea Continent if that were to happen.

However, the opposite could be true too although it seemed less likely to occur.

Nevertheless, if the Alstreim Family really accepted her entire family into the family but schemed against behind their backs, wouldn't it be a repeat of the same tragedy that happened back then?

Claire's heart tightened from the thought that she was walking straight towards her impending disaster.

Why did she even think of returning to a family like this instead of just taking her father away?

Claire couldn't help but ponder over this question.

Was it for greed? Was it for pride? Was it for honor? Was it for obtaining justice for her father?

"Sigh, if you still want to bring justice to my brother; your father, at the cost of your new family, then I will no longer talk to you about this anymore." Daniuis could only sigh as he felt his niece's experience out in the world was quite lacking.

He turned to look at Davis and inwardly nodded at how he moved around the world, always acting cautious, even while he stayed in the Cloud Spring Mercenaries.

At the time Davis had saved them at the Loseris Family's Royal Palace, he could've revealed that he was the Davis from Cloud Spring Mercenaries they knew the moment he had helped them take down Jawan, but he only revealed it after learning that Daniuis was his grand uncle.

Now, that was a level of cautiousness he appreciated when facing the unknown world!

Right now, he was assured that he had a reliable ally like Davis, especially when he considered Davis was his niece's son.

Instead of believing the Davis of Cloud Spring Mercenaries, he would rather believe his niece's son. He could even give the other party the benefit of doubt when receiving information.

However what about the others who came with the group other than Claire's husband.

His gaze fell on a womanly figure who was still masked, "You are?"

Evelynn promptly removed her mask and revealed her identity of being Davis's wife.

Daniuis blinked but then nodded, however, he was inwardly shocked. He had considered that his niece's son would choose a woman with rather high cultivation, but it didn't seem like it was the case as he couldn't feel strong undulations from Evelynn.

Then who was that woman who was so strong that she could pulverize Jawan into meat paste?

He couldn't help but ask.

"Oh, that's Isabella, someone who cleared the same Immortal Inheritance as Davis and currently tagging along with us for safety, concealment, and knowledge." Claire replied and yawned, "All this talk has tired me..."

Daniuis nodded his head at her answer but had his suspicions over her answers.

An Immortal Inheritance for the soul?

An Immortal Inheritance for the body?

It didn't make sense unless there was two Immortal Inheritance but she told him that they completed the same Immortal Inheritance.

Nevertheless, no wonder she was so powerful!

'Davis and Isabella... Two Powerful Inheritors who had entered the Fifty-Two Territories... Is this the start of a new era?'

"I'll be leaving then, make yourselves at home, although there aren't many amenities here..." Daniuis didn't ponder on it anymore and wryly laughed before leaving.

He looked like an awkward uncle who made some silly mistakes in his life, at least that was how Davis felt.

=====

Two days passed.

During this time, nothing of importance happened, but the Tripartite Alliance outside had issued a territory-wide search warrant for those raven-shaped golden masked figures along with framing the Cloud Spring Mercenaries' Leader Daniuis of grouping up with them.

Daniuis once again visited Davis and the others in their cave.

He explained the matter about being searched by the Tripartite Alliance for revenge.

Davis wasn't one bit astonished but the others were, and they worriedly asked the former if there would be any repercussions.

Davis simply answered, "Unless an Eighth Stage Expert appears, I think you can all rest assured."

Once Daniuis heard that he inwardly relaxed. He didn't know what his niece's son possessed but the latter's words were always uttered with confidence, so much that it influenced him as well.

Nevertheless, he still could help but get worried for his family. It would be just a matter of time before this place gets found out.

Whether he would be betrayed by one of the Cloud Spring Mercenaries' members or get caught in one of the supply runs, it would just amount to a matter of time.

When that happens, he still had some optimal locations in his mind to establish a hideout.

Daniuis couldn't help but sigh, however, Claire suddenly spoke.

"I thought of what you said, uncle."

Daniuis lifted up his chin, exhibiting that his attention has been grabbed.

Claire turned to look at her husband and her son.

In these two days, these two didn't provide her any input after hearing Daniuis's speech but left her to make her own decision.

Their expressions and intentions were clear as it told her that no matter what decision she made, they would follow her even if it were the depth of a hopeless abyss.

