

Chapter 2321

What are they doing here? They should be dead by now. Crippled Williams needs to get his act together.

While the owner was still trying to make sense of what was happening, Zeke spoke first. "Crippled Williams, do you have anything to tell him?"

"Crippled Williams! I didn't know you were here. What's the matter?" The owner was taken aback to see his partner.

"They knew everything, Howl. You can drop the act now," Crippled Williams replied to the owner with a sigh.

The owner, Howl, looked stunned for a moment, but he quickly regained his composure. "I don't understand what you're talking about. Get lost. It's way past my bedtime."

Seeing that Howl wanted to retreat to his room, Sole Wolf went forward and grabbed him by his neck, dragging him out again.

"Don't even think about running away."

Howl tried breaking himself free as he shouted, "Let go! D*mn it! Who are you guys? I'm calling the police!"

"You're reporting us to the police? What a joke! We are reporting you to the police instead. You'd better admit your crime before anything happens to you!" Sole Wolf shouted.

"What crime? Bullsh*t! I run a restaurant. Is there anything wrong with it?" yelled Howl.

"Let me do the math. Your monthly income shouldn't be any more than three thousand, right?"

"Yeah. Is it wrong to be earning so little?"

Sole Wolf grabbed his hand and rolled his sleeve up, revealing a Rolex watch that was encrusted with diamonds.

"Now, this diamond Rolex is a limited edition that costs one million. There are only fifty of them in the world. It's not something someone like you can afford. Don't tell me the income you generate from this small restaurant is enough for you to buy a watch like this!"

Howl was left speechless. He stammered after a while, "Well... I mean... It's fake. It only cost a hundred."

"Really? A hundred? Fine. I'll buy it from you for a hundred then."

As he spoke, Sole Wolf went on to remove the watch from Howl's wrist.

"No!" Howl pulled his hand back instinctively.

"What about I give you ten thousand and you get me a hundred pieces of this watch? Huh? I'll kill you if you can't do that!" Sole Wolf threatened.

Howl's face paled.

"Come on, Howl. They already knew everything. I told them," Crippled Williams informed him.

"Just tell them already. They might still spare you if you come clean. I'm telling you, they can really kill you," he added.

"You motherf*ker!"

Howl swore at Crippled Williams when he found out about what had happened. "Fine! Whatever! Since you guys already know the truth, name a price! I'll pay up so you guys will keep this a secret."

Zeke and the rest sneered when they heard that.

They could not believe someone was actually offering them some hush money so they could walk away as if they did not know anything.

As for the woman who stood on the side, she was still confused about what was going on.

"What's happening here?" she asked.

Zeke signaled at Crippled Williams, and the latter went on to explain, "You see, Howl and I work together to get tourists on the mountain so we can get their money, so in essence, this man introduced you to me so he could get you killed and take your money."

What?

A cold shudder went down the woman's spine. "S-So you wanted me dead?"

The owner heaved a sigh. "But that didn't happen, right? Consider yourself lucky and get out of my sight! You'd better not breathe a word to the police. My friends will make sure you never live to see tomorrow if you do that!"

The woman was so horrified she darted away without saying another word.

Howl asked, "Who are you guys, and why are y'all sticking your nose into others' business? My family is all over this village. There are a lot of us, so if you dare do anything to me, they won't let you off the hook so easily."

Chapter 2322

"So you're saying your family is so influential I shouldn't report you? You'd better pray they have nothing to do with your little scheme. Because if they do, I'll make sure they die with you!"

Howl bellowed, "Don't you dare! Help-"

Whoosh!

Sole Wolf gave Howl a knife hand chop on the back of his head, and the man dropped unconscious on the ground.

"What should we do with him. Zeke?" Sole Wolf asked.

"Bind him up and throw him into the cellar. We'll deal with him after we return."

"Right away."

Sole Wolf and Ares tied him up and stuffed his mouth with a cloth before leaving him in the cellar.

Then, the group headed for Golden Sands Mountain.

Crippled Williams was more than happy to do that. "Sure. I'll wait here."

No way I'm waiting here. I'm leaving after you guys are gone.

Zeke knew what Crippled Williams was thinking right away. A sly smile curved on his lips as he turned to leave.

As soon as the group went out of his sight, Crippled Williams wheeled around and wanted to escape.

However, before he could even run far, he rammed right into a hard object and almost fainted.

What was that?

When he looked up again, he could not see what it was that he knocked against.

"What is going on?" he questioned, looking around.

He tried moving forward again, but the same thing happened.

What the h*ll?

Crippled Williams panicked. His heart throbbed furiously as he scanned his surroundings. There was clearly nothing around him, but he was certain he ran into something.

He would never have figured out that Zeke had used his energy to cage him up in that place. Thus, he got up again and tried leaving from the left side since he couldn't walk straight ahead.

Bang!

Alas, his actions brought the same result.

Not again!

Crippled Williams was starting to feel scared. He kept trying to escape, but his effort was to no avail. He kept running into the invisible wall until he finally gave up.

Although he did not know what exactly it was that kept him from leaving, he was sure that Zeke was behind this.

Just who is he? Who are they? Where are they even from? I must be cursed to have met them. Meanwhile, Zeke and the others had just reached the cave.

They went into the cave, and in no time, they were back to the dead end where they were trapped the last time.

Although the cave was like a maze, they were still able to navigate thanks to their impeccable memory.

When they got to the right place, they started acting like ghouls to lure the "master" out, just as Crippled Williams told them.

In less than ten minutes, they heard a clear but soft chiming of a bell.

A hoarse voice resounded in the cave. "Follow me, little piglets."

Everyone's ears perked up, and wrath began boiling within them.

What? Little piglets? Did he just call us little piglets? This is so humiliating!

If it were not for their mission, they would have walloped the "master."

They followed the ringing bell and the voice as they went through the labyrinthine cave.

The whole structure of the cave was far more confusing and complex than they thought. If it were not for the guidance of the voice, they would have never found the way through on their own.

After going around for about half an hour, they finally saw a ray of light.

Is the "master" there? They were hopeful.

They could not wait to beat the "master" to a pulp, so they followed the light eagerly until they exited the cave.

The view was vast and expansive after they emerged.

They could not believe that they had gone through Golden Sands Mountain to the back of it.

At the back of Golden Sands Mountain was a cliff skirting a precipitous and bottomless drop.

Chapter 2323

From the top, they could hear a roaring and deafening sound echoing from the depth below.

There was also a sickening smell wafting in the air above the sheer cliff. It smelled like rotten bodies.

"Sole Wolf," Zeke called out, "don't you think this smell is familiar?"

Sole Wolf nodded. "Yeah. It smells the same as the thing that was tracking me down in the dark the other day."

Zeke nodded. "I suspected that what happened that day had something to do with Cesar, the sorcerer. This smell verifies my conjecture."

Ares looked down into the cliff. "This must be Ghoulish Cliff. Are there really ten thousand dead bodies down there?"

"Well, I guess there must be many, or the smell wouldn't be so nauseating," replied Zeke in a low voice.

Crack!

Suddenly, the face of the rock beside them split into a few fissures.

"He's coming. Get ready!" Zeke commanded.

"Yes, sir!"

They went into a formation facing the cracks on the wall, staring at it.

When the rocks finally fell to the ground, another cave was revealed, and a fully black worm crawled out from the narrow hole.

It was as black as coal, and it had a long and slender body with sturdy legs. Even its wings were painted black.

Although its eyes were small, they still looked spooky and malicious.

The creature flapped its wings and helicoptered above the group of men.

"What is this?" Sole Wolf asked Zeke

telepathically. "Looks like the White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, but the color and size are different," Zeke replied in the same manner.

"Should we blow it up? It keeps hovering over our head. I think it has a death wish."

"Don't do anything rash. We should play by ear until the master reveals himself."

"All right, but I still can't wait to have some barbecue worms tonight. This worm looks like it's rich in protein. I'm sure it's as nutritious as beef and-"

Before Sole Wolf could even finish, he felt his mental energy being sucked away by the black worm.

Alfred was alerted. "Mr. Williams, it's feeding on our mental energy! Should we kill it?"

"No. We shall give it what it wants," Zeke said calmly with a smile.

"Come on, guys. We should feed it to its fill," he added.

The rest smiled knowingly and followed suit.

Under Zeke's command, they released all their mental energy at once. The energy swarmed toward the worm like a flood, filling it up.

Soon enough, the black worm was so full it could no longer move.

Buzz!

It tried moving its wings, but those wings were not enough to support its weight anymore. It lay on the ground groaning in pain and flapping its wings in frustration.

"What's the matter, Worm King?" the master asked.

The same croaky voice reverberated from under the cliff.

Then, a man in a black long robe flew from below, taking Worm King in his arms.

Zeke and the others smiled in satisfaction when they saw that man. It was none other than the man they had been looking for-Cesar.

Chirp! Chirp!

Worm King's cries became louder as if it was warning the sorcerer.

"Their mental energy is very strong? What's so bad about it? You will like it, isn't it?" Cesar replied.

Buzz!

Cesar looked perplexed. "You said they're dangerous?" he asked, shifting his gaze toward Zeke and the rest.

"This can't be. They are just a bunch of piglets. They can't cause us harm."

When Sole Wolf heard that word again from Cesar's mouth, he could no longer hold his anger.

Chapter 2324

The truth was, Sole Wolf did not mind being called an animal himself, but he would not tolerate anyone calling Zeke a piglet.

He cursed, and with a burst of his energy, he blasted Cesar off, sending him toppling onto the ground.

Cesar was shocked. He glared at Sole Wolf. "Did you just attack me? Don't tell me you still have your own consciousness! This can't be!"

"Cesar Muraco," Zeke greeted with scorn. "We met again."

What?

"Who are you guys? I think I've met you before. You sound familiar," he questioned, looking at the lot.

Zeke had put on a veil because he did not want Cesar to recognize him, but now that they finally met face to face, Zeke took off his covering. Cesar was incensed when he saw Zeke's face. With Worm King in his arms, he retreated backward,

"Zeke Williams, it's you! How did you even come here?"

"Well, there's no way you can hide from me. I will still be able to locate you wherever you are."

"I bet it's Crippled Williams who brought y'all here," Cesar guessed.

"Do you really think no one will realize what you and he are doing?"

"I shouldn't have expected anything from a crippled man like him!" Cesar blurted, grinding his teeth in anger.

"I've told him countless times to never take anyone with the last name Williams up the mountain, but he still messed up."

Zeke finally understood why Crippled Williams refused to guide anyone of his last name up the mountain.

"Cesar, you'd better stop whatever you're doing right now. We might still go easy on you if you-"

"Ha!"

Cesar burst out in a hysterical laugh when he heard Zeke's words. "Did you just ask me to surrender? My foot! I admit that underestimated you. I really did not expect you guys to make it here, but what can you guys do? There's nothing you guys can do to me!"

Zeke smiled in amusement. "You've got quite the guts to say this, eh?"

Cesar said, "Have you forgotten about Heart-Bound Worm? Dawn will suffer the same pain I do if you do anything to me!"

"I might really have forgotten about it if you have not mentioned her, but now that you mentioned her name, I should really settle this score with you," Zeke said coldly.

He continued, "I told you to face me on your own if you dare to, but you chose to hurt the people I love instead. I hope you know what this means for you. It means there will be no mercy. Did you really think I will spare you after what you did to Dawn?"

"Well, then, you'll be responsible for whatever happens to her. She will die if I die!" Cesar seethed.

"You must be really confident in your Heart-Bound Worm, I suppose?"

"What do you mean? You know how powerful it is. Of course, I'm confident."

"Too bad. The Heart-Bound Worm in Dawn is already dead."

"You're lying! I'm the only person in the entire world who could kill it. That's impossible!" Cesar negated outright.

"Well, it's true that no one can kill the Heart-Bound Worm, but what about a cursed parasitic worm? Can a cursed parasitic worm kill it?" Zeke suggested triumphantly.

Cesar was horrified. "D*mn it! Don't tell me you used the Progenitor from the White Muraco Clan!"

"You're smarter than I thought," Zeke noted.

Cesar shook his head in disbelief. "This cannot be! Even if it's White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, it still doesn't have what it takes to kill Heart-Bound Worm! This is not true!"

"Yeah, the Progenitor might not be able to kill it, but have you forgotten that Dawn is of the Dragon Bloodline? That's why you targeted her in the first place. Once the Progenitor and Dawn's Dragon Bloodline work together, there is nothing they can't do."

Chapter 2325

Cesar was shaken. "The Dragon Bloodline... I can't believe I overlooked that, but no. But, I'm not really convinced of the power of the Dragon Bloodline."

While they spoke, the sorcerer used his mind to communicate with the HeartBound Worm in Dawn. However, little did he know that the worm in Dawn's body was already subdued by Zeke.

The worm was with Zeke at that time, waiting to backlash against Cesar.

Upon Zeke's order, the Heart-Bound Worm started feeding on Cesar, catching him unguarded.

Cesar coughed up a mouthful of blood as he fell back three steps.

"This can't be happening!" he barked, wiping away the blood on his mouth. "I can't believe you tamed it and are using it for your own! I've underestimated you!"

"As I said, it's not too late for you to surrender. We promise to not dismember your body after you die if you tell us everything."

Cesar tilted his head, glaring at Zeke antipathically. "Do you really think the Heart-Bound Worm is the only weapon I have? It's time you experience the ace up my sleeve!"

Zeke raised his brows in amusement. "Oh, okay. I can't wait. Don't say I didn't give you a chance to show your trump card."

Then, Cesar patted the head of the Worm King, whispering, "Worm King, I've put in so much effort and resources to train you. It's your time to shine now. Destroy them, and I'll reward you generously."

Creek!

Worm King was instantly emboldened. It flapped its wings aggressively, getting ready for combat.

Leveraging its mental energy, the Worm King started draining and wrecking the enemies' mental energy. Given its extraordinarily strong energy, no one would have survived his blow-not even a warrior. They could easily lose their sanity or even become comatose, but this was not the case for Zeke and the rest.

They were all formidable and highly trained warriors.

Worm King's attack was futile. It did not even cause them significant damage.

The group looked at the worm, unperturbed.

After some time, Zeke started losing patience. He channeled his mental energy and launched a counterattack.

Despite not going all out, Zeke's halfhearted attack was enough to vanquish Worm King.

Effortlessly, Zeke destroyed Worm King's mentality.

Blood spurted from its mouth, and its wings were rendered immobile as it dropped, half-dead.

Zeke was quick to realize that there was a scent of human blood and flesh coming from Worm King's blood.

It must have eaten a lot of humans. I bet it ate all the people Crippled Williams brought here.

Cesar was flustered when he saw that Worm King was defeated. He rushed over and picked up his pet. "Worm King! Are you okay? Hang in there!"

Worm King moved its wings slightly, conveying the message that it was still alive.

Cesar was slightly consoled when he saw that it was still showing signs of life.

When he looked back up at Zeke, there was fear written all over his face. The calmness and tranquility that filled his countenance before that had disappeared.

"Fine. Turns out I messed with the wrong person, but you know what? There's no turning back for me now. Mine is a path of darkness, and it's the only way for me. Since you guys are here already, I guess I have no choice but to fight till my death. I will do everything I can to stop you. Do you accept the challenge? Come down and face me if you dare!"

With that said, Cesar jumped and went back down into the cliff with Worm King in his arms.

"Go after him!" Zeke roared. At his command, everyone leaped and chased after Cesar.

There was a thick fog at the base of the cliff, and the visibility was so low that they lost sight of Cesar, but Zeke was not worried at all.

His energy had already identified Cesar's location.

Since it was a deep cliff, the free fall took about half a minute before they reached the bottom.

Chapter 2326

When they almost landed, Zeke immediately released his energy to cushion all his men, slowing down their velocity to prevent a hard landing.

What they saw at rock bottom was ghastly.

It was covered with layers upon layers of bodies and bones. The whole place was so stuffy there was no airflow.

There was no end to one's view and there were human remains all over.

The putrid smell of decaying bodies engulfed them, and it was so strong it was suffocating.

It was unbearable even for people like Sole Wolf and the others, who had spent years on the battlefield.

Zeke held his breath as he continued searching for Cesar at the bottom of the cliff.

He tried hard to not look at the bodies because the sight infuriated him so much that he would do something irrational.

At a defining moment like that, it was crucial that he kept his cool.

After exploring for about a few minutes, Worm King's screeching suddenly rang through the whole cliff.

Screech!

What followed was a huge rustling sound from the ground.

Sole Wolf shouted, "Zeke! The bodies are moving!"

Everyone looked down.

As warned, the decayed bodies started moving all of them.

The scene was haunting.

"It's not the bodies. It's the thing in those bodies," Zeke corrected.

"What's inside?" Ares asked. "What could be inside?"

Before Zeke could answer, the bodies burst, and out came worms after worms.

They were of all colors and about the size of bees. Their wings waved violently, giving off an insufferably blaring noise.

When they looked across the cliff, the worms had already organized themselves in a formation, covering the whole ground, so much so that the ground was no longer visible.

This disgusting sight elicited a distressing sensation.

"What on earth is this?" Sole Wolf shouted.

"These are cursed parasitic worms, if I'm not mistaken," Ares answered.

"F*ck! So many of them? Don't tell me there's a whole Muraco Clan here!"

"I'm not sure if there's anyone from the clan here, but I'm positive that these bodies are food for these cursed parasitic worms." What?

Alfred sucked a breath of cold air. "I heard these meat-eating cursed parasitic worms are ferocious. Having so many of them here is a disaster."

"Zeke! We're waiting for your command to exterminate them!" Sole Wolf cried.
Before Zeke even said a word, the worms swarmed toward them from all directions.

They rolled over like waves of a raging storm, ready to devour them alive as they closed in on their targets.

Standing right at the center, Zeke and the others had no way to escape.

The men were stunned at the pugnacious cloud of worms.

At that defining moment, Zeke let out his energy, creating an energy barrier to shield his men by blocking out the worms.

The worms flew right into the barrier and dispersed outward, but they were unstoppable.

In fact, the impact was so strong that they almost penetrated the energy barrier.

When Sole Wolf and the others finally snapped back to their senses, they also released their energy to consolidate Zeke's barrier.

"Does this remind you of anything?" Zeke asked.

"I've never seen anything like this before, Zeke! The worms here outnumber the cursed parasitic worms at the Black and White Muraco Clan combined," Sole Wolf exclaimed.

"Indeed. It's just like the Myriad Worm Formation!" Zeke nodded.

Everyone was suddenly enlightened.

"Exactly! This is really the Myriad Worm Formation!" Sole Wolf responded.