The two of them smiled when Claire looked at them and she too smiled back.

She then turned to face Daniuis before uttering these words, "I decided to move to the Alstreim Family Territory."

Daniuis inwardly sighed.

So it has come to this... He couldn't help but turn disappointed.

Chapter 467 Claires Decision

Claire noticed the change in her uncle's eyes and her smile widened even more, making the latter think that the former was still naive.

However, the words she said next turned him speechless.

"I didn't say I was returning to the Alstreim Family though..."

Daniuis couldn't help but mutter, "Little brat..."

Claire laughed as she spoke, "How are we supposed to improve ourselves here in this barren territory, especially when we're being chased. It's better if we head to a famous city in the Alstreim Family Territory to make a name for ourselves."

However, behind Claire, the two men were dumbfounded. One was in disbelief that his wife was called a little brat while the other was in disbelief that his mother was called a little brat.

Davis and Logan both had expressions indicating 'What the fuck?' on their faces and even Evelynn was in disbelief, wondering why Claire hadn't killed Daniuis by now.

Nevertheless, this told them that their family ties were much stronger than they imagined.

"I wish you and your family safety first and foremost before prosperity. When are you leaving then?"

Claire blinked and shot a gaze at Daniuis with her eyes narrowed, "You are not coming with us?"

Daniuis couldn't help but smile, "What are you saying? I have so many people here to take care of including my family... Besides, I was exiled from the Alstreim Family Territory."

He did indeed have many people to take care of... Even though a few traitors would appear, there were still many people who hold faith in the rebirth of the Cloud Spring Mercenaries. He felt that he couldn't just leave them behind.

Claire opened her mouth but then pursed her lips, not knowing what to say. She didn't know the circumstances of her uncle or the Cloud Spring Mercenaries, so she couldn't speak on this matter.

However, there's always a way.

She shot a look towards Davis, her eyes turning moist.

Davis inwardly grunted before rolling his eyes. His mother's intention was as clear as the cloudless skies.

In any case, there were already a few people who are tagging along with them. What would a few more amount to?

He stepped forward and spoke, "Grand Uncle, decide between the family you've been blessed with or the family you've created. You can't have both unless you're powerful."

Davis spoke straightforwardly, inducing Daniuis to laugh, "You're posing me the same question I asked your mother."

Davis simply nodded his head, "I can see that you are increasingly weakening. It's just a matter of time before Grand Uncle regresses to the Peak-Level Sixth Stage."

Daniuis's expression froze while the others turned stunned.

"At that situation, it's only a matter of time before you're hunted down or betrayed by your own people from the lack of trust and benefits."

"Is it true!?" Claire widened her eyes in disbelief, "Is his cultivation really dropping?"

Davis indifferently nodded his head, "He has kept his undulations concealed but he can't escape the probing from my Soul Sense. He is indeed weaker than two days ago, although the difference is still in a negligible degree."

Daniuis turned aghast as he looked at Davis. He was even able to learn that much just from his slightly weaker undulations?

"You burned some of your blood essences in the fight with Jawan, didn't you, Grand Uncle?" Davis laughed as if this matter didn't concern him.

Claire frowned but she didn't rebuke her son. She turned to look at her uncle before speaking, "Uncle, let's move to the Alstreim Family Territory. There are more medicines and the chances of healing you while increasing your blood essence vastly increase there."

"I know... I know... But!" Daniuis blurted out and was just about to explain.

"You are the naive one, Grand Uncle, not my mother. Remember your initial aspirations in creating the Cloud Spring Mercenaries. Was it for self-improvement or was it for looking out for a non-blood-related

family?" Davis suddenly changed his tone into a cold one. His chin was slightly inclined above, making it as if he was looking down on his Grand Uncle.

Daniuis dropped down his shoulders, his back no longer straight. He stared down at the cave floor as he wrinkled his nose.

"Just disband the Cloud Spring Mercenaries completely and those people who think of you as a burden in their lives will automatically leave. After all, the one who is being chased by the Tripartite Alliance is you and your family, not the others who would not even be recognized if they ever walk in the streets openly."

Daniuis's expression changed while Davis inwardly sneered.