"We saw this formation once at Muraco, but it wasn't as lethal and large as this. This must be the combined work of Cesar and the Worm King!"

Chapter 2327

"That's what I thought too," Zeke agreed.

"From what I know, only the Progenitor can command the Myriad Worm Formation, so I'm guessing Worm King is actually the Progenitor that Cesar has been nurturing all this while. He's after Dawn because she's of the Dragon Bloodline. He needs her to be the Holy Maiden. Once he has both the Progenitor and the Holy Maiden, he will be able to start another Black Muraco Clan. I bet this has been his goal all along!"

It was a moment of realization for Sole Wolf and the others.

"What you said makes sense. He went to great lengths to grow a Progenitor and find someone to act as the Holy Maiden. I can't think of another reason other than building a Black Muraco Clan again. That darn clan had done atrocious acts in the past. We cannot allow those unforgivable deeds to repeat themselves. The only thing we can do now is to annihilate the Progenitor and kill Cesar."

"Yes. We should go for the leader first. Get the sorcerer and Worm King!" Zeke ordered. Sole Wolf and the others prepared for battle. "Lift the barrier, Zeke. We're ready for combat. They might be strong, but we're much stronger. It's time we fight!"

Zeke shook his head. "They're just a bunch of worms. Killing them doesn't even require you guys to do anything."

With that said, Zeke used his energy to maneuver the barrier.

The energy barrier turned into a vast net, wrapping around the worms.

When they realized they were trapped, the worms started to find ways to escape, but none of their efforts were successful because the net was just too sturdy and dense.

Zeke continued strengthening his web as his group chartered ahead at the bottom of the cliff for around two kilometers until they felt the thickness of the bodies under their feet begin to thin.

From afar, Zeke saw Worm King flying mid-air, flapping its wings vigorously as it let out a buzzing sound, trying to control the formation with its mental energy.

Meanwhile, Cesar was seated on the other side, collaborating with Worm King mentally to help keep the formation intact.

When Zeke and the rest survived unscathed, Worm King and Cesar were both appalled.

"How can this be? How are they unscathed? D*mn it! I underestimated him! This bunch of useless worms! I fed you all for nothing!" Cesar cried out angrily.

"So this is the best you can do? You're weak! Do you have a better trick? If not, you'd better surrender!" Zeke ridiculed.

Cesar looked helpless and dejected when he realized his inevitable defeat.

He knew there was no more hope.

Even his Myriad Worm Formation was no match for Zeke.

Cesar sighed and said, "Worm King, I guess I've treated you well all this time, haven't I?"

Worm King let out a loud noise in reply while it was still using its mental energy to control the Myriad Worm Formation.

"I treated you like my own all this while. Since you know you're indebted to me, it's time you show your gratitude. I hope you understand," said Cesar.

Buzz!

Worm King's cries sounded desperate. Although Zeke and his men could not hear what it was saying, they could well understand Worm King's feelings.

It was probably begging Cesar to not give up on it. Alas, instead of helping Worm King, the sorcerer shook his head in determination.

He did not even give Worm King another chance to beg as he turned around and fled. Buzz!

Worm King fell into despair. Its voice grew louder and sadder as if it was imploring Cesar to turn back.

It went without saying that Zeke would not let Cesar go just like that.

Screech!

Suddenly, Worm King gave out a painful cry.

Chapter 2328

This time around, Zeke and the others understood what it was trying to say. Did it say, "Die?" Does Worm King want us to die with it?

Right then, with a blast of mental energy, Worm King started controlling the Myriad Worm Formation.

All the cursed parasitic worms in the Myriad Worm Formation also released the strongest wave of mental energy.

Are they trying to self-destruct by releasing mental energy? Indeed! That's what they're going to do! Zeke and the others grew anxious. If Worm King does it on its own, it won't be a problem. Even if a bunch of cursed parasitic worms were to do that, it won't be a problem either. However, if they combine, they'll pack quite a punch!

Evidently, they were a lot stronger when they were combined.

Zeke yelled an order, "Deploy the energy barrier!"

Almost subconsciously, Sole Wolf and the others deployed their energy barriers to protect themselves.

When the cursed parasitic worms' mental energy had reached its peak, they self destructed.

A strong wave of mental energy was sent toward Zeke and the others.

Suddenly, Sole Wolf and the rest were greeted by an intense ray of light, and they lost their consciousness momentarily.

As strong as Zeke was, he felt the threat of the wave of energy as well.

After an intense mental energy explosion. Worm King and the rest of the cursed parasitic worms died and fell to the ground.

The carcasses of countless cursed parasitic worms were seen piling into a hill.

Zeke couldn't be bothered about the carcasses, though. Instead, he quickly unleashed a wave of energy to soothe the blow Sole Wolf and the others had encountered when they were hit by the wave of mental energy.

He was worried that Sole Wolf and the others would suffer serious injuries in terms of their consciousness.

Fortunately, Sole Wolf and the others were stronger than Zeke thought. It didn't take too long for them to regain their consciousness.

Still, they couldn't help but feel a chill running down their spines.

"F*ck! They were strong."

"My mental energy almost exploded as well!"

"Wouldn't it be funny if we were actually killed by a bunch of worms? Ha!"

They were shocked when they saw the carcasses of the cursed parasitic worms.

"Zeke, what should we do with the dead cursed parasitic worms?" Sole Wolf asked.

"Burn them. Be careful, though. Don't cause damage to the corpses at the bottom of the hill. Some of the dead were from the village nearby. Identify them and bring them back to the village," Zeke instructed.

"Okay. I'll get people to deal with the corpses," Sole Wolf answered.

"Let's go and track Cesar down," Zeke uttered.

"Okay!"

Cesar had made his escape earlier on, but Zeke could track his aura with ease.

Following the trail all the way down the valley, Cesar's aura disappeared near a subterranean river.

Zeke and the others had no idea which direction Cesar had gone.

Everyone was at their wits' end.

In the end, Zeke contacted White Muraco Clan's Progenitor with his telepathy.

Since Cesar and White Muraco Clan's Progenitor were from the same Muraco Clan, it was safe to assume that White Muraco Clan's Progenitor could track him down.

"What do you want? Talk quickly, and don't waste my time," White Muraco Clan's Progenitor said.

"I've found Black Muraco Clan's elder. However, I've lost him. I need your help to locate him."

"What? Black Muraco Clan's elder? He went missing a few years back, and everyone thought he had gotten into an accident or something. Is he still alive?"

"Of course. He's well and alive. Recently, he's trying to rebuild Black Muraco Clan so that he can take White Muraco Clan out."

"What? That's outrageous!" White Muraco Clan's Progenitor was infuriated. "No matter what, he needs to die! I'm going to use my willpower to control your body and find out where Black Muraco Clan's elder had escaped to."

"Sure!" Zeke unhesitatingly allowed White Muraco Clan's Progenitor control his body.

He could feel his consciousness slipping away gradually before losing it entirely.

After a while, Zeke woke up, and he asked, "Whitey, did you find out where did he go?"

Chapter 2329

"Of course! I know he fled along the subterranean river in front because I could smell his aura in the river. Since the water comes from upstream, Black Muraco Clan's elder had swum up the stream! You guys should just go along the subterranean river."

"Okay!"

Zeke then ordered the others, "Let's go! Cesar had escaped along the subterranean river. We'll just swim along the subterranean river."

Only then did Zeke realize Sole Wolf and the others had dropped to their knees.

Zeke furrowed his brows and asked, "What's with you guys? Why are you guys kneeling?"

"Zeke, we're useless because we've lost Cesar. We should be punished," Sole Wolf answered.

Still frowning, Zeke said, "That's not your fault. I've even failed to stop Cesar prior to this. Get up."

Sole Wolf and the others exchanged glances and were perplexed.

Seeing their expressions, Zeke immediately realized something. Whitey must've done something ridiculous when it was controlling my body.

"What did I do just now? Why are you guys acting this way?" Zeke asked.

Sole Wolf was amused. "Zeke, do you not know what did you do? Why are you asking us?"

Zeke answered, "In order to track Cesar down, I've let White Muraco Clan's Progenitor control my body temporarily. Hence, I didn't have control over whatever I did or said just now."

What the f*ck? Sole Wolf's expression. darkened instantly. "That f*cking worm! It tricked us! Such audacity!"

"It's looking for death! I'll make it pay !"

"Tell me what I did just now!" Zeke demanded.

Ares answered, "You reprimanded us just now. You said we were a bunch of good-for nothing because we couldn't even stop Black Muraco Clan. Also, you said you were a..."

Ares was too embarrassed to continue his sentence.

Zeke's expression turned grim.

Putting what he said about me aside, it's already a big sin to humiliate and degrade my subordinates! Besides, how could I use my body to say those words? If it were to use my body to give out commands, it's going to cause chaos in Eurasia!

Zeke then stared at Ares and ordered, "What did I say I was? Tell me honestly."

"Okay! You said you were a pig, and you don't have any leadership skills. You also said you're not worthy of being the Great Marshal!" Ares answered.

B*stard! Zeke was fuming.

He then used his telepathy to whip White Muraco Clan's Progenitor over and over again.

Instantly, Zeke could hear White Muraco Clan's Progenitor crying agonizingly in his head.

Zeke delivered tens of mental whips on White Muraco Clan's Progenitor, and he only stopped when he heard it wailing in pain.

"Hmph! Think thoroughly about what you did! If you do it again, I'm going to kill you!" Zeke warned telepathically.

White Muraco Clan's Progenitor sobbed and pleaded, "Fine! I'm sorry! I admit my mistakes! Isn't it enough that I admit I'm wrong?"

Zeke asked, "What were your mistakes?"

White Muraco Clan's Progenitor said, "I shouldn't have accepted you as my master! Oh, goodness! Why do you torture me..."

Zeke ignored White Muraco Clan's Progenitor because his current priority was to catch Cesar.

Zeke led the others and chased after Cesar along the river.

The subterranean river was huge, and its terrain was complicated. Besides, almost the whole underground space was filled with water instead of dry land.

Zeke and the others were having a tough time in the river.

Furthermore, they didn't know how long the subterranean river was because they didn't see any sign of Cesar after more than half an hour in there.

Chapter 2330

Although it had only been half an hour or so, they were so fast that they had already searched for almost a hundred kilometers.

After around another ten minutes of search, Sole Wolf and the others were getting impatient.

Suddenly, Zeke raised his hand and stopped them. "Stop."

The rest of them looked at Zeke in anticipation. "Zeke, have we found Cesar?"

Zeke shook his head. "No. However, I sense a familiar aura."

What? Sole Wolf and the others closed their eyes to sense their surroundings.

faces. Shortly after, they opened their eyes, and disappointment was written all over their

"Did you sense anything familiar just now?"

"No. I didn't sense anything!"

"Zeke, what did you sense? Tell us!" "I sensed Fortuna's aura. I think he's nearby," Zeke answered.

Fortuna? The others were shocked.

"Isn't Fortuna absorbing divine energy at Vauxgan Pavilion? How is his aura found in this subterranean river?" Sole Wolf asked.

"To be honest, not only did I sense Fortuna's aura, but I can also sense divine energy," Zeke answered.

Sole Wolf and the others exchanged looks with each other.

"You sensed Fortuna's aura and divine energy at the same time? What does that mean?"

"Does it mean Vauxgan Pavilion is just nearby?"

"Yes. That's very likely."

"How is Ghoul Cliff connected to Vauxgan Pavilion? What does the divine energy in the river have to do with Ghoul Cliff?"

"I see a light in front. Let's go and find out!" Zeke led the others toward the light source.

Soon, they arrived at the light source and found a hole in the wall.

There was a stream of water flowing in on top of the hole, and that was the water that filled the subterranean river.

Zeke leaped and climbed through the hole.

There was a huge river outside the hole.

Zeke swept a glance at the surroundings and knew Vauxgan Pavilion was just nearby. We guessed it right!

Sole Wolf and the others followed him from behind.

After that, they communicated through telepathy. "Indeed, we're just near the Vauxgan Pavilion."

"Look! That's Fortuna, no?"

"Since this is the only exit, Cesar must've gone through here as well. I bet Fortuna had noticed Cesar."

"Let's go and ask Fortuna!"

"Okay!"

Zeke led the others and approached Fortuna.
At that moment, Fortuna was indulging in divine energy.

Although Fortuna noticed the presence of Zeke and the others, it ignored them. It was enjoying the abundant supply of divine energy.

Zeke immediately contacted Fortuna through his consciousness. "Fortuna, did you notice a man here just now?"

"Yes. I did."

"Since that man appeared in such a weird way, why didn't you stop him?"

"Who was he? Was he important? Why would I bother to stop him?"

"He's Cesar the sorcerer! He's someone we've been tracking. Of course he's important!"

"Oh. I sensed his strong murderous aura, and I was afraid that his murderous aura could affect the purity of the divine energy here. That's why I ignored him," replied Fortuna.

"Do you know where he go?"

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"He went ashore."

"How long was that ago?"

"It happened just moments ago!"

What? Moments ago? Zeke was elated. Since Cesar had only gone ashore moments ago, he must be nearby.

Without wasting another second, Zeke ordered, "Let's go ashore!"

The whole group of people leaped out of the water and landed on the shore.

The splashing waves they had generated were tens of meters high.

Right then, they raised their gazes and saw a few people fighting nearby.

Chapter 2331

Upon a closer look, they saw Rick and a few Dulliouds surrounding Cesar, beating him up.

While they were beating him up, they were scolding, "B*stard! How dare you come back? You have balls, don't you?"

"You've escaped the last time around, and we didn't get to have our revenge. This time around, for the sake of Dullioud, we're going to kill you!"

"You've turned my family into spider men! I'm going to turn you into a lifeless scarecrow!"

"Beat him up! Beat him to death!"

Cesar's weapons were his cursed parasitic worms.

Since all his cursed parasitic worms and Worm King were dead, Cesar had become an ordinary and defenseless human.

He was pleading for mercy and begging for his life, but his pleas fell on deaf ears.

Evidently, those Dulliouds seemed determined to take his life.

Zeke, Sole Wolf, and the others couldn't help but laugh. Cesar had nearly escaped from us, a group of elite warriors, but he's now getting beaten up by a bunch of thugs! Fate works in funny ways. Sometimes, people of less importance end up getting things done!

Zeke led the others toward the fight.

When Rick saw Zeke, he was stumped, and he wanted to kneel before Zeke.

However, Zeke waved his hands in dismissal and said, "Don't mind me. Go on with what you guys were doing."

Rick and the others were baffled. What's going on? The last time around, Rick got away, and the Great Marshal didn't punish him. Why is the Great Marshal not stopping us? F*ck it. Revenge is more important now. We better get on with it before the Great Marshal changes his mind.

With those thoughts in their heads, they started beating Cesar up even more heavily. Cesar was heard shrieking in agony.

In the end, he could no longer take the beating anymore. "Zeke, help! Help me! I'm dying! You have a lot of questions, right? I'm the only person with the answers! If you let me die, you'll never have those answers. Stop! Stop beating me up!" he pleaded.

Zeke couldn't care less about Cesar. Let him take a few more punches and kicks so that he'll be cooperative later.

After about five minutes, Cesar began to spew out blood, and he was lying motionlessly on the ground like a dying man. Right then, Zeke told them to stop.

He wasn't going to just let Cesar die.

Rick and the others stopped right away. They were so tired that they were drenched in sweat and panting heavily.

Zeke walked toward Cesar and chuckled coldly. "You wanted to talk, right? Spill it."

Cesar took a deep breath and coughed out a mouthful of blood. "No! This is unfair! I've spent decades raising Worm King and up to ten thousand cursed parasitic worms. How could you just destroy everything? This is unfair and unjust!"

Zeke answered coldly, "As long as I'm still in

Eurasia, justice will definitely be served. It's just a matter of time! Your cursed parasitic worms deserved to die! You deserve to die as well! For everything

you've done, you deserve all kinds of torment and punishment! However, I can tell that you're afraid of pain. Hence, I can sentence you to Cygnus Room so that you'll feel all kinds of torments. By then, you'll beg for death! Now, I'm going to give you a chance. Tell me everything you know, and I shall kill you right away without torturing you!"

Cesar stared at Zeke in fear. He's capable of sending me to a fate worse than death.

Knowing that he would die regardless, Cesar would rather die right there and then.

Hence, he was getting ready to bite his own tongue to commit suicide. However, to his surprise, he had lost control of his jaws, and he couldn't close his mouth. What the f*ck?

Zeke sneered. "Did you want to commit suicide? Dream on!"

While trembling in fear, Cesar stammered, "T-This is your doing?"

"Of course," Zeke answered.

Zeke had used his energy to control Cesar's chin.

Chapter 2332

He gave Sole Wolf a look, and Sole Wolf inclined his head. Then, the latter took out a dagger and walked over to Cesar.

Cesar stammered out, "W-What are you trying to do?"

Instead of responding to him, Sole Wolf shoved the dagger in his hand right into Cesar's mouth and scraped its insides.

Cesar's gums were all cut off.

As such, he could no longer try to end his life by biting his tongue even if he wanted to.

Blood stained half of Cesar's face.

"Argh!" Cesar screamed.

Demon! They're demons! They've scrapped off my teeth and gums just to stop me from killing myself! Only demons would think of an insane way like this!

Zeke asked, "First question, why were you nurturing the Worm King and the Myriad Worm Formation? And why did you try to control Dawn?"

Cesar's gums were scrapped off, so his words were not as comprehensible. "I nurtured the Worm King because... I wanted to make it fight for me. I want to increase my battle prowess. You know that I can't physically fight. I'll lose against many. That's why I was trying to use the Worm King to make up for that. As for controlling Dawn... I just wanted to use her to threaten you just in case."

Zeke shook his head. "It seems like you're still not an honest man. Sole Wolf, show him a little more nightmare so that he'll stop thinking of us as idiots."

"Sure!"

Sole Wolf rubbed his hands before playing with his dagger, eager to mess with Cesar further.

"Boy, have you ever heard of this? One will use a knife to cut a cross on another person's scalp before pouring lead into it. Liquid lead is heavy, and it'll keep sinking downward. By the time it reaches the foot, the entire body's skin will peel off. Still, this isn't the main point. The main point is that the person will remain conscious the entire time. They'll only die after the entire body's skin is peeled off."

Hearing that, the hair on the back of Cesar's neck stood as goosebumps raised all over his body.

He's a psycho! They're all psychos! How can they come up with such a maniacal torture method?

The very thought of it was hair-raising, let alone the process of it. Cesar instantly lost all courage in him.

"Okay, okay! I'll tell you everything. I don't want Black Muraco Clan to end like this, so I was trying to restore it. To restore Black Muraco Clan, I'd need the Progenitor and the Holy Maiden. I wanted to nurture the Worm King into the Progenitor. As for Dawn... She has pure Dragon Bloodline, so she's the best candidate for the Holy Maiden. Rebuilding Black Muraco Clan is a lengthy process, and I won't be able to do it myself. That's why I went to work with Netherworld Daemonium-I was seeking their help."

Zeke replied, "Tell me. What have you asked Netherworld to do for you?"

Cesar responded, "Daemonium helped me deal with the Dulliouds and returned my freedom to me. They then helped me gain control of Ghoull Cliff and created the right environment for me to nurture the Progenitor. Finally, they agreed to help me conquer White Muraco Clan so that our people can return."

Zeke probed, "Oh, so you're telling me that the Netherworld is helping you out for free? They must have ulterior motives of their own, right?"

Cesar replied, "Of course. It's not as if they've never used me to do things for them."

"Then what have you helped them with?"

"First of all, they've asked me to change the Dulliouds into spider men. Secondly, they wanted me to control the people with the cursed parasitic worms and make them plant soybeans."

Zeke arched a brow. "Why are they trying to plant soybeans? What's so special about those soybeans compared to the normal ones?"

Cesar shook his head. "I don't know."

Zeke shot a glare at him. "Lying again? Sole Wolf, it's time for torture."

Cesar pleaded miserably, "I really don't know! I'm not lying to you! I'm but a pawn to the Netherworld, which makes me replaceable. They won't tell me top secrets like those. I've also tried asking them about it, but I nearly enraged them and lost my life. I swear everything I said is the truth. If I lie to you, I'll die a horrendous death!"

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Chapter 2333

Cesar did not seem like he was lying, so Zeke believed it.

He then asked, "Why did the Netherworld make you transform the Dulliouds into spider men, then?"

Cesar tentatively replied, "The Netherworld has ordered the spider men to dig a passage between this place and Ghouel Cliff. The underground river you came across earlier is the work of these spider men.

Sole Wolf immediately voiced his doubts. "That's impossible. It has only been a few months since the Dulliouds were turned into spider men. How could they possibly dig an underground tunnel of hundreds of kilometers in such a short time? In fact, even my brother, who's a Celestial Class warrior, might not be able to do that.

Cesar quickly explained, "The truth is that the underground tunnel has been there since a long time ago, but it wasn't as long. It was only a few kilometers away from this river. Hence, the spider men dug the last few kilometers."

"Why did the Netherworld want to connect the two spots?"

Cesar replied, "I'm not sure. That's also a confidential matter for the Netherworld."

Zeke then stared at Cesar and studied his expression. "Really?"

With a sincere look, Cesar replied, "Of course. I swear."

"I'm sure the Netherworld hasn't asked you to make the Dulliouds into spider men for just that, right?"

Cesar hastily said, "Of course not. There's another reason, and that's to guard what's under the river."

Hearing that, Zeke eagerly asked, "What's under the river that the Netherworld and Fortuna yearn for?"

"I didn't have the right to know, but I overheard Daemonium talk about it before. Still, I can't guarantee the authenticity of this matter, so I'm not sure if I should tell you about it or not."

"It's fine. Tell me."

"Daemonium said that Ossa Dei is down here."

Ossa Dei?

A shocked look crossed their faces. "What is that?"

Cesar answered, "Exactly what the name means. Ossa Dei-the bones of a god."

"Bullsh*t!" Sole Wolf cursed. "How can there be gods in this world? You're talking nonsense!"

His words terrified Cesar, who quickly said, "I'm not. This is really what I've heard from Daemonium! But I'm not sure whether or not they really are the bones of a god."

Zeke waved his hand to signal Sole Wolf to quiet down. "I think he might be serious about this."

A laugh escaped from Sole Wolf. "Zeke, are you telling me that gods really exist in this world?"

Zeke hummed. "I can't say for sure whether or not gods exist in this world. However, the gods Daemonium talked about might not be the same as the ones we're discussing.

Gods have been a sacred emblem since the start of human civilization. They're a form of faith. The god that Daemonium was talking about might be a man who had achieved great things in the past. He was probably the god that the people of his time believed in."

Sole Wolf nodded as he mulled over Zeke's words. "Hm. That makes sense. Still, the bones of a great man are just bones. Why are the Netherworld and Fortuna after them?"

Zeke explained, "Fortuna accompanies those who've become great figures in history. Even if they die, their bones will still have Fortuna in them. That theory can be backed up by how Fortuna is attracted by Ossa Dei. The Netherworld must be coveting the Fortuna within Ossa Dei." Sole Wolf and the others widened their eyes in realization before nodding.

Zeke then turned back to Cesar. "Last question. Do you know where the Netherworld's base is?"

Cesar lowered his voice even more. "I might know where the Netherworld's main base is." What?

Zeke and the rest turned excited.

If they could find the Netherworld's base and destroy the place, they would be able to annihilate the Netherworld once and for all.

It was a fantastic move.

The information Cesar had was simply too crucial for them, so Zeke and the others could not help but feel thrilled.

Chapter 2334

Zeke hurriedly said, "Tell us quickly where the Netherworld's main base is."

Cesar took in a deep breath before replying, "I can tell you where it is, but... can you spare my life?"

Zeke ruminated over his words. "The knowledge you have is vital to Eurasia. If it turns out that you've given us the correct information, you'll be making a huge contribution to Eurasia. In that case, we will be able to let you off alive."

That's great!

Cesar excitedly cried out, "The Netherworld's main base is at-"

Just then, a black mist wafted over abruptly and entered Cesar's body.

Pfft!

Cesar retched up blood before falling backward onto the ground, dead.

D*mn it!

Alarm bells were ringing in Zeke's head, and he let out his energy without hesitation to form a barrier around him and his men.

Right as the barrier was formed, waves and waves of black mist collided against the energy barrier.

The black mist dissipated upon crashing against the barrier, which shook and was on the verge of disintegrating.

It was then that Sole Wolf and the others snapped back to their senses and realized that they were in danger. They, too, rapidly unleashed their energy to strengthen the energy barrier.

"D*mn it. Who's doing this? They killed Cesar right as he was about to tell us the most important information. I can't even begin to fathom the loss Eurasia has just suffered!"

"Die! The culprit must die, and we must torture them to death!"

"This seems like negative energy. It must be the Netherworld!"

"F*ck! They've come at a good time. It'll be our chance to rid the world of this evil today!"

Zeke and the rest then turned in the direction the negative energy was coming from.

Then, they saw a group of people ambling over from a distance away.

Although there were only a dozen of people in that group, they were all exuding murderous auras. For a moment, it was as if there were thousands of them instead.

As a matter of fact, the auras they released condensed in the air into a dark cloud.

Their powerful presence even shook the bed of the river and made the fishes swim away in panic.

The leading man of the group was none other than Daemonium, and the rest of the people in the group were Netherworld's Fourth Branch members.

All of them were bald and dressed in monastic garments, looking like monks.

Most importantly, Warren, who was always by Daemonium's side, was surprisingly nowhere to be found this time.

As Daemonium looked at the dead Cesar, he sneered, "How dare he betray the Netherworld? He should have been tortured to death by Netherworld's punishing ways. He has gotten off easy by dying so quickly."

Zeke then looked at Daemonium as an equally vicious sneer grew on his lips. "Daemonium, you've finally shown up. What's the matter? Are you sick of being the ostrich?"

Daemonium hissed, "Zeke, don't you think that you're crossing the line? You always mess up the Netherworld's plans, and you've done it again this time."

Zeke replied, "Don't misunderstand the situation. I'm not deliberately messing up your plans."

Daemonium scoffed, "Only a fool will believe your words."

Zeke shook his head. "That's not what I mean. I'm not trying to destroy your plans; I'm trying to destroy you. Still, you manage to escape from me every time."

What a b*stard!

Daemonium gritted his teeth in response. "It seems like you're determined to settle the score today."

Zeke smiled. "It's time for us to end this. I've let you escape many times in the past, so I won't let you do that again this time!"

Daemonium chuckled. "Aren't you thinking too highly of yourself? Who knows who will emerge as the victor today? Since you want a conclusion, a conclusion is what I'll give you! Attention, Netherworld's Fourth Branch!"

"Yes, sir!" the ten monks chorused in thunderous voices.

As Zeke glared at the ten monks, he coldly said, "If my guess is right, these ten people should be the notorious ten evil monks of Eurasia. I've only heard about your misdeeds in the past, and I never knew that you were associating yourselves with the Netherworld! Ha! Traitors like you shall meet your end today!"

Chapter 2335

The ten monks scoffed. "Bless you. Great Marshal, don't you think that you're too confident in yourself? Although we have submitted ourselves to the Netherworld, we're still monks. We're still the people of our God, and we're still under the protection of our God. Great Marshal, who do you think is stronger? You, or our God?"

"Your God? If your God is useful to Eurasia, then he is a God. If he is on the side of traitors and miscreants, then he is also a traitor, and I'll kill him too!"

The ten monks fumed. "How dare you humiliate our God? We'll definitely kill you for this! Daemonium, give us the order!"

"Hahaha!" Daemonium cackled. "Let's kill to our hearts' content today! Attention, Fourth Branch, set up the Mors Formation!"

"Understood!"

Right as they uttered that, the ten monks retreated hundreds of meters in various directions while making sure that Zeke was in the middle of their circle.

The hearts of Sole Wolf and the others lurched at that as they tensed up.

These monks are powerful! From the speed they moved earlier, I'd say they're at least King Class warriors, so they're not much weaker than us.

Zeke and Daemonium were both Celestial Class warriors.

Hence, it was actually tough to say who would be the winner of the day.

Nevertheless, Sole Wolf forced himself to stay calm as he stretched his back. "My, it's been a while since I last had the chance to exercise. This will be a good time for me to do so. Come at me! I'll make sure you're crying like a baby by the end of this!"

With that said, Sole Wolf charged toward them.

Daemonium scoffed and commanded, "Charge!"

At that, the monks instantly whipped out their wooden bells and began knocking on them.

The sounds of the wooden bells seemed like spells, for they messed with people's minds. Sole Wolf and the others instantly felt the world spin around them as a fog appeared in their minds. They found it challenging to stay focused. It felt as if they were drunk.

That infuriated Sole Wolf, who hissed, "F*ck you! Stop knocking those d*mn things! You're making me have a headache! Die, b*stards! Ares, you'll head east. Nameless, you'll head west. Alfred and Tyler, you'll both head south. Leave the north to me! Zeke, I'll leave Daemonium to you."

"Okay."

No one uttered a word of protest as they launched themselves like rockets toward their opponents, ready to fight the monks to their deaths.

However, before they could get close to the ten monks, the surface of the river abruptly rippled.

Along with the ripples came the spider men.

Right as the spider men leaped out of the river and landed on the ground, they turned into ferocious beasts and began attacking Sole Wolf and the rest.

With each punch Sole Wolf made, he sent five flying. With each kick he made, he sent six tumbling.

At the same time, the others were doing similarly well too.

As Sole Wolf fought, he cursed, "Is that all? Stop making me f*cking look down on you all."

At that, the ten monks responded, "As you wish."

They then began knocking on their wooden bells harder.

More and more spider men began jumping out of the river.

In fact, thousands of spider men had emerged from the river in the blink of an eye.

They then rushed toward Sole Wolf and the others.

Moreover, their footsteps were quaking the earth.

Before they could come any closer, Sole Wolf jumped up into the air before landing on the group of spider men and slamming against them.

He did not even bother swinging out his fists as he cleared a path out by smashing against them.

"Haha! This is fun! What a rare chance for me to fight without needing to think! Thank you for the opportunity, Daemonium! Haha! Nameless, let's compete. Let's see who'll kill more enemies!"

Ares then reminded, "Sole Wolf, you have to save some of your strength. The ten monks might be trying to deplete our stamina with the spider men before fighting us themselves. The ten monks aren't much weaker than us. If our stamina is depleted, we might not be a match for them."

At that, Sole Wolf barked out a laugh. "Deplete our stamina? Don't worry. Even if I'm tired as h*ll, I'll still be able to beat up these bunch of baldies!"

A bitter smile appeared on Ares' face at Sole Wolf's response before the former threw himself into the fight as well.

Indeed, there's a reason for Sole Wolf to be known as a battle maniac.

Chapter 2336

Rick and the rest appeared dumbfounded when he looked at them again.

They shivered from being soaked in cold sweat.

"How did my brothers turn into this?"

"How wicked of that b*stard Cesar!"

"That is my brother! I am going to rescue him!"

"Get out of my way! My father is in there too, and I am going to wake him up."

"Open your eyes, Dad. It's me! Wake up, I beg you!"

However, the spider men did not recognize them and were deaf to their pleas.

In fact, the spider men's attack grew more ferocious.

Dashing about madly, Sole Wolf knocked the spider men aside and came close to one of the evil monks.

Now Sole Wolf swung his fists. "Get the leaders, and the rest will topple! I'll kill you first, you scum!"

The monk did not expect the ferocious Sole Wolf to have appeared before him in the blink of an eye. Before he could defend himself, Sole Wolf had sent him flying into the air.

Sole Wolf cackled smugly. "Is that all you have? There goes my respect for you."

The monk who had been sent flying was incensed. "Don't you dare underestimate us. Brothers! Mors Formation!"

The ten evil monks increased the intensity and pace of their knocking on the wooden bells, which disconcerted Sole Wolf and the rest for reasons they could not explain.

Boom!

The deafening noise of an explosion sounded from the river surface.

They quickly looked over and saw the river's surface exploding, sending a tidal wave dozens of feet high.

The vortex of the tide concealed many human-shaped objects.

The wave landed in the middle of the battle arena.

After the torrent subsided, all who were present gasped involuntarily at the sight before them.

It turned out that the humanoid shapes in the water were corpses that had been dead for some time as their bodies had decomposed.

Many even had the whites of their bones showing with only shreds of flesh still attached. It was a gruesome sight to behold.

The more shocking fact was that the bodies could still move. They struggled to stand up as before they lunged madly at Sole Wolf and the rest.

Some of them had their legs broken during their fall but still dragged themselves forward to attack Sole Wolf.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The unceasing noise of explosions erupted from the river. Horde after horde of rotting zombies was sent blasting forth onto the battle arena in assault of Zeke's people.

The zombies were not endowed with much martial prowess but had strength in numbers. In the blink of an eye, the bodies stacked themselves into the size of a small hill.

It became nearly impossible for Sole Wolf and the rest to break through the bodies. and attack the ten evil monks.

In an instant, they were trapped.

Sole Wolf was beside himself with rage. "Godd*mn it! Where did this bunch of zealots get their hands on so many corpses?"

Ares sent dozens of zombies back with one punch. "Don't these bodies seem familiar to you?" he yelled in frustration.

Sole Wolf yanked a femur from a pile of skeletal remains on the ground and swung it like a club, knocking back eight corpses at once. "Why would they seem familiar? Stop speaking in riddles at this time and say what you will!"

"These bodies are from Ghoul Cliff!" Ares revealed.

D*mn!

Sole Wolf lost his temper. "D*mn the Netherworld! Even the deceased don't stand a chance. These zombies must have come from the subterranean river. Go back to where you came from! Do you know what my biggest regret in life is? Not lighting all you sons of b*tches up in flames!"

Sole Wolf's barrage became more aggressive as he spoke.

"Stop wasting your energy on the zombies, Sole Wolf!" Ares shouted. "Save your strength for the ten evil monks."

"I know better than you," Sole Wolf retorted. "These zombies are nothing more than a horde of pests, and they're swarming all over me to prevent me from getting to the ten evil monks."

Ares reached out a hand. "Come, let's join our strengths together and force our way out of their barricade!"

Still levitating, Zeke and Daemonium were in the midst of a battle in the sky.

Chapter 2337

"Don't you find your actions despicable, Daemonium?" Zeke taunted. "To resort to such petty tactics when you find out that your dogs are no match for my men. Is this how the Netherworld conducts itself? Not even having the courage to have a fair fight?"

Daemonium cackled. "Don't bother with the provocations, Zeke. It won't work. There is a saying in Eurasia, 'Soldiers can't be choosers. Furthermore, these zombies and spider men were subjugated with my power and are part of me! I would have nothing to say if you, Great Marshal, could mobilize this number of corpses to fight your war!"

"You want to talk about power?" Zeke said. "Very well. I'll show you the true extent of mine."

"Excellent!" Daemonium exclaimed. "I would be pleased to watch you die. Come!"

Zeke and his foe were equally unrelenting. Each demonstrating their strength at maximum capacity, they began dueling fiercely.

It was to note that the combatants were both Celestial Class warriors, who possessed powers capable of causing armageddon.

When the combatants clashed, it looked as if the world was coming to an end.

The deafening clangs shattered the skies. Waves rose to torrents as the clouds turned dark amidst the howling wind and crashes of thunder.

Soon, Vauxgan Pavilion was leveled, and half of the trees of a nearby forest had their timber reduced to kindling.

Even a small hill in the distance was trembling as if about to collapse.

It looked as if a bomb had gone off.

Zeke and Daemonium were holding on to maintain their edge in the fight while Sole Wolf and the ten evil monks below were engaged in an equally fierce battle.

The war was destined to become a stalemate.

Both sides knew well that the war had arrived at an unusual balance. The first one to break the balance would have the best chance of winning.

Sole Wolf laughed. "That looks like everything you've got, scum of the Netherworld. It's my turn to demonstrate my abilities now! I hope you're up for it!"

He threw his head back suddenly and called to the skies, "Oh, Tigger, my Tigger, come to Daddy! Daddy's in trouble!"

As soon as Sole Wolf spoke, an ear-splitting roar sounded, which shook the very earth they stood on.

Soon after, Tiger Lord, a tiger the size of a bull, scampered over from a distance. Like a bullet train, he charged right into the horde.

The group of corpses fell apart like wet clay before Tiger Lord, leaving a large hole in the middle of the flesh barricade in his wake.

Despite that, Tiger Lord was not satisfied. He charged at another spot near the hole and enlarged it.

Though the corpses were unfeeling, they seemed to cower in fear.

As Tiger Lord was a spiritual beast, the spiritual energy gathered around him suppressed the dark power of the zombies.

As a result, the attacks of the zombies weakened drastically.

Sole Wolf cackled maniacally. "Well done, Tigger. You made Daddy proud. You'll be getting a reward when we get home!"

Roar!

Tiger Lord was furious. I am Tiger Lord! How dare he call me something as silly as Tigger?

However, he could not attack Sole Wolf at the moment, so he took his anger out by attacking the zombie horde with even more ferocity.

At the same time, Sole Wolf and the rest exited the barricade through the hole to charge at the ten evil monks.