In reality, by gathering the people around him, Daniuis was only harming them. It was better to let them go as they would be better off living in the outside world rather than pathetically hiding all their lives as members of the Cloud Spring Mercenaries.

"It's fine if you have a plan to strike back but can you even consider that when your cultivation base is slowly regressing?"

It was the final straw.

Daniuis took a step back as if he had taken a hit. He looked straight at Davis before slightly grinning, although it looked ugly, "You have managed to convince me."

He sighed and looked as if he had aged a little bit, "I have lost."

Davis just shook his head in response. It took everything from a prideful person to accept defeat. Most people who have pride, especially vain pride... They would rather die than accept defeat!

However, it looks like his Grand Uncle was different, being able to accept defeat even though he utilized the latter half of his life to building and raising the Cloud Spring Mercenaries.

Davis knew that there should be deep sentiments that Daniuis had placed on the Cloud Spring Mercenaries. Nevertheless, he had managed to give up on it.

Daniuis took a deep breath before opening his mouth to exhale a sigh.

"I'll disband the Cloud Spring Mercenaries after a talk with my family."

Davis nodded his head, "Grand Uncle should better disband it after we're ready to leave. Opportunists might take the chaos of the information to their head before directing their hatred at you for their fallen comrades, potentially harming us by reporting this location to the Tripartite Alliance."

Daniuis pursed his lips as he turned inwardly stunned. He knew that his niece's son was cautious but wasn't he over cautious now?

'Whatever, it's better if I heed his words since the scenario he said seems likely to occur...'

"Alright..."

Daniuis took a step back and turned as he walked out of the cave. His figure slowly disappeared from their view as if was just going to let out a heavy burden from his shoulders.

Claire shot a look at Davis as an amused expression lit up her face, "How do you always manage to convince people?"

Davis just shrugged, "Just target their weakness, provoke, console and convince them. Of course, the requirements for this to work is for them to be not in their right mind or be heavily burdened by something."

"Do this in balance and you should be able to make the other party dance to your tune as long as they don't jump out of your pace."

"Is that how you made me and your father battle against each other?" Claire's smile turned resplendent.

"..."

Davis could only avoid his mother's gaze while Logan and Evelyn laughed at him.

Chapter 468 Disbandment?

Danius walked inside a cave entrance and the surrounding walls widened in both length and width, giving enough space for more people to walk to and fro.

It was even somewhat decorated with types of furniture and paintings, making an explorer if one should ever come across wonder what history this place had in the past.

Danius watched the widening tunnel as he pondered over Davis's words for a few more times.

In truth, he had already considered disbanding the Cloud Sprong Mercenaries after all that happened but never thought of seriously implementing it since he had so many misgivings and had his concentration on rejuvenating his cultivation.

But now, even his daughter was about to be enslaved and his son about to be tortured to death!

In a few seconds, with a decisive glint in his eyes, he reached a straightened out hall like structure even though the surface of the walls was still like a cave.

The cave hall had been made to look like a normal square-shaped residence, and in it were a few rooms that housed his family members.

Three figures suddenly came out as they all welcomed him with a smile on their faces.

"What happened?" One of the women spoke with a worried expression on her face.

Danius looked at Su Hualing who held a four or five-year-old child in her arms as he answered, "Don't worry, I've already told you that you don't need to be wary of them."

Su Hualing wrinkled her small nose as she pursed her lips, "But..."

However, she sighed and then looked towards a direction, "Lucia hasn't talked much ever since you came back."

Daniuis just nodded his head.

He pinched his child's cheeks with a hearty smile on his face, "I know. Just gather everyone to the hall in a few minutes."

Just looking at his child left him with a hearty feeling, lifting him up from the depression he had wallowed in a while ago.

The three of them nodded and didn't speak back while Su Hualing left.

Su Huabing and Su Huajing looked at their first sister with a worried look on their faces before they heard Daniuis speak.

"How are all our children doing? Is there any word from them?"

Su Huabing and Su Hualing shook their heads as faces were even more clouded with worry.

Their children were not in the Tripartite Alliance Territory but in the Towering Cloud Hall and Falling Snow Sect. They were official members, however, only a few were at the level of Inner Disciples while the remaining were at the level of Outer Disciples.

Su Huabing birthed thirteen children while Su Huajing birthed twelve children.