Though Sole Wolf's fatigue was palpable, the ten evil monks were no match for him.

Every monk who stood before him was slain with the slightest of ease.

With each monk's demise, the Mors Formation weakened by a good amount.

Subsequently, the pressure on Ares and his companions decreased accordingly.

The balance of the battle had been broken by Tiger Lord's appearance.

Daemonium saw it all, though he remained disdainful. "You're not the only one with a trump card up his sleeve, Zeke! Come, it's time for me to unleash mine!"

He turned his gaze downward to address the monks. "It's time to summon Ossa Dei to kill the dissidents!"

The monks were excited by the proclamation. As one, they smacked themselves on the chest and spat out a mouthful of blood purposefully onto the wooden bells.

Ignoring their pain, they began beating on the wooden bells with unprecedented vigor.

Chapter 2338

The sounds emitting from the wooden bell were lower this time. As if somebody was smashing at their hearts with a large hammer, the reverberations rattled the brains of Sole Wolf and his comrades.

They were not only disoriented this time, but their bodies also sustained grievous injuries.

In the instant of their debilitation, millions of zombies threw themselves on top of one another and formed a hill within the span of the blink of an eye to press down on them.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

The surface of the river began to bubble as if it were boiling.

A layer of white mist appeared on the river's surface as an omen for bizarre occurrences to come.

Zeke watched the river intently for the first sight of Ossa Dei.

Without warning, a white object exploded out of the water and suspended in midair.

It was the bones of an arm.

However, it was no ordinary set of bones. Translucent and white all over, it emitted a soft, divine glow like a sacred object, which suppressed the ominous energy of the corpses below.

The zombie horde below fell silent upon its appearance. Trembling, they fell to their knees.

Even Zeke almost submitted to the desire to kneel, which had appeared instinctively in his mind.

He became in awe of the strength the owner of the arm must have possessed in life.

He must have been so powerful when he was alive that even the appearance of merely an arm of his had managed to cause a Celestial Class warrior to stand frozen in awe. His power must have been tens, hundreds, or perhaps even millions of times greater than that of a Celestial Class warrior. A million times the power of a Celestial Class would make him an actual immortal.

Ossa Dei seemed to be sentient. At its materialization, it paced about aimlessly as if trying to assess the situation.

Daemonium landed on the ground and fell on one knee. "I, Daemonium of the Netherworld, welcome you to our realm, Ossa Dei! Accept the offer of my blood as a humble sacrifice to seek your help in eliminating the dissidents, Ossa Dei. Thy will be done!"

At that, Daemonium chopped off his wrist, and blood spurted out like a geyser which he directed toward Ossa Dei.

Ossa Dei did not hold back in lapping up Daemonium's blood.

A tinge of red stained Ossa Dei's initially white appearance.

A hoarse roar rumbled from the depths of Ossa Dei upon the completion of its absorption.

"Blood!"

It was evident that Daemonium's sacrifice was not sufficient.

Daemonium gritted his teeth and cut off his other wrist.

Ossa Dei once again sucked the supply of blood dry.

"Blood!" Ossa Dei reiterated his demand for a second time.

Daemonium gulped., "I have underestimated Ossa Dei's appetite. Even the blood from both my arms is not enough to satisfy it."

As he had come too far to get cold feet, Daemonium was forced to slice open a vein on his thigh to appease Ossa Dei.

Despite the blood from his thigh being far more potent than his arms, Ossa Dei sucked it dry in one go.

By then, the red tinge on Ossa Dei's surface was visible to the naked eye.

"Kill!" it growled before lunging toward Zeke.

Holy sh*t!

Zeke's heart almost leaped out of his ribcage.

Despite their distance, he had been so shaken by the murderous intent emanating from Ossa Dei that he found it hard to breathe.

I have a strong feeling that it is far too much of an opponent for me.

However, he would undoubtedly die if he did not fight back.

Zeke steeled himself and release a burst of energy that materialized into a barrier to block Ossa Dei, who did not slow down.

Upon nearing the energy barrier, the blood on Ossa Dei's surface turned into mist and surrounded it to form the shape of a fist.

It collided forcefully against the energy barrier and shattered it on the spot. Zeke was thrown backward from the impact of the blast.

Controlling his body with an immense force of will, he managed to land on his feet. Even so, being knocked back dozens of steps was the lowest point of his career.

This must be the most embarrassing moment of my life!

Ossa Dei was relentless. Without even pausing, it charged straight toward Zeke's chest.

Chapter 2339

It happened so quickly that Zeke could not react in time.

The silhouette of a dragon enveloped Zeke at that critical moment and took him away. from where he stood, narrowly avoiding Ossa Dei's attack.

The gust of wind from the impact of its fist struck a mountain behind them, which immediately bore a dent.

Zeke felt a palpable sense of danger he had barely avoided.

I've met more than my match this time. Even the gust of wind from its fist had put a dent in a mountain. This is a magnitude of force that I absolutely cannot compete against.

He gazed at the silhouette of the dragon that had pulled him to safety. It was Fortuna.

Fortuna, however, was looking at Ossa Dei greedily. "You are mine! You are mine! Come back, I need you!" Ossa Dei began shaking violently as if in great anger.

"You will die from absorbing my aura!"

Abandoning Zeke, it turned to attack Fortuna instead.

Fortuna did not back down but kept its greedy gaze on Ossa Dei. "Be good and come into my embrace. You are mine now."

Ossa Dei morphed into a fist and swung at Fortuna's head.

Roar!

Fortuna was sent flying back from the first instance of their collision.

Like a kite caught in a storm, its massive body flailed wildly in midair as it had completely lost control of its faculties.

"That hurt like hell!" Fortuna roared in pain and sounded like it was in tears.

Boom!

A crater dozens of feet long formed in the ground where Fortuna fell.

It spat blood and struggled even to move as if its tendons were severed.

Roar!

Fortuna cursed Ossa Dei.

Meanwhile, Zeke flew toward and landed beside Fortuna. How are you feeling?

Fortuna coughed before responding. It'll take more than that to kill me!

Zeke gave him a thumbs up. You're tougher than I expected. I would have been paralyzed after getting hit by that punch.

Fortuna suddenly diminished in size in the next second and flew into Zeke's stomach, to his dumbstruck surprise.

Hey, Fortuna, get out here and fight alongside me! I cannot face Ossa Dei alone.

To Zeke's disapproval, Fortuna was prepared to exempt himself from the battle. We wouldn't be able to beat it even if we joined forces. I think you should surrender. At least you would have the option to live.

Zeke was disgusted. Shut your mouth! There is no "surrender" in my vocabulary! Think carefully about your decision. If I die, you would have no master and would similarly fade away. Fortuna sounded confident. I'm always in demand, so don't you worry about me. I'll just submit to Ossa Dei in the worst-case scenario. I would be honored to serve such a powerful master.

Zeke was flabbergasted. Spineless creature! I'll whip you to death!

His conversation with Fortuna had been telepathic, with the complex exchange only taking place within a fraction of a second.

Without warning, Ossa Dei launched another attack at Zeke, who did not even have the time to dodge it. He was forced to return the strike by conjuring another energy barrier.

However, Ossa Dei smashed the barrier easily and headed straight for Zeke's chest.

Accelerating even harder than before, Ossa Dei approached at light speed, and Zeke could not react at all.

I'm done for.

Zeke's mind was in a daze. It was the first time he had ever felt so helpless.

At that opportune moment, Fortuna materialized as he did before from its hiding place within Zeke. Before Ossa Dei could register Fortuna's surprise appearance, it wrapped itself around Ossa Dei and absorbed its aura with maddening lust.

Fortuna's ambush gave Zeke a sliver of time which was more than he needed.

Chapter 2340

Dodging quickly to the side, Zeke watched Ossa Dei's attack striking the spot he had stood in moments before.

With a violent twitch, Ossa Dei threw the dragon off of it, and Fortuna screeched in pain.

Zeke gave a wry smile. I knew you had integrity in you, Fortuna. You're not a coward, after all. You were planning on a surprise assault.

On the other hand, Fortuna was adamant about refuting it. You've misunderstood. I only wanted to absorb its aura. You need to quickly think of a retaliation strategy. Zeke. I don't think I can hold out for much longer.

Zeke gazed at Ossa Dei grimly and made up his mind for the worst.

Daemonium cackled gleefully. "If I'm guessing right, Zeke, you have exhausted all your trump cards. If that is so, you will excuse Ossa Dei and me for not showing you mercy. As my greatest threat, you and your men will die today. Upon your death, Eurasia will be mine."

Zeke glared at Daemonium. "Out of trump cards? Oh, no. You've underestimated me."

"What?" Daemonium cried disbelievingly. "You have another trump card? Don't talk nonsense."

"You've underestimated Eurasia's desire to win," Zeke said quietly.

Daemonium chuckled. "Are you telling me that your trump card is a strong desire to win?"

"Why not?" Zeke said.

Daemonium laughed so hard that his whole body shook. "To tell you the truth, my desire to win is greater than yours. Nobody in the world would bother with disciplined cultivation if wanting to win was all it took. I think you have been scared witless, Great Marshal."

Zeke gave a wry smile. "No, your desire to win is nothing compared to mine. In order to win and protect the people of Eurasia, I'm willing to make any sacrifice, including blowing up my life force!"

He looked at Ossa Dei grimly. "Do you think your and Ossa Dei's combined force could withstand the explosion of a Celestial Class warrior's life force?"

Daemonium turned pale at his words as he did not expect that Zeke's desire to win extended to voluntary self-destruction.

Daemonium was forced to admit that the explosion of a Celestial Class warrior's life force could let loose a power hundreds of times stronger than their combined force in a split second and would pose a tangible risk to his and Ossa Dei's lives.

Sole Wolf and the others were shocked by Zeke's proclamation.

We would rather die and fall down Eighteen Levels of Hell than allow the Great Marshal to suffer such indignity! It is a great shame for the Great Marshal to be forced by the enemy to blow up his life force.

"No, Zeke!" Sole Wolf shouted. "Even if we blow up our life forces today, we will not allow you to suffer the same humiliation! You are the symbol of hope in my beloved. Eurasia. Nothing must happen to you."

He turned around to look at Ares and the rest. "Ares, Nameless, Alfred, Tyler, are you in for one huge, final hurrah with me?"

Ares and the rest roared with boisterous and maniacal laughter. "Hah! Why not?"

"Good," Sole Wolf answered. "Though our combined power is not equivalent to that of a Celestial Class warrior, we would still be able to kill several Celestial Class warriors in the blast if we all self-destruct simultaneously. Let's blow up our life forces and take down Ossa Dei with us. What say you?"

Ares and the others leaped forward to stand alongside Sole Wolf. "It is my honor to die for the Great Marshal."

"Stop, all of you!" Zeke cried, all composure forgotten. "You are no match for Ossa Dei. Do not engage, I repeat, do not engage. This is an order."

Sole Wolf and the rest gazed sadly at Zeke. "We've obeyed your orders our entire lives, Zeke. Allow us to defy them just this once."

"If you lament the time we've spent together this life being too short, we'll be brothers again in the next. Let's kill them, brothers!"

The group leaped at the battle cry charged toward Ossa Dei. and simultaneously.

"Let's blow up our life forces and take down Ossa Dei with us. What do you say?"

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The group leaped at the battle cry and charged toward Ossa Dei.

"No!" Zeke roared.

However, Sole Wolf and the rest ignored Zeke as their charge grew in velocity.

Chapter 2341

Unfortunately, they had underestimated Ossa Dei's power.

All it took was a slight movement from the bone to emanate a powerful aura that pushed Sole Wolf and the others into the ground.

With the lower half of their bodies firmly planted beneath the ground, Sole Wolf and the others were completely immobilized.

D*mn it!

Infuriated, Sole Wolf glared at the bones and shouted, "Hey, Ossa Dei! Come fight me like a man! Well? Bring it on, you coward!"

Unfortunately, Ossa Dei didn't respect Sole Wolf enough to be offended by his taunts.

Zeke took a deep breath and said, "It's time to finish this. Sole Wolf, Ares, Nameless, Tyler, Alfred, listen up! I'll detonate my life force to kill both Ossa Dei and Daemonium at the same time. If they are still alive afterward, you must do whatever it takes to kill them, even if it means detonating your life force! They are a huge threat to Eurasia, so they must not be allowed to live!"

"Understood!" Sole Wolf and the others responded in unison.

Glaring at Ossa Dei coldly, Zeke uttered, "Bring it on! I don't have any more time to waste fighting you!"

All of a sudden, Daemonium cut himself on the leg and fed Ossa Dei his blood as he pleaded, "I'm counting on you, Ossa Dei!"

Daemonium knew full well that Zeke could take them both with him if he blew himself up.

However, he didn't want to give up on such a perfect opportunity, as it could very well be the only one he would ever get.

After all, to take Zeke's life with that of Ossa Dei seemed like a fairly great deal.

Having gotten a lot stronger after absorbing Daemonium's blood, Ossa Dei shaped the bloody mist around it into the form of a fist before charging toward Zeke's chest.

Coming straight at me, huh? All right! Bring it on!
Instead of running or dodging, Zeke simply focused all of his energy on his core.

He was going to detonate his life force and blow himself up the moment Ossa Dei made contact with his body.

Ten meters... Nine meters... Three meters... Two...

In just the blink of an eye, Ossa Dei had gotten as close as an inch away from Zeke's chest.

Closing his eyes, Zeke prepared to detonate his life force, only to realize Ossa Dei had stopped in its tracks.

Huh? What's going on?

When Zeke opened his eyes in surprise, he saw the fist levitating about an inch away from his chest. Not only did the fist's aura diminish significantly, but the bloody mist around it also slowly dissipated.

Everyone gasped in shock when they saw that.

The next thing they knew, a tiny worm jumped from Zeke's body onto the palm of the bloody hand.

The hand then curled its fingers and cradled the worm safely in its palm.

That was when Zeke recognized the worm as the Heart-Bound Worm that he removed from Dawn's body.

A fist made out of a bloody mist and a HeartBound Worm? What the heck is going on here?

Little did Zeke know, something even crazier was about to happen.

The bloody hand began trembling like crazy after wrapping the Heart-Bound Worm inside it, but it wasn't trying to attack Zeke or anything.

Instead, it was simply expressing its excitement, shock, and surprise.

As Ossa Dei continued to tremble violently, the blood inside it began to trickle out.

Daemonium seemed to be affected by it as well. He had a pained expression on his face as he clutched his chest and slumped weakly to the ground.

"Ossa Dei? Ossa Dei! What are you doing?

Don't give up just yet! Keep attacking! Is it because I didn't give you enough blood? That's fine! I can give you even more! I've still got plenty more to give!"

However, Ossa Dei ignored Daemonium's desperate cries and continued trembling like crazy.

Moments later, Ossa Dei became completely drained of blood and had its original pure white color restored.

Everything fell silent as the Heart-Bound Worm rested on the palm, but that silence was soon interrupted when Ossa Dei shone a beam of light on Zeke's arm.

Before Zeke knew what was going on, Ossa Dei had moved along the beam of light and disappeared into his arms.

Swoosh!

Zeke felt as if someone had cut his arm open with a dull blade and replaced his bone with a new one.

The pain was so intense that Zeke felt as if he would faint from it at any moment.

Chapter 2342

However, the pain didn't last long as it soon turned into a form of energy instead.

The energy was so powerful that Zeke could barely keep it under control.

What the... This energy is so powerful that it feels like my arm is going to explode! I could probably punch a hole in the sky with this!

Zeke got a little excited at the thought of that. He had a feeling that Ossa Dei had fused with his body, as his right arm possessed Ossa Dei's power.

But... Why would Ossa Dei betray Daemonium and fuse with me all of a sudden?

That question had just popped up in Zeke's head when he received an answer in the form of a thought.

Dragon Bloodline!

That thought appeared to be directly from Ossa Dei's consciousness.

Oh, right! The Dragon Bloodline! Dawn's Dragon Bloodline must've suppressed Ossa Dei! My Heart-Bound Worm used to be in Dawn's body, so it contains some of her Dragon Bloodline. Ossa Dei submitted it to me because it detected the Dragon Bloodline from the HeartBound Worm!

Zeke smacked himself on the forehead as the sudden realization dawned on him.

If having such a tiny amount of Dragon Bloodline in the Heart-Bound Worm is enough to make Ossa Dei submit, then would Ossa Dei be worshiping Dawn like a god if she were here in person? The Dragon Bloodline sure is powerful! I suppose I should be thankful that Cesar made Dawn swallow that Heart-Bound Worm back then. Otherwise, I would've been dead by now! One man's meat is another man's poison, and misfortunes can be blessings in disguise.

While Zeke and his men were thrilled by the sudden turn of events, Daemonium was on the verge of having a mental breakdown.

He refused to accept the fact that he had just been heartlessly betrayed.

"Why? Why would you betray me? I was the one who discovered you! I was the one who brought you back to life! I even had my men safeguard you! You're mine! Come back, Ossa Dei! I'll give you as much blood as you want! Please come back to me!"

Suddenly, Zeke and Daemonium heard Ossa Dei's voice in their heads saying, "I want those with the Dragon Bloodline!"

Huh? Dragon Bloodline?

Daemonium stared at Zeke in confusion. "Y-You have the Dragon Bloodline? No, this can't be! How could you possibly have the Dragon Bloodline? According to the data I have on you, you're just an ordinary healthy male!"

Zeke was a little surprised. "You seriously don't know that Dawn is from the Dragon Bloodline?"

"Who's Dawn? Is she really from the legendary Dragon Bloodline?" Daemonium asked in confusion.

As Daemonium's expression of shock looked genuine, Zeke could tell that he didn't know about Dawn being from the Dragon Bloodline.

"To tell you the truth, Cesar had long since found out about Dawn being from the Dragon Bloodline. He even placed the Heart-Bound Worm inside her because he wanted her to become his Holy Maiden. He didn't tell you this because he didn't want you taking her away from him," Zeke replied.

Daemonium was furious when he heard that. "That b*stard! Cesar is such a good for-nothing piece of trash! I can't believe he'd keep such a huge secret from me! He deserves nothing but death! Hold on... If Ossa Dei submits to those from the Dragon Bloodline, why would it submit to you? You're not from the Dragon Bloodline!"

"It's all thanks to Cesar. You see, I removed the Heart-Bound Worm that he placed in Dawn's body. Because the Heart-Bound Worm has Dawn's blood in it, Ossa Dei mistook me for being from the Dragon Bloodline and submitted to me," Zeke said.

"Argh! D*mn it, Cesar! How many times must that b*stard ruin my plans? He deserves to die a thousand times!" Daemonium yelled at the top of his lungs.