At that time, they gave birth to so many children because their first sister had her womb injured.

It wasn't too difficult for them to share their burdens as they were triplets, especially when their first sister took care of them like they were princesses at that time.

Seeing their first sister taking care of them like they were her daughters despite not being able to give birth herself, they couldn't help but birth her share of children too.

It was only after recently curing two decades ago did Su Hualing give birth to Lucas and Lucia. A few years ago, she had even given birth to a baby which she held in her arms while walking around.

In conclusion, of the fate which tied the three of them along with Daniuis together for more than fifty years, they had twenty-eight children of which eighteen were in the Falling Snow Sect while seven of them were in the Towering Cloud Hall.

Those children who were in the Towering Cloud Hall purely consisted of males. As for the Falling Snow Sect, their children who went there consisted of both males and females, with females in the majority since the Falling Snow Sect is more of a female-oriented sect.

Even Lucas and Lucia were prepping to participate in the disciple recruitment trial a few years ago, but disaster struck the Cloud Spring Mercenaries, rendering them incapable of joining the Falling Snow Sect.

"The last time they contacted us was a year ago."

"They're likely suppressed or constricted within their respective sects."

Su Huabing and Su Huajing spoke respectively.

Daniuis nodded his head to their statements. He had already considered that this would happen when the Cloud Spring Mercenaries was destroyed, "They're likely forced by the Grand Elders of the Tripartite Alliance. However, don't worry, with a few of our children possessing the inner disciple status, those Tripartite Alliance Elders wouldn't be able to do anything of significance other than putting some pressure."

The two of them nodded their heads to his reply. In fact, they already knew this, but still couldn't help but worry for their children.

At this time, Su Hualing appeared through a door with a baby leaning on her bosoms, sleeping with steady breaths.

A second later, Lucia appeared through the same door, her expression quite absent-minded, followed by Lucas yawning in his tracks.

His wounds were dressed up in clean bandages, however, the eye that was missing in his sockets was already rejuvenated, likely through using a precious Sky Grade Pill which concentrates on regenerating an external organ.

Even his fingers had regenerated, restoring his nimbleness. However, his severed member was still in the same state.

Different types of healing pills gave different types of effects. There were all-purpose healing pills as well as pills that concentrated only on a single part of the body, even to the scope of a cell.

However, the pills that focused on the scope of a single cell was extremely rare that they were even told to be a myth as there were many scammers who sold that type of pills.

Daniuis didn't have an effective medicine that could regenerate that part.

"What's the matter, father?" Lucas spoke as he sat on a bronze chair. He had been resting in his room but he was woken up by his mother, stating that his father wants to speak to him.

Daniuis cast a glance at Lucia before panning his gaze over to every one of them. He then cast a sound barrier with his soul force.

"Since you're all here, I'll say it." Daniuis straightened his posture before lifting up his chin, "I'm disbanding the Cloud Spring Mercenaries."

Suddenly, the hall turned silent.

However, it was only a moment before various voices of disbelief echoed.

"What!?"

"Are you saying the truth?"

Su Huabing and Su Hualing simultaneously echoed.

Even Lucia's attention had been grabbed as she turned to look at her father.

Daniuis nodded his head with a calm expression on his face, "We're moving to the Alstreim Family Territory."

The expressions of the three wives changed, however, their heart pounded in excitement.

Was their husband finally going to return?

"But father, that's rather farfetched. Everyone who has seen our posters knows of our faces..." Lucas couldn't help but mutter.

Different from the wives who were aware of their origins, Lucas and Lucia had no idea that their father was someone from the Alstreim Family.

"True, we'll be relying on those masked people to help us make it past the territory gates."

"Father, are we really relying on those outsiders?" Lucia suddenly spoke.

"They're benefactors, my daughter." Daniuis corrected her.

Since Davis had requested him to not reveal his identity, he felt that he should follow his words. Otherwise, wouldn't Lucia pester Davis to return Glyn's corpse to no end? That would result in Nina's mental health to decrease and might even end up affecting her physically.

For the same reason, he had set up a sound barrier with his soul force to not let Nina hear their speech as she was resting in another room in this place.

Chapter 469 Disheartened

Lucia bit her lips as her eyes turned rebellious, "Then let them return him..."