Chapter 2343

Cesar's little stunt had ruined everything for Daemonium, so it was only natural for the latter to be livid with rage.

Furious at having his plans ruined by Cesar's little stunt, Daemonium fired a ball of negative energy at Cesar's corpse and turned it into ash on the spot.

That was when Zeke heard Ossa Dei's voice his head again. in

"Are you not from the Dragon Bloodline? Is actually someone else?" it

Ossa Dei tried to get out of Zeke's body after finding out that he wasn't from the Dragon Bloodline.

"Calm down, Ossa Dei. I may not be from the Dragon Bloodline, but I am a close relative of someone from that bloodline. I'll take you to her once we've eliminated the enemies."

As Ossa Dei neither responded nor tried to get out after that, Zeke assumed it had agreed with his statement.

Suddenly, Fortuna's voice rang out. "Ossa" Dei, I am Fortuna! The blood of the Dragon Race flows within me! My blood is purer than those of the Dragon Bloodline! Join us and I will grant you a pint of pure dragon blood!"

"Get lost, you d*mned worm! I'll get back at you later for stealing my luck before!" Ossa Dei snapped back at it.

"Who are you calling a worm? I'm Fortuna! My status is greater than the entire Dragon Race combined!" Fortuna exclaimed in displeasure. www

Still furious even after destroying Cesar's body, Daemonium glared at Zeke with reddened eyes as he shouted, "It looks like I've underestimated you, Zeke somehow managed to get Ossa on your side, but you're not the only one with a trump card here! I can detonate my life force too! If I die today, I'm taking you all with me!"

With that, Daemonium charged at Zeke in an attempt to detonate his life force at point-blank range.

"Go away!" Zeke shouted while fist at Daemonium. swinging his fist to Daemonium.

To everyone's surprise, that punch exploded with unparalleled power capable of ripping a hole in spacetime.

The shock wave generated by his fist hit Daemonium square in the body and sent him flying into the wall of a mountain.

A huge hole could be seen in the wall, and Daemonium was stuck deep inside it.

It was the first time he had ever been humiliated like this.

While Daemonium was incredibly upset at being humiliated like this, Sole Wolf and the others were thrilled and in awe of Zeke's strength.

Oh, my goodness! Zeke is so powerful! I doubt anyone in the Celestial Class is capable of delivering an ordinary-looking punch with that much destructive force! Sole Wolf and the others got all hyped up at the thought of that.

"Kill them all!"

"You're not getting away, you blasphemous monks! We'll have another showdown!"

"Haha! Hey, Zeke! I'll treat everyone to a victory feast when this battle is over!"

Having lost their most powerful ally, the ten monks knew that staying would only get them killed. As such, they all took off in separate directions as quickly as their feet could carry.

Sole Wolf and the others immediately gave chase and engaged them in combat after catching up to them.

D*mn it! D*mn it all! I absolutely refuse to accept this!

"Hey, Zeke! Quit hiding behind Ossa Dei and fight me like a man!" Daemonium yelled in frustration.

"Sure thing!" Zeke replied with a smile. "Wait, are you serious?" Daemonium asked.

"Of course!"

"All right. Bring it on, then!" Daemonium shouted as he sprung out of the wall, charging straight at Zeke.

Zeke gently waved his hand like before, and Daemonium was sent flying back into the hole once again.
Spurt!

Daemonium coughed up a huge mouthful of blood as he roared, "Zeke, you b*stard! You said you wouldn't use Ossa Dei's power! Why are you going against your own word?"

Chapter 2344

"Ossa Dei and I have fused together, so it is technically a part of me now. Its power has become my own, so I don't see a problem here," Zeke explained calmly.

"Very well... You're a lot more shameless than I thought, Zeke! Bring it on! It's time to end this battle between us once and for all! Take this!" Daemonium muttered through clenched teeth as he charged at Zeke with whatever remaining strength he had left.

Once again, Zeke waved his hand and hit Daemonium with the same shock wave.

Instead of being sent flying like before, Daemonium's body disappeared into thin air after coming into contact with the shock wave.

Huh? What's going on here? As powerful as this shock wave may be, it shouldn't be able to vaporize Daemonium like that! Hmm... I'm guessing that was his illusion that I hit.

Everyone knows those from the Netherworld are skilled in the use of illusion magic! If that was just an illusion, then where's the real Daemonium?

Zeke quickly scanned the area, only to realize that Daemonium had snuck up behind him.

Oh, no!

Zeke's heart skipped a bit. As Daemonium had started detonating his life force, it was too late for Zeke to dodge or attack him.

Zeke knew there was no way for him to escape the blast radius in time.

Those from the Celestial Class were regarded as the strongest form of existence in the world. The resultant explosion from them detonating their life force was more destructive than that of a nuclear bomb. It would be impossible for Zeke to survive the blast, even with Ossa Dei's help.

Right when Zeke was panicking like crazy, a figure appeared out of nowhere and tackled Daemonium to the ground.

That figure turned out to be none other than Rick from Dullioud.

As maintaining one's focus was a crucial step in detonating one's life force, Daemonium failed to go through with it after being interrupted by the tackle.

Furious at having his plan foiled again, Daemonium sent Rick flying with a powerful smack.

"F*ck you! How dare you hurt my friends and family? I'll kill you!" Rick cursed at the top of his voice, but Daemonium wasn't in the mood to deal with him.

He quickly attempted to detonate his life force again, but it was too late.

Zeke seized the perfect opportunity to punch Daemonium right at the top of his head.

The punch was so powerful that the displaced air alone was enough to crush Daemonium's skull, killing him on the spot.

Rick was so mad at Daemonium that he continued kicking his lifeless body while cursing away.

Had Daemonium's head still been in one piece, his expression would have probably been twisted with rage and frustration.

He finally had a chance to detonate his life force and take Zeke down with him, but Rick showed up and tackled him at the very last second.

Daemonium had never thought a small fry would ruin his plan like this-it was unfair to him.

As the force of the blast could very well kill him and Ossa Dei on the spot, Zeke felt relieved that he had chosen to spare Rick back then.

With Daemonium dead, the ten monks lost all morale and scurried off in different directions.

They were so focused on escaping that they didn't even bother blocking incoming attacks as long as they wouldn't kill them.

"Hey! Stop running and fight me, you cowards! I haven't had enough fun beating you a*sholes up!" Sole Wolf hollered.

Chapter 2345

None of the monks responded to his taunts.

Of course, Zeke wasn't about to let a single one of them escape after all the horrible things they had done.

On top of that, their act of allying with the Netherworld alone was punishable by death.

With the flick of a finger, Zeke fired a shock wave at one of the monks and killed him on the spot.

He then aimed at the rest of the monks and killed them in the same fashion.

Upon seeing them dropping like flies, Sole Wolf swallowed nervously.

Holy sh*t! I mustn't play rock paper scissors with Zeke! He'll blow me to bits the moment he plays scissors!

With all ten monks dead, the spider men and the other corpses lost their vigor and collapsed into a pile of rotting flesh. The battle is over!

Hahaha!

Feeling overjoyed, Sole Wolf yelled excitedly, "This was a satisfying battle, Zeke! I'll treat us all to a celebratory feast tonight!"

Zeke wasn't all that enthusiastic about it, though. "Defeating Daemonium is nothing worth celebrating. It's a real shame Warren isn't here. Also, our goal is to strike at the heart of our enemies and eradicate the Netherworld's headquarters. Don't let such tiny victories blind you now!"

"Understood. In that case, we'll just have a drink instead! Think of this as a little reward to motivate us to work harder!" Sole Wolf suggested.

Zeke shot him a cold glare, and Sole Wolf let out an awkward chuckle in response.

Of course... All Sole Wolf cares about is the alcohol. He's fine with not celebrating anything as long as he gets to drink!

With that in mind, Zeke said, "Now isn't the time to be celebrating anything. Killer Wolf is still at large, so finding him is our top priority."

The look on Sole Wolf's face turned gloomy at the mention of Killer Wolf. "Ah, you're right! I can't believe we forgot to ask

Daemonium for his whereabouts! Eurasia is so freaking huge! Where are we even going to start looking?"

"Check the ten monks for survivors, revive those that are still alive, and find out everything they know," Zeke replied.

"All right. I'm on it!" Sole Wolf said as he ran off.

Turning toward the others, Zeke continued, "Everyone else, start looking for any clues that may lead us to Killer Wolf. Use any means necessary to bring him back without injuring him! We can celebrate and drink to our hearts' content after we get this done!"

"What are we all waiting for? Let's get to work!" Sole Wolf exclaimed in joy..

The group then split into two teams to carry out their respective duties.

Sole Wolf then had his men clean up the place while Ares, Nameless, and the others split up to look for Killer Wolf.

Rick and his men made their way over to Zeke nervously, kneeling in front of him.

"Thank you for avenging us, Great Marshal!"
Zeke nodded at them. "Don't mention it."

However, the men refused to get back up until Zeke said so.

Having witnessed Zeke's display of power, they knew that their lives were entirely at his mercy.

Naturally, Zeke knew what they were thinking as well.

He wasn't planning on executing them as Rick had been of great help to him lately.

On top of that, he only managed to survive that fight against Daemonium because Rick interrupted the life force detonation.

Therefore, Rick had already atoned for his wrongdoings in the past.

"What do you guys plan on doing after this?" Zeke asked.

Rick and the others got excited when they heard that.

Does this mean we won't be executed?

"We have committed serious crimes before, so we would like to redeem ourselves by serving you, Great Marshal!" Rick said.

Taking a deep breath, Zeke nodded and replied, "Very well, then. I shall grant that request of yours. Report for duty at Military District in the North and work your way up the ranks like every other soldier!"

Realizing that Zeke had given them all a second chance at life, Rick and the others thanked him profusely and left the scene.

Zeke, too, left the area in search of Killer Wolf after that.

Chapter 2346

Fortuna wrapped itself around Zeke's shoulder and tapped its head on his arm. "Hey, Ossa Dei! Come on out! Let's have a chat!"

"Shoo! We'll settle our score some other day!" Ossa Dei had a burning hatred for Fortuna.

"Oh, come on, Ossa Dei! Don't be so angry! I only absorbed your luck because I didn't know you were conscious! I wouldn't have done so if I knew!" Fortuna explained.

"Shut up! I clearly warned you, so you knew full well that I was conscious at the time! You did it on purpose!" Ossa Dei snapped back at it.

"Um... All right, we'll talk about that some other time. Right now, I want to make a proposal that will benefit both of us greatly," Fortuna said awkwardly.

As Ossa Dei didn't say anything in response, Fortuna couldn't tell if it was ignoring him or allowing him to continue.

"I'm just a spirit without a physical form, so my power is severely limited. Since your lack of a host also limits your power, how about we fuse and become one? We'll be able to make full use of our powers if you provide me with a physical body. I'll also let you control half of the body. What do you say?"

Angered by Fortuna's suggestion, Ossa Dei sent him flying with a powerful shock wave.

"Your spiritual body isn't worthy of hosting me! I will only submit to those from the Dragon Bloodline! Anyone else who has such thoughts is punishable by death! I'll only forgive you for this once. If you do it again, I'll kill you for sure!"

Fortuna became a lot weaker after taking that hit from Ossa Dei.

Noticing that Zeke was staring at him with an amused smile, Fortuna shot him a glare in response as he shouted, "What are you laughing at, huh?"

"What's not to laugh about? You got hit for trying to steal Ossa Dei from me. It was funny because you had it coming!" Zeke replied, much to Fortuna's chagrin.

Hmph! Just you two wait and see! I'll get that d*mned bone even if I have to self-destruct!

Ossa Dei's power was so tempting that Fortuna couldn't help but crave it.

Of course, Fortuna wasn't the only one who wanted its power. Those from the Netherworld were after it as well.

After everyone left the battlefield, a shadow slowly crawled out of the river.

The shadow looked left and right to make sure no one was around before sneaking away.

Although it didn't have a face to show its expressions, the shadow was feeling very depressed at the time.

The death of a high-ranking core member like Daemonium and the complete annihilation of the Fourth Branch is a huge loss for the Netherworld. To make matters worse, Ossa Dei has sided with the enemy! It looks like the Netherworld will be in for a rough time from here onward...

After running for about half an hour, the shadow finally arrived at one of the Netherworld's secret bases.

It was a small base that Warren managed temporarily.

As the shadow was physically unable to kneel, it could only curl itself up to show respect to Warren. "Greetings, Mr. Williams."

"Fill me in on Godfather's situation," Warren replied without taking his eyes off the documents he was reading.

"Daemonium is dead, Mr. Williams!" the shadow exclaimed sadly.

What?

Warren's hand trembled so hard that he dropped the document he was holding.

"How dare you curse my godfather? I should have you executed!" "I'm telling you the truth, Mr. Williams! They killed Daemonium and wiped out all of Fourth Branch! I swear I'm telling the truth, or I'll die a horrible death!" the shadow explained.

No! That's impossible!

Warren leaped to his feet and shouted uncontrollably, "There's no way Godfather would fail! You must be lying to me! Godfather has attained the Celestial Class! They're the most powerful beings in the world! Even Zeke wouldn't be able to kill him, so how could Godfather possibly die?"

Chapter 2347

"Mr. Williams, you should know about Ossa Dei being underneath Yellow Sand River, right?" the shadow asked.

Warren nodded. "Of course I do. Godfather was quite busy with finding Ossa Dei a while back. I remember him mentioning how Ossa Dei is several times stronger than him. How could someone kill Godfather when he has such a powerful trump card at his disposal? You'd better not be lying to me, or I'll make sure you die horribly!"

"I wouldn't dare! In fact, Ossa Dei is to blame for Daemonium's death! You see, Ossa Dei turned against him during the most critical moment and entered Zeke's body!" informed the shadow.

How is that possible?

Warren slammed a fist on the table as he said angrily, "Godfather paid a huge price trying to get Ossa Dei on his side! It shouldn't have a reason to betray him!"

"Mr. Williams, Ossa Dei is an arrogant being that only submits to those from the Dragon Bloodline. As Zeke happens to be close to someone from that bloodline, Ossa Dei chose to side with him instead," the shadow explained.

What?

Warren had never been so shocked in his entire life.

Keeping his scorching gaze fixated on the shadow, he uttered, "Hold on... Repeat what you just told me."

The shadow nodded and repeated what he had just told Warren.

The legendary Dragon Bloodline?

Warren's eyes lit up with excitement. "So, the Dragon Bloodline is real! Haha! With it, I can..."

He stopped himself when he realized he was getting a little too excited, which was inappropriate since his godfather had just died.

After taking a moment to regain his composure, Warren asked, "Who's the one from the Dragon Bloodline?"

"I think it was someone named Dawn," the shadow replied cautiously. 1

Having recalled something, Warren quickly grabbed a stack of documents and went through them in detail.

Those documents contained information that he had gathered on others, as well as his contacts and connections.

It wasn't long before he found Dawn's name through his network of connections.

Dawn Castaneda, huh? I must get my hands on this woman!

With that in mind, Warren told the shadow, "All right. You can leave now. Make sure to tell your comrades that we'll be spending the next few days avenging my godfather's death. I want them prepared for combat."

"Please don't act rashly, Mr. Williams! The difference in power between Zeke and us is a lot bigger now. Our little base doesn't stand a chance at defeating Zeke at all. Any attempts at fighting him will only result in more casualties! If you ask me, I'd say we should strengthen ourselves secretly and seek help from Netherworld's headquarters!" the shadow advised.

Warren clenched his teeth in frustration. "But I can't wait any longer! I want to kill Zeke to avenge my godfather!"

"We understand your frustration, Mr. Williams, but you need to remain rational right now. Otherwise, those of us from the Netherworld will go extinct."

Hearing that, Warren let out a huge sigh. "Fine... I'll rework the plan for revenge, so you can leave now. Oh, my poor godfather..."

"Understood!" the shadow replied before leaving.

Warren waited until the shadow had gone far before replacing his pained expression with a sinister smile.

"It's great that he's dead! Daemonium, you b*stard! Not only have you used me like a tool for so many years, but you also hit and scolded me whenever you were in a bad mood! Don't worry, though. I'll be sure to take your place now that you're dead. Unlike you, I'll achieve success and get my hands on someone from the Dragon Bloodline!"

After going through Dawn's information, he found out that she was working at Linton Group.

Linton Group, huh? It looks like I'll have to launch my attack on that company sooner!

Chapter 2348

Indeed, Warren was the one who got Mitxel Group to order Intercontinental Group to attack Linton Group.

Taking out his phone, Warren called Jared.

When the call went through, Jared was heard saying respectfully, "Yes, Master? How could I be of help?"

"I want Linton Group to go out of business in three days' time." Warren uttered coldly. "You can manage that, right?"

Jared immediately answered. "Master, don't worry. Within three days, Linton Group will disappear from the face of the earth."

Hearing that, Warren nodded in satisfaction. "Also, there's someone called Dawn Castaneda in Linton Group. I want you to investigate her."

"Understood. I'll do it right now! Wait for my good news in three days' time."

After hanging up the phone, Jared called Sheldon of Intercontinental Group. In no time, he got through to Sheldon.

"Good morning, Mr. Jared," greeted Sheldon respectfully.

Jared asked coldly, "What's the progress on the mission I've given to you?"

Sheldon quickly answered, "It's almost done."

"Okay. Good job. I want Linton Group to go out of business in three days' time. Can you manage that?"

Sheldon went quiet all of a sudden.

Jared then queried, "Talk, will you? Is there a problem?"

Letting out a sigh, Sheldon responded, "Actually, yes, there is, Mr. Jared. To be honest, Intercontinental Group is not doing any better than Linton Group. We're in a dire situation. We don't have enough money to operate any longer. If we keep attacking Linton Group, we might end up bankrupt as well."

Jared scoffed mockingly in response. "You might end up being bankrupt by attacking Linton Group, yet you call yourselves,

Intercontinental Group? Fine. I'll give you one hundred million to get things running. Once you guys have defeated Linton Group, Mitxel Group will help restore your company."

Upon hearing that, Sheldon furrowed his brows. "One hundred million? Isn't that too little?"

Jared got angry, and he fumed, "What? Are you not satisfied with it? I can get you to do what I want without giving you a penny, you know? You're a successful businessman, aren't you? Look further, will you? After Intercontinental Group joins Mitxel Group in the future, I guarantee your company will become the industry's standard."

Frightened when Jared got angry, Sheldon immediately replied, "One hundred million is enough. I'll get to work right away. Within three days, Linton Group will fall."

"Good."

With that, the call ended.

Sheldon was so pissed that he ended up hitting his phone.

That darned Jared! He's so petty! My company is going bankrupt, and he's only giving me one hundred million? What can I do with that?

As angry as he was, he didn't dare to go against Jared's wishes. Hence, he had to swallow his pride and anger.

While still frustrated, he picked up his phone and told his subordinates what to do.

Meanwhile, at Linton Group, Nancy and Lacey were staring at each other helplessly.

There was a pile of documents in front of them, with the employees' salary slips placed at the very top.

The situation at Linton Group was so bad that they couldn't even afford to pay their employees.

Smiling wryly, Nancy stated, "Lacey, what should we do next? We were supposed to pay the employees two days ago. Although they didn't ask us about it, I bet they're all grumbling within."

Releasing a sigh, Lacey answered, "We have no choice but to let go of the business."

"Lacey, why don't we think of something else? I can sell my house and car. I think we still can pay the employees their salaries. Linton Group is something you've painstakingly built. How could we just give up on it so easily?"

Chapter 2349

"Even if we manage to pay them off now, how about the next time? What matters to me is that Linton Group had done well, and I'm satisfied. Now that it's in such a dire situation, I think selling it off is the best possible outcome."

Upon hearing that, Nancy sighed and went silent.

"Nancy, you've approached a few potential buyers recently, right?" queried Lacey. "Let me see their offers."

Nancy quickly took out a stack of documents and gave it to Lacey. "Here are offers from fifteen investors. See which one you like the most."

Lacey went through the documents meticulously.

Right then, someone suddenly pushed the door open, and a beautiful blonde lady walked in.

It was none other than Daisy, the CEO of Eminent Group.

Prior to that, Daisy had tried to buy Linton Group several times. However, Lacey had declined all her offers.

Neither Lacey nor Nancy expected her to show up once again.

Nevertheless, they weren't happy with the fact that Daisy had just stormed inside unannounced, but they kept their feelings to themselves.

After all, she might be the one who would end up acquiring Linton Group.

Daisy found herself a seat and sat down before crossing her legs. With a faint smile on her face, she uttered, "Finally, both of you have come to your senses. You guys are selling Linton Group, right?"

Congratulations. You guys have made the right decision."

Lacey and Nancy exchanged glances, and fury was written all over their faces.

The soundproofing in Lacey's office was good, so there was no way anyone could hear their conversation from the outside.

Hence, they knew Daisy had installed listening devices in the office because she knew about their decision to sell the company when they had just decided moments ago. How dare she do that?

"Ms. Daisy, how did you know we're selling Linton Group?" Nancy asked in an angry tone. "We've just decided, and we haven't told the public yet."

Daisy answered nonchalantly, "'Have you not guessed it yet? Obviously, I've installed listening devices in your office."

"You!" Lacey and Nancy were so furious that they were having trouble trying to find the right words.

"This is too much! You're getting out of line!"

"How dare you act so righteous after admitting that you've installed listening devices here?"

"We'll sue you and make you pay for this!"

Despite what they said, Daisy remained unfazed as though she did not hear them.

Lacey was infuriated by Daisy's arrogance.

Taking out her phone, Nancy uttered, "Hmph! I'm going to call the police now. You're going to jail for this!"

In response, Daisy smiled and said, "You better think before you act."

Judging by how calm and collected Daisy looked, Lacey knew there was more to the latter than met the eyes.

We should just avoid unnecessary trouble now. Bearing that thought in mind, Lacey stopped Nancy from calling the police. "Nancy, forget about it."

Nancy gritted her teeth and retorted, "I can't let her get away with this!"

"Linton Group is having trouble now. Things will get harder if we end up having another enemy. Besides, Daisy's offer is the best among all the bidders. Think about the money. The employees could get paid," Lacey said.

Nancy sighed, feeling utterly helpless. She's the CEO of Linton Group and one of the ten most influential people in Eurasia. She had built everything from scrap! It's so sad to see her bowing down to others.

Lacey then uttered, "Ms. Daisy, you've already tried to acquire Linton Group a few times in the past. Now we can formally discuss the acquisition."

"Yes. Let's begin." Daisy smiled.

Daisy still had a nonchalant expression on her face, and she seemed confident that she could get her hands on Linton Group.

"First, your price is too low. Based on Linton Group's market value back then, it was worth at least one hundred billion. Even though it's no longer worth as much, it's still worth more than five hundred million," Lacey said.

Chapter 2350

"How much do you want?" Daisy drawled.

Lacey answered, "Two billion! That's my best price."

Daisy merely smiled in response.

Seeing that, Lacey furrowed her brows and asked, "Ms. Daisy, why aren't you saying anything?"

"Let me be honest. The most I'm going to pay is this," Daisy answered, raising a hand with five outstretched fingers.

With her furrowed brows, Lacey asked, "Five hundred million?"

Daisy shook her head. "Wrong. Fifty million."

The sisters thought their ears were playing tricks on them.

What? Fifty million? Daisy is offering fifty million? This f*cking building itself is worth more than fifty million! Two billion is already considered low, but fifty million? We might as well just give her the company for free! Daisy is such a bully. When the company was doing good, it was worth a hundred billion. Even if it were to go bankrupt entirely, we're still not going to sell it for fifty million.

Lacey rejected the offer unhesitatingly, "No! We're not selling it at that price! Ms. Daisy, please leave. If that's the amount you're offering, we have nothing further to discuss!"

Smirking, Daisy said, "Think it through, though. Linton Group is worth less and less each day. Ten days ago, it was worth five hundred million. Today, it's worth fifty million. In a few days' time, I think it's going to be worth merely hundreds! Haha!"

"Although Linton Group is bankrupt, it's still a company plenty of investors are eager to get their hands on, as it's still highly valued. If we don't sell it to you, there are still other interested parties."

Daisy flashed an insincere smile. "Really? Ask around, then. Let's see who else is interested in Linton Group." Lacey knew something fishy was going on when she saw Daisy's smile. Is she playing a trick on me?

After giving it some thought, Lacey whipped out her phone and called Glen

Kincaid, one of the people interested in buying Linton Group.

Glen had offered four hundred and fifty million for them.

When the call got through, Lacey greeted in a friendly tone, "Good morning, Mr. Kincaid!"

"Yes, Ms. Hinton? What do you want from me?" Glen sounded unfriendly.

"Mr. Kincaid, you told me you're interested in merging with Linton Group a few days ago, right? I would like to talk to you about ""

To her surprise, Glen interrupted her, "I'm sorry, Ms. Hinton. I'm not interested anymore."

What? Lacey was stunned. "But you've just called me yesterday and told me you wanted to acquire Linton Group, no?"

"Well, that was yesterday. I'm sorry, Ms. Hinton, but I'm hanging up now. I need to sleep."

"Sleep? It's morning."

"I had a late night, so I need to sleep now."

With that, he hung up on her.

Lacey refused to accept that. She then called a few other investors who were interested in Linton Group.

However, all of them reacted the same way and gave her the same answer. None of them was interested in Linton Group anymore.

Right then, Lacey knew something was amiss.

She glanced at Daisy before mulling over it for a while. After that, she made another call.

She was calling a female friend of hers, who was very interested in Linton Group. Maybe I can find out what's going on.

"Lydia, are you busy?" Lacey asked.

"Hi, Lacey. Why have you suddenly called me?" answered Lydia, sounding nervous.

"What's wrong? I call you all the time, no?"

"Well, you usually call me after working hours. Why are you calling me during work today?"

"Well, to talk business, of course. Lydia, a few days ago, you told me you wanted to buy Linton Group, right? Would you like to have a discussion about that?"

Chapter 2351

Lydia said nervously, "Lacey, I'm so sorry. I just don't wish to own the Linton Group anymore."

Lacey was curious. "Why did you change your mind so quickly?"

Lydia let out a sigh and said, "It's really nothing. I just don't want it. That's all. One shop is more than enough to keep me busy. If I take over Linton Group, it will be too much for me to handle."

"Lydia, how about this? I can tell you really want to own Linton Group. What do you think if I give Linton Group to you free of charge?"

If Lydia turns me down again, something must be terribly wrong.

Lydia hesitated before saying in a low voice, "Lacey, I want it, but... Ah, I might as well tell you the truth. Do you know Daisy, the CEO of Eminent Group?"

Lacey nodded. "I do. What's wrong?"

Lydia went on to explain, "Eminent Group warns us not to touch Linton Group. If not, they will make sure we go bankrupt. Naturally, we didn't believe in their threat in the beginning. After all, Eminent Group is a new company. There's no way they can do anything to us. But to my surprise, they made a call right in front of me. Immediately, the shares of my company fell by forty percent. Eminent Group is a ruthless company. A terrible end awaits anyone who dares to go against them."

Lacey could not help but inhale sharply when she heard that information.

Just one phone call was enough to make the shares of a listed company fall by forty percent. Eminent Group must have the backing of the government as well.

Eminent Group is indeed extraordinary. No wonder Daisy is so confident.

"I understand. Lydia, thank you for your reminder," said Lacey.

Lydia consoled her, "Lacey, it's best that you give Linton Group up. Your peace of mind is more important than money. Don't worry. If you need any help in the future, just let me know. I can't guarantee that I can make you very wealthy. But at the very least, it will be sufficient for you to live a comfortable life."

"Thank you, Lydia. I'll give your suggestion serious consideration."

After she ended the call, Lacey stared at Daisy and said, "Ms. Daisy, you must be behind these. Haha! Seems that you're more despicable than I thought."

Daisy was indifferent. "Thank you for the compliment."

"Ms. Daisy, don't even think about buying the Linton Group for fifty million. Please leave. I still have work to attend to."

With a slight smile, Daisy asked, "Are you sure?"

Lacey replied, "Of course."

"I think you should reconsider."

"There's nothing for me to consider. I know you are very powerful, but Linton Group is my personal asset. Even God cannot force me to do anything I don't want to with my personal assets."

Fine.

"Looks like you refuse to give up. Come in."
Daisy snapped her fingers.

Very soon, a pot-bellied man walked in.

When Lacey and Nancy saw who it was, they were quite taken aback.

Isn't this their supplier in the past? What is Mr. Wheeler doing here?

When Dave Wheeler walked in, he did not greet Lacey. Instead, he bowed to Daisy and said, "Ms. Daisy, what a coincidence to bump into you here."

Daisy smiled and responded, "That's right. Mr. Wheeler, what are you doing here?"

Dave replied, "I'm here to collect my payment, of course."

"In that case, I won't get in your way, Mr. Wheeler," said Daisy.

Dave looked at Lacey and Nancy coldly. "Good morning, Ms. Hinton."

Lacey asked, "Mr. Wheeler, what are you doing here so early in my office?"

Dave answered, "My company is in need of some funds, so I have come to collect my debt."

Chapter 2352

To that, Lacey replied, "Mr. Wheeler, we have already settled your payment. Shall I show you the receipt?"

Dave immediately said, "Ms. Hinton, you misunderstood me. Of course, I'm aware that the payment has been settled. I won't deny that."

"Then what payment were you talking about, Mr. Wheeler?"

"Oh, I was talking about the penalty fee. You have only settled the payment but not the penalty fee."

Lacey was stunned. "Penalty fee? What penalty fee?"

"Ms. Hinton, are you playing dumb with me? Judging from the current situation of Linton Group, I doubt you will be able to continue taking the goods from my company. That will be a breach of contract on your end. According to our contract, you will need to pay a penalty fee of fifty million if you cancel the contract. Have you forgotten about this? Shall I show you the contract now?"

Lacey was dumbfounded. She did not expect Dave to mention the contract.

In most cases, when the business partner went bankrupt, the supplier would not chase for payment. The supplier might even offer a sum of money for support. It was an unspoken rule.

For someone like Dave to act according to the contract, it was rare.

If Dave really pursued the matter using their agreement, it would be a headache to deal with.

Lacey quickly responded, "Mr. Wheeler, you are well aware of the situation of Linton Group right now. There is no way we can pay that hefty penalty fee. Seeing that we have worked together for so many years, please let us off, Mr. Wheeler."

Unfortunately, Dave was unmoved. "I'm sorry, but everyone has their own problems. I feel sorry for you, but who's going to feel sorry for me?"

Lacey was about to beg him when Nancy stopped her.

"Lacey, stop begging him. Can't you tell that Mr. Wheeler and Daisy are in cahoots? They won't back off no matter what you

To that, Dave did not bother to defend himself.

Instead, he continued to push his luck. "I don't care. You will have to pay me the penalty fee of fifty million by today. Otherwise, I'll have no choice but to smash your building"

With a wave of his huge hand, a group of fierce-looking workers rushed in with their tools. They looked as if they could destroy the building any minute.

Lacey took a deep breath before shouting, "Enough! Stop it! All you want is money, right? I'll give it to you. I can always borrow the money from someone else.

She then took out her phone and was about to make a call.

It was then Dave sneered, "Ms. Hinton, let me give you a word of advice. If you're going to borrow money, then make sure you ask for a lot more. Even one billion may not be enough."

Lacey stared at him. "I only owe you fifty million. Why do I need to borrow so much money?"

"That's true. You only owe me fifty million, but you also owe several others too."

What is he talking about?

Lacey was baffled.

Dave snapped his fingers and hollered, ' "Why are all of you still standing outside the door? Come in."

Just as he finished talking, a group of people dashed in.

Like Dave, they were suppliers for Linton Group.

Realization dawned on Lacey, and her face turned red.

Oh no. We are in big trouble. If all of them ask Linton Group for their penalty fees, then it is true that one billion won't suffice.

The group of suppliers walked in and greeted Daisy first.

"Good morning, Ms. Daisy."

Daisy nodded in acknowledgment. "What are all of you doing here so early?"

They answered, "What else? Linton Group owes us our penalty fees, so we have come here to collect the money."

"That's right. It has been so long, but Linton Group has yet to furnish us with the penalty fees. They don't even bother to say anything. This is too much."

"Since they are playing dumb about the penalty fees, we have no choice but to come here personally and remind them."

Chapter 2353

Daisy smiled. "Well, if that's the case, I shall not bother you anymore. Go on and ask for the penalty fee."

All the suppliers turned their attention to Lacey.

"Good morning, Ms. Hinton."

Lacey bobbed her head and hummed in acknowledgment.

Before she could say anything, all the suppliers started voicing their concerns.

"Ms. Hinton, I believe you know why we're here. Please don't put us in a difficult spot."

"Yeah, Ms. Hinton. It seems that Linton Group is going downhill now. If you're going to terminate the agreement with us, please pay the penalty."

"We're all small enterprises. Please have pity on us and pay up as soon as possible. We need the money to keep our companies in operation."

"Otherwise, we'll suffer the same fate as Linton Group."

Lacey, who usually had a good temper, could no longer suppress her anger.

She shot daggers at all the suppliers. "I've always treated you well, and you know that. I didn't expect you to turn your back against me. How could you side with the enemy and rub salt into my wound at this critical stage? Are you not afraid of karma? Do you not know what retribution means?"

All the suppliers remained unfazed by her threat.

Instead of feeling a pang of guilt, they continued responding to her remark, "What's the point of you making that remark, Ms. Hinton? We may have a close relationship with you at a personal level, but business is business! You're just comparing apples with oranges!"

"It seems that you don't intend to pay the penalty, huh?"

"If that's the case, I'm sorry, Ms. Hinton. We'll have no choice but to take legal actions against you."

Some of them even took out their phone and were ready to lodge a police report.

Lacey gritted her teeth so hard that her gum was about to bleed.

Of all the suppliers, only a pair of twins were overwhelmed with guilt.

They stood beside her and pressed their voice. "We know you've been kind to us, and what we're doing to you is indeed ungrateful. We didn't want to do this. In fact, we wanted to lend you a hand, but..."

They cast a fearful glance at Daisy from Eminent Group.

It was clear that Daisy was the mastermind who had coerced them into doing this.

Lacey looked at the twin sisters, nodded, and whispered, "I understand."

She then looked at Nancy and asked, "Nancy, how much do we have to pay them back?"

Nancy took out a stack of documents and estimated the amount. "Approximately two billion, Lacey."

When Lacey heard the amount, her heart sank. T-Two billion?

Two billion was an insignificant sum to Linton Group during its heyday, but the amount had become the final straw that would break the camel's back.

Even if she sold herself, she would not be able to raise two billion. She was at her wits' end.

Dave looked at Lacey and gave her a smirk. "Ms. Hinton, it looks like you have only one option left. You should know what to do, right? Or do you need me to explain to you?"

Lacey gave Dave a side-eye. Of course, he knew what he meant. The man wanted her to transfer the Linton Group's ownership to Daisy.

Unbothered by Lacey's glare, Dave said, "Ms. Hinton, I believe you're aware of the situation. Even if you sell Linton Group, you'll probably raise about two billion. Though you can pay off the penalty with this amount, you won't get a single cent from the deal.

"But if you sell it to Daisy, I can put in a good word for you. I'll advise her to acquire Linton Group and pay off the penalty on your behalf. In other words, you'll still receive fifty million from the deal. It's either you can go home with fifty million or empty-handed, so think carefully beforehand. making your next move."

Chapter 2354

Lacey and Nancy exchanged glances but kept mum.

Dave looked at Daisy and said, "Ms. Daisy, I believe you're sincere in acquiring Linton Group, but I'm afraid fifty million is not an adequate sum. How about this? You pay fifty million for the company and settle the penalty on behalf of Ms. Hinton. What do you think?"

Daisy grinned. "Well, I can't say no to your proposal since you've put in a good word for Ms. Hinton, right? By the way, I want Ms. Hinton to know that Linton Group is a worthless company. No one will dare to buy it if she refuses to sell it to me!"

Dave immediately turned to Lacey and said, "Did you hear what Ms. Daisy said? I don't think you have any other options. I can only do so much for you. The choice is yours."

At this point, there was nothing Lacey could do. It's either I accept their offer or plunge into despair.

After taking a deep breath and discussing the offer with Nancy, she said, "All right. I agree to-"

Before she could complete her sentence, a voice rang out from the crowd. "I disagree!"

The thunderous voice echoed through the entire space.

Stunned, the crowd traced the source of the voice. Who is that?

A tall, strapping figure walked in Lacey's and Dave's direction.

He strode out from the crowd in steady steps while exuding a king-like intimidating aura. The people around him instantly distanced themselves and gave way for him to walk through.

Upon noticing the man from a stone's throw away, Lacey heaved a sigh of relief. Tears that welled up in her eyes began to roll down her cheeks.

Losing control over her emotions, she ran up and threw herself at him. "Zeke, you're back."

That man was none other than Zeke Williams!

Zeke had released his energy to detect Killer Wolf around the area, and with a snap of his fingers, he had managed to track his whereabouts.