"Return who?" Lucas raised his brows, feeling confused.

He knew that his sister was not the same anymore. She had been spacing out, not talking to him, not jeering at him, not beating him up.

It was like she had turned into a different person.

After he came home, he saw that the important people he thought had died were alive and well, so he couldn't understand the reason for her lethargic state.

However, Daniuis frowned at Lucia, "You are not to bring up this topic again..."

"Father, at least get your niece to..."

"Stop it, Lucia!"

"Tell them to give back Glyn!" Lucia's shout echoed throughout the hall, her expression clouded in anger with tears partly moistening her eyes.

"Father, what is she talking about? Why are the masked people in possession of Glyn?" Lucas asked with a doubtful expression on his face.

Daniuis couldn't help but frown even more.

=====

Lucas returned to his room after the meeting in the hall. He sat and crossed his fingers, placing his it on his chin as his eyes shook.

'Dead? Glyn is dead?' His eyes couldn't help but turn red. He considered Glyn to be his good friend, and on top of that, Glyn was Nina's little brother.

How was he supposed to explain it to her? No, forget about explaining, he was instead told to not reveal the fact that Glyn was dead to Nina!

He couldn't help but feel worse as seconds passed by.

'I shouldn't have got caught!'

All because of him! If he weren't caught, Glyn wouldn't have died in the first place! Neither would have Uncle Gyrus thrown his life away trying to protect him!

Not only Uncle Gyrus died but many people helped him run away! Nevertheless, his cultivation base was less and he easily got caught after some period of time.

Their efforts were all in vain!

From his eyes, a single drop of tear fell on the ground when he suddenly heard a footstep near the door.

He hurriedly wiped his tears away before turning to look at the wall and leaned on the bed as he closed his eyes to show as if he was resting.

The door opened and a figure entered the room with tip-toeing footsteps that sounded joyous.

"Lucas, it's me!"

Suddenly, a feminine voice echoed beside his ears which further let him feel guilty, even pain in his heart. He turned to see her face which undoubtedly told that she was none other than Nina.

"Are you feeling well?" Nina raised her brows as she asked. She was the one who had dressed his wounds a few hours ago.

Lucas sat up and nodded his head, "Hmm, I'm fine."

Seeing the space on the edge of the bed being freed, she sat beside him and turned to look at his side profile with love.

She took his hand and placed his palm on her stomach as she muttered with a smile, "Think of our baby and all the pain will fly away."

Lucas suddenly laughed at her antics. Her stomach wasn't even bulging out, what was there to feel?

Nina's face blossomed a beautiful smile while seeing him turn happy.

Lucas stretched his hand and pinched her cheeks while pulling her back and forth, "You cheeky little..."

Nina enjoyed his touch but she started to act like it hurt, "Oww... Oww..."

She was more than 5 years older than him, however, she wanted to play cute whenever she was in front of him.

'Maybe this is the feeling of being in love...' Nina reflected but he suddenly let her go.

"We're leaving soon..."

"What? Where?" Nina turned astonished.

'Why are we suddenly leaving when we're being chased? Could it be there's another hideout?' Nina couldn't help but think, 'Maybe my little brother is there as well?'

"Erm... We're going to the Alstreim Family Territory." Lucas replied without much thought.

Nina widened her eyes in shock. She knew about the existence of the three territories but only came to know about the names of the three territories after joining the Cloud Spring Mercenaries.

She was from nothing but an Earth Grade Power, so her ignorance could be quite understood.

Nevertheless, she turned glad in the next instant.

Wasn't leaving meant that they get to escape from the clutches of the Tripartite Alliance here?

The Alstriem Family Territory is vast, and she was sure that they would survive there if they stayed low, hiding from the eyes of the Tripartite Alliance or the Alstreim Family since the latter wouldn't even bother about them.

She shook Lucas's hand in glee, "Thankfully, we managed to rescue you before leaving!"

Lucas's expression suddenly became sullen, however, the next sentence he heard from her made him feel pale.

"Where is my little brother? Will we regroup with him on the way?" Nina asked with an eager smile, her lips curving into a wide grin.

Lucas tried too hard to control his expression from contorting into sorrow. He suppressed his irregular emotions and spoke, "I don't think so..."