He had ordered Sole Wolf to look for Killer Wolf because he could tell the latter was still alive.

At the same time, he had come to look for Lacey to ensure she was not in danger.

Zeke's sixth sense was indeed accurate. By the time he arrived, Lacey was already skating on thin ice.

Zeke could not help but feel sorry for her. How dare they bully my wife? I must teach these people a lesson!

Zeke gently patted Lacey's shoulder and said, "Sorry, I'm late, Lacey."

Lacey responded, "Not at all, Zeke." "Don't worry, Lacey. I'll take it from here. All's well will end well."

Lacey responded with a wry smile. "We have no other choices, Zeke."

Zeke begged to differ. "What if something miraculous happens?"

To Zeke, nothing was impossible.

Lacey responded with a sigh. "Zeke, I don't. know how to handle this anymore. Can you take care of this mess for me, please?"

Zeke hummed in acknowledgment and nodded.

Nancy walked up to Zeke and said to him, "I'm afraid you'll have a hard time dealing with this mess. Not even God can save Linton Group. We won't blame you if you wish to hand the company over to Daisy, so don't worry."

Zeke looked at Nancy and said, "Lacey and I had put our hearts and souls into Linton Group. How can I give it to someone else? Have faith in me. I won't let you down." Both Lacey and Nancy were familiar with that assurance.

Zeke would always assure them with his promise when they were forced to a cul-desac.

Could he turn things around for Linton Group?

Linton Group was now a dying company. Even if he mobilized all his resources as the Great Marshal, it would still be a herculean task for Zeke to rebuild the establishment.

Chapter 2355

Oh, whatever. Zeke can do whatever he wants to.

Zeke's gaze shifted from one supplier to another.

Upon catching his glances, the suppliers all lowered their heads out of guilt.

After all, when their companies were having problems, especially those who were given a hard time by the officials, Zeke had always lent them a helping hand.

Yet, now they were making it more difficult and problematic for Zeke when he was already at the bottom. Hence, they dared not even look into his eyes.

However, there were still plenty of them who kept their heads held high. There was not even a hint of embarrassment or guilt in them.

To them, anyone capable of generating more profit would be the one they side with!

Finally, Zeke locked his eyes on Daisy. "Ms. Daisy, we've met again."

"Mm." Daisy nodded coldly.

"To what do I owe the honor? Our company is involved in classified military affairs, so having foreign guests is not quite convenient. Security, please escort Ms. Daisy to the exit."

No one responded to his order, for the security guards had resigned long ago.

Daisy smiled. "Mr. Williams, please don't be so quick in making your decision. I'm here to acquire your company. If you've decided, we can get the contract signed right away. I don't have time to waste on you."

"I'm sorry, but Linton Group is not for sale. Don't even think about it," Zeke said firmly. "I'm sorry, but Linton Group is not for sale. Don't even think about it," Zeke said firmly.

"But if you don't sell it to me, you may have to live the rest of your life in prison."

Zeke turned toward Daisy. "What do you mean?"

As he had just arrived, he still wasn't sure about what was happening.

Daisy glanced at the suppliers and the suppliers immediately criticized Zeke upon receiving the signal.

"Linton Group must pay up for terminating the contract without mutual consent!"

"That's right! Don't blame us for suing you if you don't pay up!"

"We're talking about billions here. Such an amount can put you into prison for your entire life!"

Hearing this, Zeke finally had a grasp on what was happening.

It turned out Daisy was actually very smart.

Dave smiled. "Mr. Williams, I've already spoken to Ms. Daisy. I've curried favor with her, and she agreed that she would take over the responsibility for the hefty compensation on your behalf if you sold Linton Group to her for fifty million. So instead of getting thrown into jail, you would receive fifty million instead of being thrown into jail. From what I see, this is a pretty good deal."

"Okay..."

Dave burst into laughter. "Hahaha, good!"

"Okay, my butt! Must have felt nice licking the boots of these foreigners, huh?"

Damn it!

Dave's expression darkened.

Zeke turned to look at the suppliers.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I know you're doing this against your own will. If you still have faith in me, you may rest assured. Go home and wait patiently for the rise of Linton Group. When that happens, I'll give you some generous treatment. I assure you that the cooperation between Linton Group and your company will continue as usual in these seven days. As for the threats coming from the ill-hearted, I'll deal with them, so you don't have to worry about that. If you stay back and continue to make it difficult for us, however, I'll have to apologize to you first, for you'll be seen as a threat from now on. Don't come blaming us in the future should we cross paths again unpleasantly."

Hearing this, the suppliers fell silent as they carefully considered their decisions.

"Mr. Williams, let me be honest with you. We have no idea where this Daisy came from, but the people behind her are mighty. She managed to topple one of the top ten companies with just a word. We dare not go against her will."

"And that's all you care about? What about me? Am I not the one who had helped you people with your problems whenever you were harassed by the officials?"

Zeke's words had the suppliers go quiet once more. After exchanging glances, they all started talking among themselves softly.

Finally, one of the suppliers made up his mind as he stood up for Zeke. "Mr. Williams has helped me plenty of times. Without Mr. Williams, I probably would have been thrown into jail a long time ago and have to spend the rest of my life behind bars. I believe in Mr. Williams, and I will vouch for him."

Chapter 2356

The supplier walked up and stood behind Zeke.

As the first supplier made up his mind, more and more of them made up their minds as well.

"I believe in Mr. Williams!"

"Me too!"

In the blink of an eye, five suppliers had taken their stand, including the twins.

Looking at them, Zeke said gratefully, "Thanks."

"Don't mention it, Mr. Williams." The five suppliers nodded.

As for the rest of the suppliers who did nothing, they had decided that they would side with Daisy.

The scene before them had the twins mock the other suppliers, "You, of all people, should very well be aware of how Mr. Williams has treated you! The portion of shares Mr. Williams has given you is already more than enough to fill your pockets with cash! Yet, you're doing this to him when he's in trouble! Have you no shame?"

These suppliers, however, remained steadfast against the mocking hurled at them by the twins. After all, they were eyeing profit and revenue. Relationship maintenance was never of utmost importance.

t "I think you got it wrong there. Mr. Williams helped us because we were in a mutual partnership, so it only makes sense that he helped us. He did that to maintain our relationship. If we were still working together, we would definitely help him. But the main problem is that Mr. Williams has already terminated the contract, which means we're no longer related. If we're no longer working together, please give me a reason why we should help him. We are already more than generous and friendly for not resorting to violence. As for you, little girl, you're protecting Mr. Williams so hard. Do you have feelings for Mr. Williams?"

"You!"

The twins were enraged.

In the end, unable to handle the pressure coming from Daisy, one of them gave in and joined Daisy after apologizing to Zeke.

At this moment, Daisy piped up, "You are all nothing but fools." As she looked at the five suppliers who supported Zeke, there was nothing but mockery in her eyes. "What makes you think Zeke is capable of rising again after his downfall? You idiots. When Linton Group was at its peak, it was worth more than a hundred billion. Do you know how much such a massive company needs to restart itself? We're looking at more than hundreds of billions. Redwood Capital is the only company in Eurasia. capable of injecting hundreds of billions into Linton Group, but Redwood Capital will end up suffering as well. Besides, even if Redwood Capital is doing this willingly, I can easily make them change their mind. The head of Redwood Capital investment department, Lenard Wayne, is an associate of mine!"

Daisy's words came like a blow, for the five suppliers siding Zeke immediately hesitated.

With that, only four remained standing behind Zeke.

Zeke smiled and said, "Thank you for your trust. I will not fail you. You have my words. Return home for now. All I need is seven days. In seven days, I will take you all to a new height."

The few suppliers did not know how to react. Is Mr. Williams trying to act tough, or is he fooling around with us? He's thinking of taking us to a new height when, in fact, he is struggling himself.

"Mr. Williams, even if it means us going bankrupt, we will still support you."

"Yeah, we could always start fresh again. Perhaps my new company would be even more powerful than now."

"I started from scratch. I had nothing to begin with, so there's nothing for me to be afraid of."

"You will have our full support regardless of your decisions."

After sending off the four suppliers, Zeke looked toward the suppliers supporting Daisy once more.

"Ladies and gentlemen, so you insist on going against me?"

His question fell on deaf ears as they merely grinned and looked right back at him.

Some of them even ridiculed him by saying, "You can always beg us for our help. If we deem that you're pitiful enough, perhaps we'll even betray Daisy and side with you again."

Hearing this, Zeke glanced at the person speaking and asked, "And you are?"

"Dane Hoffman."

"Good. I've remembered your name now. Mark my words. Your family will be destroyed, and some will even lose their lives."

"Oh, spooky. I'm scared." Dane put on a scornful expression.

One of the suppliers added, "Why are you afraid of him? He's just a puny insect on the verge of dying!"

Dane replied, "I'm just afraid that his bragging would drag us into eternal damnation along with him!"

Everyone burst into laughter immediately.

"You know, when you scolded me, you're already on your way to eternal damnation!" Zeke smiled. "Ladies and gentlemen, you may leave now and return tomorrow afternoon. I assure you you'll receive your compensation in full. Of course, it will depend greatly on your capabilities if you can accept the payment in full."

Everyone roared with laughter again. "If you can present us the money, we will be able to take them all!"

"Hmph, you have only a day to prepare the cash. Don't blame us for resorting to violence if you can't present the money tomorrow."

"Hey, Mr. Williams, why are you still struggling? Don't you realize that it's too late now? The fate of Linton Group will be the same no matter how hard you struggle!"

"What a stubborn idiot. He will probably only drop his stiff-necked pride upon the harsh truth."

The suppliers commented continuously as they left.

Zeke turned toward Daisy. "Is there anything else? If not, please leave. Foreigners are not welcomed here."

Hearing this, Daisy sighed. "I've planned to take over Linton Group today, but you're a tough nut to crack, aren't you? Why do you persist? Fine. I'll give you just one more day to make up your mind. Now, let me ask you. Is asking Redwood Capital for help your final way out of this situation?"

"That's right," Zeke replied.

"Did you not hear me just now? The head of the investment department of Redwood Capital is an associate of mine. Even if you managed to talk some sense into him, I could still easily

change his decision." Daisy stood up from the couch. "I suggest you give up as quickly as possible. The sooner you realize this, the better it will be for you."

After the lady left, Lacey turned toward Zeke, looking worried. "Zeke, what are you going to do now?"

Zeke stroked Lacey's silky smooth hair and said, "I'm going to reclaim the glory of Linton Group, of course."

"Are you really going to ask Redwood Capital for help?"

Zeke nodded.

Lacey looked disappointed. "But Daisy made it clear that the head of the investment department of Redwood Capital is one of her associates! She could easily change Redwood Capital's investment plans! Besides, with almost everyone resigned, what is left of Linton Group is just its cover. Even if Daisy doesn't stir up more trouble, there's no way Redwood Capital will invest in our company!"

Zeke patted Lacey on her shoulder in reply. "Lacey, don't worry about it. Everything will be fine as long as I'm around."

Lacey stared right back at Zeke as she wondered where he found that confidence from.

Yet, little did she know that the Redwood Capital was yet another asset belonging to Zeke.

Instead of making money, Redwood Capital was founded by Zeke back then to help the people in the nation.

As for Linton Group, it was a national enterprise that was on its way to becoming one of the top five hundred companies in the world. Hence, if they allowed Linton Group to crumble just like that, not only Redwood Capital would be at a loss but also Eurasia.

Hence, Redwood Capital had to help Linton Group no matter what.

"That's enough. Stop being so negative, Lacey. I miss Nelly, so let's go home. I want to see her."

At the thought of Nelly, Lacey became less frustrated.

After all, so what if Linton Group went into bankruptcy? The well-being of her family was of the utmost importance.

Dragon King Hotel was a five-star hotel known for its seafood.

It was also the place where Daisy would meet an exceptional guest.

She had arrived in the private room early with a beautiful lady with her.

This lady was a familiar face on television. Though she was not among the big celebrities, she had quite a name.

Sexy, alluring, and enchanting were the words used to describe her. With every smile, she effortlessly dazzled the many servers in the hotel.

This lady was Joan Young, a rising superstar.

As she turned toward Joan, Daisy reminded, "Remember, the guest is a VIP among VIPs. No matter what you do, make sure that he is pleased."

Joan replied carefully, "Ms. Daisy, I know you're holding a banquet for Lenard from Redwood Capital. This man is known to be a pervert. If I keep him company, I'm not sure if I can walk away from being taken advantage of him. So..."

"So you will stay with him and please him with everything you got. In return, I will make you the female lead in an upcoming blockbuster movie produced by one of my media companies. The male lead actor is Luke Jefferson, one of the most famous male celebrities recently. You'll be in the film acting together with him."

Oh my gosh. Really?

Joan was overwhelmed with happiness. "Thank you, Ms. Daisy. I'll do my best to please this important guest of yours."

Soon, the door to the private room was opened, and a fat man walked in.

It was Lenard Wayne, a man who was so fat that he looked like a moving mountain.

The private room seemingly shook when he walked right in.

Upon catching a glimpse of the man, Daisy immediately stood up and greeted, "Mr. Wayne, please have a seat. Thank you for making an effort to show up."

Lenard laughed. "Please, Ms. Daisy. You're being too polite. Come, sit with me."

At the side, Joan found the right timing to interfere, and she hurriedly introduced herself, "Hello, Mr. Wayne. I'm Joan Young. Nice to meet you."

With that, she extended her soft and snowy white hand.

This was when Lenard noticed this slender yet curvaceous lady.

All it took to have him dazzled was just a simple glance.

The lady was too pretty and too sexy to be true. What made her stand out the most was that enchanting vibe of hers. In an instant, Lenard was all hyped up and drooling all over for the lady.

Joan was very proud after capturing Lenard's reaction. She grabbed Lenard by his hand and said, "Mr. Wayne, this way, please. Have a seat while I get the waiters to prepare and serve our food."

"Good, good." Lenard nodded in reply with a salacious grin.

Joan gave the servers stationed outside the private room a look, and they immediately went to serve the food.

As the servers served the dishes, Joan made sure Lenard's cup was not empty all the time, and she had the man served very well.

Lenard was delighted with Joan, as his eyes never left her beautifully shaped chest.

As for Joan, she, too, understood what Lenard wanted. Hence, from time to time, she would press her chest against Lenard.

Daisy was pleased about this too. She had been worried that Leonard would not like the services provided to him by Joan, but her plan was working just as she wanted it to. To her, a good start was equivalent to half a success, and her plans had started well.

As the trio continued their feast, their minds, however, seemed to be somewhere else.

Soon, they quickly filled up their stomach and quenched their thirst.

Lenard wiped his mouth and smiled. "Thank you for the delicious meal, Ms. Daisy. Today's been delightful. It's getting late now. I suppose I should head home to get some rest. Ms. Daisy, let me buy you and Ms. Young a meal next time."

With that, Lenard got up and prepared to leave, only to be stopped by Daisy, who hurriedly said, "Mr. Wayne, it's not appropriate for you to drive under the influence of alcohol. If something bad happens to you, I'll never be able to forgive myself."

Joan chimed in, "Yes. That's right. Driving under the influence of alcohol is an offense, and that's what we shouldn't be doing. How about this? I've got a room reserved for me in this hotel, so why don't you come and rest in my room, Mr. Wayne?"

Lenard's face immediately turned red out of the hype he was feeling, for he precisely captured the hidden meaning in Joan's suggestion.

"Um... That's not very appropriate," he mumbled.

Joan stepped forward and wrapped her arms around Lenard's arm, rubbing her chest against him. "Lenard, there is no such thing as inappropriate. You and I had a good time just now, but I didn't enjoy it to the fullest. Can you imagine how lonely and bored I will be if you leave just like that?"

Chapter 2359

However, Lenard did not leave right away. He asked, "Ms. Daisy, you came to see me today because you need my help with something, right?"

Daisy shook her head. "Of course not. I just wanted to have a chat with you since it has been a long time since we last met."

"Is that so?" Lenard was skeptical.

Daisy smiled faintly. "Of course."

With a frown, Lenard replied, "How about this? I don't particularly appreciate owing anyone a favor, but I'll make an exception today since I'm greatly pleased. Just tell me what you want, and I'll make it come true if I can. I'll only feel better this way."

"That's not very nice."

"Just be straightforward with me. I'll only feel bad if you don't tell me what you want."

"All right. Speaking of which, I have something I need your help with. Mr. Wayne, do you know Linton Group?"

"Of course. The group is a giant dark horse in Eurasia's business world in recent years. None of the newly founded companies stand a chance against them. Linton Group took less than three years to squeeze its way into the top five hundred companies in the world starting from scratch.

This is what we define as a miracle, and for this reason, I doubt there's anyone who doesn't know of Linton Group in Eurasia."

"Then you should know that Linton Group is in deep trouble right now, yes?"

"Yes. For some reason, Linton Group found itself on bad terms against Intercontinental Group. For this reason, Intercontinental Group launched an all-out retaliation against Linton Group. And as a result, both of them are now badly hurt by their clashes and are on the verge of collapsing. Why? Why do you ask?"

"To be frank, the one retaliating against Linton Group is my boss, and Intercontinental Group is just one of his pawns. He wants to take over Linton Group, so the first thing he has to do is strike them hard."

"Oh?" Lenard was surprised.

He, for one, knew her boss was not one to be underestimated, but he did not expect him to be so powerful.

To become the man pulling the strings behind the life and death battle between the two most substantial companies in Eurasia, Daisy's boss sure is remarkable.

Lenard asked carefully, "Your boss has achieved what he wants. Linton Group is on the verge of collapsing, so what kind of help do you need from me?"

"Zeke Williams, the boss of Linton Group, is persistent. He didn't want us to acquire Linton Group and is putting up his deathbed struggle. He's also planning to convince Redwood Capital to invest in his company so that he can reclaim his glory once more. As the head of Redwood Capital investment department, I hope you can turn Zeke down when he comes looking for you, Mr. Wayne."

Hearing this, Lenard burst into laughter.

Daisy was confused. "Why are you laughing, Mr. Wayne?"

"Ms. Daisy, you're smart, but sometimes you are blinded by your smartness. Do you actually think we would invest in Linton Group? As we all know, Linton Group is a mess right now. All that is left of Linton Group is just an empty shell. If anyone wanted to revive the company, they would have to spend a generous amount of money on it, and there would be no guaranteed return. With that money, one could easily start another Linton Group! We would only invest such an enormous amount of money in Linton Group if we were stupid. The return is so minimal, and perhaps there may even be no return at all. With that money, starting another Linton Group will be a much more attractive option to Redwood Capital."