Nina turned stunned but she blinked, "Could it be that he's already here?"

Lucas shook his head, "I don't think so..."

Nina's smile slowly receded, "... You are kidding, right?"

"I don't think so..." Lucas could only say these words continuously. He said it thrice out of fear that he would blurt the truth out. He was not good at lying.

Nina was quite taken aback. She looked at Lucas in disbelief.

There were a few seconds of silence in between them before she suddenly stood up and walked away to the door.

"Where are you going?" Lucas stood up in haste as he extended his hands.

Nina took a side glance at him as her expression turned blank, no longer amiable, "I'm going to search for him outside to see if he came back to this hideout."

Lucas watched her walk out of the room. Her back seemed suddenly lonely or was it just his mind playing tricks on his eyes. He just couldn't tell.

He took a deep breath and sat, his palm closing both of his eyes while he inwardly muttered.

'He is indeed here but only as a corpse in that masked person's spatial ring...'

=====

Nina left the cave entrance of their residence as she walked at a fast pace. Her eyes were slowly moistening with tears but she didn't utter a word of complaint or grievance.

Where could she go complaint? Only to her little brother but he was somewhere else!

Although she didn't utter a word of complaint, she was scared, incredibly scared at the thought of leaving her only little brother out in the open.

It wasn't like she hadn't seen what had happened to the members of Cloud Spring Mercenaries who were captured.

Her beloved, Lucas was a prime example...

She was entirely disheartened with his words, but she didn't want to argue or berate him either.

As she walked around the extremely wide cave, her eyes rapidly panned around, trying to find even a silhouette of Glyn.

However, she could only see people walking to and fro, dealing with their own business.

Their expressions differed, with each one of them exhibiting a story with only their faces. They all had more or less fought against the Tripartite Alliance once in their lives and in doing so, lost their loved ones.

Some were smiling, some wore cold expressions, some even looked at her with some envy. She could even feel gazes of lust cast at her.

However, she could care less because no one here would dare to openly make a move, especially when Leader Daniuis was present!

Chapter 470 Little Brother

Nina walked a few kilometers around the entire cave hideout, even asking people if they have seen her little brother.

"Excuse me, have you seen my little brother?"

"Have you seen the man carved in this stone?"

Every time she asked, she did so by showing a carved jade stone that had Glyn's facial features image. She even had one of herself and her parents within her spatial ring.

However, everyone shook their heads and answered that they didn't know him and haven't seen him.

Even so, she didn't give up, however, her figure turned increasingly desperate and her actions were attracting the gaze of numerous people.

To the onlookers, Nina seemed like a troublemaker who was begging for something.

Her nose turned red as she sniffed, however, she didn't cry. She didn't dare to cry as she kept her emotions bottled up.

'Little Brother? Where are you?'

'Why are you still not here?'

Suddenly, Nina stopped as a person blocked her way, standing in front of her.

It was a man. His face looked rough, manly, however, he was lean.

"Miss, are you searching for that person?" The man pointed at the jade stone she held in her palm.

Nina couldn't help but nod her head as her eyes lit up in both hope and confusion.

The man pulled back his stature and crossed his arms. He then stroked his chin as if he were thinking about something, "I'm not sure... I think I have seen him curled up in one of the rooms that we have back in our cave... He looked hell'a injured though..."

Nina's eyes practically widened with a smile, however, the moment she heard that her little brother was injured, she turned aggrieved.

"Where is your cave residence!?"

The man displayed a hint of a smile, however, he quickly hid it and spoke in a solemn tone, "Follow me, I'll show you!"

Nina quickly nodded her head in agreement. The other party left without even seeing if he was following her or not. Only slight hesitation remained in her heart before she took a step forward to follow him.

A few minutes passed, and she gradually looked at the surrounding people slowly decrease in quantity. However, she suspected nothing but was instead worried if her brother was dying because of burning up blood essence.

Glyn's body which was injured heavily, curled up into a ball, resting on a mat while his dry lips moved, saying "Elder sister, please help me...", "I'm cold..." for an n number of times.

Only this scene constantly flashed past her mind, making her worry to an incredible degree.

Soon, the area turned desolate and only a few people were seen, who constantly shot a gaze at her, staring at her with a different types of emotion. There were even shop stands set up, selling a few wares and supplements.

However, nothing registered in Nina's mind other than the lean-back that she was following.

Suddenly, she felt a hand grasp her shoulders which made her jolt in cautiousness.

"Who?" She turned and looked at a woman who looked at her with a confused expression on her face.

"You, I've seen you with Lucas before, what are you doing here?" The woman spoke as she tightly held her shoulder.

Nina felt slightly uncomfortable, however, when she looked around and noticed the situation, she found that there were people who were looking at her with different types of emotions as if they were feasting their eyes on her.

Her expression quickly turned pale before she hid it away, however, she still stuttered in trepidation, "I-I'm searching for m-my little brother."

"Little brother?" The woman who tightly held her shoulders narrowed her eyes.

She then let go of Nina and smiled, her charming face attracting numerous gazes of lust.

"I see, but why are you following this vermin over here?" The woman turned to look at that lean man who was sweating while trying to silently slip away.

Nina's eyes darted towards the both of them before she spoke, "He said he knew where my little brother is..."

The woman glanced speechlessly at Nina before she smiled stiffly at the man, "Oh, why don't I come with you to see if they're really taking you to see your little brother or not?"

The lean man inwardly cursed before he turned to look back at that woman, "Miss Ophelia, I don't know what this woman is spouting. She just followed me into this place saying that she would like to meet my 'little brother'."

Nina turned aghast but her expression changed into one of anger quickly.

"Scram!" Miss Ophelia coldly spoke, the charm that was visible on her face was nowhere to be seen.

The lean man smilingly glanced down as his steps faded away from their ears.

Miss Ophelia gave a sigh before coldly glancing at Nina, "You dare to follow strangers to their lair where they can do anything to you without facing any repercussions?"

Nina hurriedly shook her head, "H-he said that he knew where my little brother is!"

Miss Ophelia's eyes were still staring at Nina, however, it shook before she gave a sigh of relief, "It's good that I'm patrolling this place sometimes..."

"What do you mean?" Nina couldn't help but ask with a worried expression on her face. Just now, someone had tried to trick her into her lair.

What is exactly happening in this hideout?

"The morale is in an all-time low and the members of the Cloud Spring Mercenaries are starting to show their true faces."

"There are already a few cases of disgusting acts taking place in this desolate area."

Nina widened her eyes in disbelief.

The situation had deteriorated to such a degree?

"The Cloud Spring Mercenaries is slowly yet surely collapsing internally..."

'It's only a matter of time before someone betrays us...' Miss Ophelia thought but didn't speak out loud.

Her words suddenly dawned on Nina, 'So that's why we're leaving...'

Even she could see that the end of the Cloud Spring Mercenaries wasn't that far.

"Only the leader can change the situation..." Miss Ophelia added with a sigh, however, Nina looked at her with conflicted emotions rising in her heart.

Their Leader was planning to move to another territory, and she exactly knew that mass relocation was impossible.

That meant that they were undoubtedly running away, leaving these people who believed in the Cloud Spring Mercenaries to fend for themselves.

Besides, her beloved's attitude and their rejection to take their little brother with them left her deeply indignant.

At the least, she felt that she needed to inform her benefactor of the situation. She slightly leaned towards Ophelia's ears and whispered.

"What!?" Miss Ophelia's face changed, "Is it true?"

"Shh! Don't shout... That's why I'm desperately searching for my little brother." Nina hurriedly placed her palm on Ophelia's mouth.

Fortunately, Ophelia didn't shout out loud, however, her shocked expression did attract the onlookers' gaze.

Quite a bit of distance away from them, a person who had his ear's twitch moved away from them as if this matter had nothing to do with him.

Miss Ophelia looked at Nina in both suspicion and disbelief. However, the trepidation she felt in her heart really made her believe that something was going to happen soon.

Maybe it was her imagination, but the deteriorating situation made her think that the end wasn't anywhere far.

Suddenly, two people walked towards them, a man and a woman.

"Miss Ophelia, what's happening? Your face looks pale..."

"Hmm, even I never have seen this side of Miss Ophelia before." The man replied when he heard the woman speak.

The ever-charming and always smiling Ophelia has her face pale? Something's definitely up!