Daisy heaved a sigh of relief. "Mr. Wayne, your words are very assuring, but I'm still worried. After all, Zeke sounded very confident, which means that he probably has connections with Redwood Capital. If he could put the connections into good use..."

Chapter 2360

"Now, that is not something you have to worry about, Ms. Daisy," Lenard replied. "Redwood Capital's objective is to make profits. Anything that doesn't go well with our objective will be rejected, which is why no matter how strong his connections in Redwood Capital are, I can still easily deny his request."

"That'll be good." Daisy smiled. "I should get going now. Mr. Wayne, I hope you enjoy the rest of your day."

"Hahaha, then I shall be on my way to paradise now. Let's go, my little sweetheart." Lenard smiled, his hand already finding its way into Joan's pants.

That night, Zeke arrived at Redwood Capital.

Looking at the magnificent building of Redwood Capital, Zeke couldn't help laughing at himself.

If it weren't for the difficulties Linton Group was facing now, Zeke would have gotten that he was the owner of Redwood Capital.

Perhaps, as a boss, he was one of a kind in this world.

Zeke stopped when he walked past the duty room. His eyes were locked on an old security guard on shift. He was overwhelmed with emotions, for the man had aged so much since he last met him a few years ago.

Instead of hurryingly entering the building, Zeke approached the duty room and knocked on the windows.

The old security guard, who was sleeping, did not get up immediately after hearing the movements. Instead, he asked lazily. "Who's there?"

"An employee of the company."

"Did you forget your access card? What is your employee ID?"

"I think it's zero, zero, one," Zeke answered after careful consideration.

Zero, zero, one?

The answer from Zeke visibly shook the old security guard.

After all, this code belonged only to the boss of the company.

As for the old security guard, he was one of the people who knew Zeke's identity as the Great Marshal.

The Great Marshal is here? That voice. It sounds familiar, just like the Great Marshal's...

The old security guard raised his head immediately.

The next thing he saw was a familiar face. In that split second, he broke down crying when he saw Zeke's face.

It really is the Great Marshal! It's him! I never thought I could still see him when I'm still alive! I can now die in peace.

The old security almost fell to his knees before Zeke.

"Riley Hall of Dragon Guards is at your service, Great Marshal!"

Zeke nodded calmly. "On your feet."

The familiar name of Dragon Guards had Zeke's memories come flooding back to him. Dragon Guards were just as it sounded. They were a group of guards that were formed with the sole purpose of protecting the Great Marshal.

The group, however, did not live up to its name and duty, for the Great Marshal did not require their protection. Instead, the Great Marshal even had to protect them at times.

Hence, the group only existed for a short lifespan of three years before it got disbanded.

As for this old security guard, his name was Riley Hall, and he was once the captain of Dragon Guards.

During his years of service, Riley had impulsively slaughtered a group of captives. Because of that, he was demoted to security guard by the Great Marshal as punishment.

When Zeke punished Riley, all he wanted was to help Riley tame his impulsive behavior.

It seemed that Zeke had received what he wanted. After all these years, Riley had indeed become much calmer and more composed.

Now was the time talents were needed the most, for the Netherworld and Kush Clan lurking in the dark were posing a great threat to Eurasia.

Hence, Zeke figured it was time for Riley to serve Eurasia rather than being an insignificant security guard.

"Riley, how have you been after all these years?"

"Great Marshal, I've been reflecting on my mistakes all these years. The mistakes I committed when I slaughtered the prisoners back then still torment me. Now that I realized my mistakes and paid the price, I hope you could give me a swift end, Great Marshal."

"And how would you like it to be?" Zeke asked.

"Great Marshal, please let me return to the force and let me serve you. Either that or take my life. Let me redeem myself in either way."

In fact, Zeke was very well aware that to someone like Riley who had been bathing in blood on the battlefield for his entire life, he would rather die if he had to remain as a security guard here for the rest of his life.

To Riley, death was perhaps an easy way out of his misery.

Chapter 2361

However, he did not even dare to die without the order from the Great Marshal.

As a soldier, it was his duty to obey commands.

Zeke said, "Get up first and we'll talk."

Riley refused. "Great Marshal, I won't get up unless you promise me."

To that, Zeke said, "It isn't necessary for you to return to the force in order to serve me."

Riley looked up at Zeke with a burning gaze and responded, "Great Marshal, is that a promise? I'm willing to do anything you want me to as long as I don't have to be a watchdog here."

Zeke nodded. "Yes. Recently, Eurasia has been experiencing internal turmoil as well as external threats. We do need help. I now order you to be a spy. Outwardly, you will maintain your front as a guard of Redwood Capital. A war may erupt not long after. When the time comes, I will require your support!"

Riley was close to bursting into tears. "Yes, Sir!"

Zeke nodded in acknowledgment. "All right, get up. Do you know who is in charge of Redwood Capital right now?"

Riley replied, "It's Tavvy."

"Who's that?" asked Zeke.

"He used to be one of the Dragon Guards. Great Marshal, what are you doing here at Redwood Capital? Should I inform Tavvy and get him to attend to you personally?"

Zeke shook his head. "There will be no need to. I want to see the working style of Redwood Capital with my own eyes. My original intention in setting up Redwood Capital is to strengthen and help domestic businesses. But, judging from the extravagant-looking office of Redwood Capital, they must have spent tons of money on the renovation. I wonder how much money Redwood Capital has made from domestic businesses in order to build a palace like this. Redwood Capital is supposed to be partially nonprofit. Obviously, things have changed."

Riley smiled bitterly. "Even an ordinary leader here drives a Rolls-Royce. How can he afford such a luxurious car with a monthly wage of only eight thousand? There must be more than meets the eye."

Mm-hmm.

Zeke nodded and entered that luxurious building.

With an iconic smile, the front desk receptionist greeted Zeke warmly, "Sir, how may I assist you?"

Zeke replied, "I'm here to look for the person in charge of the investment department. I have a business dealing to discuss with him."

The receptionist enquired patiently, "Do you have an appointment?"

Zeke shook his head. "No."

"I'm so sorry, Sir. Mr. Wayne, who is in charge of the investment department, is currently very busy. I'm afraid you won't be able to meet him without an appointment."

Zeke then said, "Fine. Please make an appointment for me. Just let him know that I have a huge transaction worth hundreds of billions to discuss with him."

Hundreds of billions?

The receptionist looked at Zeke doubtfully. She suspected he might be lying.

Having managed the front desk for more than a decade, she had never come across anyone who mentioned such a humongous deal.

The receptionist thought that Zeke was trying to make fun of her.

However, given her professional work ethic, she went on to phone Lenard, who was in charge of the investment department, with a pleasant smile on her face.

Very soon, the call went through. The receptionist said, "Hi, Mr. Wayne. There's someone here who wants to meet you, and he would like to make an appointment. Is that all right with you?"

Lenard seemed distracted. "Take a look at his appearance and tell me how much he's worth."

The receptionist glanced at Zeke and replied, "No more than a thousand, I reckon."

A thousand?

Lenard scoffed, "Someone like that isn't fit to meet me. Isn't he a waste of my time? Why? Is my time worth so little? I'm going to hang up. Don't bother me if there's nothing important."

The receptionist quickly added, "Mr. Wayne, the man said that he wants to talk to you about a deal that involves hundreds of billions."

What?

Lenard frowned. That was also his first time hearing of such a huge business deal.

Perhaps the owner of Linton Group has come and is trying to get me to become one of their investors.

Chapter 2362

Haha! I wonder what makes him think that Redwood Capital will finance a business that is failing with hundreds of billions.

At that instant, Lenard really wanted to see who the other party was.

So, he said, "Fine. Send him in."

All right, then.

To be honest, the receptionist had no idea why Lenard would bother to meet the man who was standing in front of her at the moment.

I hope Mr. Wayne doesn't really buy his story. There's no way a man like him can afford to talk about such a huge deal. It's so strange.

After containing her emotions, the receptionist told Zeke, "Sir, Mr. Wayne from the investment department would like to see you. You can go ahead right now."

Zeke responded with a polite smile. "Thank you."

"Mr. Wayne's office is located upstairs in Room 308. By the way, Mr. Wayne isn't in the best of moods. It will be better for you to be more accommodating."

To that, Zeke responded, "Thank you for the reminder. But I doubt he has the right to show his temper in front of me."

Pfft!

The receptionist burst out laughing.

This fellow actually thinks he is a boss who is worth billions. How dare he say that Mr. Wayne has no right to throw his temper at him? Given the way he dresses, he should be thanking his lucky star that he gets to meet Mr. Wayne.

Once again, the receptionist caught herself as she lost control of her behavior. She quickly returned to her dignified self.

Zeke arrived at Room 308 and knocked on the door.

However, there was no response.

Zeke knocked again. Yet, silence ensued once more.

It was only when Zeke knocked on the door for the fourth time that there was a lazy response. "Come in."

Zeke pushed the door open and walked in.

He saw a middle-aged man practicing calligraphy. When he walked in, the man did not even look up.

Zeke smiled coldly.

Earlier on, he had had to knock on the door so many times before he received a response. That was when he decided to demote that middle-aged man.

Now that Zeke was in the room, the man did not even bother to cast a glance at him. It was a typical case of dereliction of duty.

A parasite like him had to be thrown out of the company.

The company culture of Redwood Capital was really lacking.

Zeke ignored Lenard and sat down on the couch instead.

After a few minutes, there was still no response from Lenard. Zeke was out of patience. He remarked coldly, "Mr. Wayne, is this your working style at Redwood Capital?"

Lenard stopped writing and threw his pen on the floor. He glared at Zeke and yelled, "B*stard! How dare you interrupt me! Don't you know that one needs to be in an ideal condition when doing calligraphy? The moment you spoke, you disrupted me and caused my calligraphy to lose its soul. You deserve to die!"

Zeke chuckled. "Mr. Wayne, you are quite a big deal yourself, aren't you? All I did was disrupt your calligraphy, and you want me dead? Even the ancient emperors wouldn't have been so unreasonable."

Lenard eyed Zeke with disdain. "Why? Do you think I'm not capable enough?"

"I'm sorry, but I honestly don't think you have the ability to do that," retorted Zeke. Fine!

Lenard laughed out loud. "Well, then. Go back and wait. In ten days' time, you will know what I'm capable of."

"I can't go yet. I have yet to state my intention of coming here."

Lenard glanced at Zeke and asked, "Are you Zeke Williams from Linton Group?"
Zeke nodded. "That's right."

"Well, then. I know why you are here. You want Redwood Capital to tide Linton Group over, right?"

"That's right."

"Hah! You must be dreaming. Don't even think about it! Now that Linton Group is near the end of the road, there is no way your company can make it unless Redwood Capital pumps in hundreds of billions. Instead of doing that, Redwood Capital can always build another Linton Group on its own! Only a fool will do something that doesn't benefit Redwood Capital."

Chapter 2363

Zeke questioned, "But I heard Redwood Capital is a partial non-profit organization. It doesn't exist to generate profit. Instead, it's meant to help local enterprises. Linton Group is a local business through and through, so how can Redwood Capital refuse to help out?"

Lenard replied, "Do you hear what you're saying right now? I can't believe you believe that crap. Is there a loose screw in your head? What era do you think you're living in right now? No wonder your company is collapsing because you don't know a thing about profits. Get out of here. I don't have time to waste on you or consider the investment."

Zeke sighed. Redwood Capital's current condition disappointed him greatly.

"Right, I heard you have connections with people inside Redwood Capital," Lenard asked abruptly.

"I do."

Redwood Capital was his anyway, and all his employees worked under him, so it wasn't wrong for him to say that.

"In that case, you don't need to waste your time asking people for investment because as long as I am here, I won't allow the company to give you even a single cent even if you know the general manager of Redwood Capital!" Lenard smiled smugly.

Is that so?

Zeke looked at Lenard in puzzlement. "You seem to be very antagonistic toward me, Mr. Wayne. I don't think I've offended you before. Are you really that mad that I disturbed you earlier?"

A wicked smile appeared on Lenard's face. "Of course it's not just because of that. I'm not that petty. However, you have pissed off people you shouldn't have. That person has asked me to deal with you specifically. Since you've seen through me, I'm not going to beat around the bush anymore. A word of advice, buddy. There are some people you can never offend. All you can do is obey. Got it?"

"Is it Daisy?" Zeke asked tentatively.

Lenard smiled meaningfully.

I guess that's a yes.

Upon taking a deep breath, Zeke said, "Looks like the Linton Group has become a tool for someone's revenge. In that case, I'm fine with not getting help from this version of Redwood Capital. Please call your general manager over right now."

Lenard glared at him. "Who do you think you are? You don't deserve to meet our general manager. Get out of here! Redwood. Capital doesn't welcome you!"

Zeke enunciated each word as he said, "I said, tell your general manager to get his ass over here and meet me right now."

A cold aura spread out from his body, which spooked Lenard to his core. It was as though the air was getting as cold as ice.

Holy crap! Why is this b*stard's aura so powerful?

Lenard pretended to be calm and said, "I'll repeat myself, too. You don't have the right to meet our general-"

Before he could finish, Zeke casually kicked a stool nearby.

The stool was instantly shot toward Lenard like a meteor.

A stool kicked by a Celestial Class warrior could fly faster than lightning. Lenard didn't even see how the stool flew toward him, much less react to it, before he was, hit.

The stool shattered upon impact, and multiple wounds appeared on his face. His body flew backward before he crashed to the ground.

He opened his mouth and spat out blood, along with two white teeth, and breathing became an arduous task for him.

Zeke picked him up as though he was lifting a dead dog. "Now, do I have the right to meet your general manager?"

Lenard inhaled with great effort before stuttering, "Y-You're done. You're d-done for..."

Chapter 2364

Bang!

Zeke gently lifted Lenard and caused the latter's head to smash into the ceiling, creating a giant hole there as a result.

"Now, do I have the right to meet your general manager?"

Lenard was on the verge of breaking down. Holy f*ck. Is this guy a psycho? He's so violent! I can't believe he beat me up without hesitation! This guy is like a combination of a psycho and a violent brute!

Of course, he wasn't going to deny Zeke's request any longer. He quickly agreed, "You have the right to meet him. I'll give the general manager a call right now."

Only then did Zeke let him go. "Go ahead."

Lenard pulled out his phone in a fluster and called the general manager, Grayson Baxter. "Gray, where are you? Come over to my office quickly. There's a VIP here whom you need to welcome personally. This VIP's identity is really special. Take a few more people with you to greet him properly."

He intentionally emphasized the phrases "take a few more people with you" and "greet him properly" as a subtle way of telling Grayson to bring muscles into the office to get rid of Zeke.

Both of them were like-minded people, so Grayson could tell Lenard was in trouble immediately based on his tone alone.

"Got it," Grayson replied in a deep voice before hanging up.

Less than five minutes later, someone knocked on Lenard's door.

A man's voice was heard from outside. "Lenny, it's me, Grayson."

Lenard glanced at Zeke fearfully.

Zeke nodded slightly.

With Zeke's permission, Lenard scrambled toward the door and opened it.

A well-mannered man in a suit strolled into the room.

When he saw how messy the office appeared and how wretched Lenard looked, he gasped in shock. This is more serious than I thought.

"What's going on, Lenny?" he asked.

Lenard's fearful sight turned to Zeke. "I-It's him."

Grayson followed his line of sight and stared at Zeke.

After studying Zeke briefly, he chuckled. "You're getting more and more useless,.. Lenny. You can't even take care of a nameless thug."

Lenard quickly refuted, "He's not just a thug, Gray. He's very powerful."

"As if. The clothes on him barely add up to a thousand. This is a classic case of a vagrant robbing a place because they're driven mad by their poverty." Upon determining his target was a poor thug, Grayson lowered his guard. He snapped his finger. "Come in."

Whoosh!

Rapid, noisy footsteps could be heard outside the room. In the blink of an eye, twenty-odd fighters had rushed into the room, cramping the office.

Despite being surrounded by the fighters, Zeke's expression remained unchanged.

However, deep down, he was a little surprised. I thought Tavvy was the general manager. I was going to call him over and have him punish Lenard. It didn't occur to me that a stranger would show up. It seems that I need to teach them all a lesson and use them to call Tavvy over.

A blonde man turned to Grayson. "Should we cripple him or kill him?"

He was very arrogant.

Grayson glanced at Lenard. "You've suffered in his hands, so you get to choose how he should be punished." With Grayson's and so many fighters' support, Lenard straightened his back and stared at Zeke mockingly. "Don't say I didn't give you a chance, Zeke. Kneel, apologize to me, and call me Sir at once. If you do that, maybe I'll spare you. Otherwise, I'll cripple you first before torturing you to death! You'd better think carefully. I'm not kidding right now. I'm a man of my word."

Chapter 2365

Zeke ignored Lenard and stared at Grayson. "You're the general manager of Redwood Capital? I thought Tavvy's the general manager."

The people in front of him were confused when they heard that. "Who's Tavvy? We've never heard of him before."

Then someone slapped their head and said, "D*mmit. Is he talking about Mr. Tavian?"

The room was in an uproar when they heard that.

"How dare you call Mr. Tavian Tavvy, you punk! You're dead!"

"We're going to have to teach this punk a lesson today on Mr. Tavian's behalf!"

"When it comes to people like him, our anger won't be satiated unless they're properly taken care of!"

"Give us the order to cripple him, Gray!"

Mr. Tavian? Zeke mocked, "That punk must be itching for a beating if he's making you all call him that."

The crowd exploded in a wave of even more intense anger when they heard that.

All of them treated Tavian as a deity and worshipped him. Naturally, they weren't going to ignore the insults hurled at their idol.

Grayson couldn't hold back anymore. "Kill him!"

"Kill!" the fighters shouted as they charged toward Zeke, instantly surrounding him and attacking him.

Lenard commanded arrogantly like a madman, "Beat him to death! I want him to know the price of bullying me! Kill him! He must die!"

The crowd was getting even more riled up.

Moments later, Grayson was confounded. "Why can't we hear the guy's cries of pain? Has he been beaten to death already?" Lenard replied, "Yeah, I don't hear anything, either. But he's pretty good. I doubt he'll die that easily."

"All right, everyone, stop. I don't want this guy to die in our company. Otherwise, the cleanup will be troublesome. Just throw him into the river after this."

Only then did the crowd stop and disperse.

However, when they did, the scene in the middle shocked them all.

There was no one at the center, not even a shadow.

They were getting pretty spooked as they wondered where Zeke was.

It was so eerie that all of them grew silent.

Right then, a crisp clicking sound rang out behind Lenard and Grayson.

The crowd's attention was shifted to the sound.

When they did, they were shocked because Zeke had somehow arrived behind the duo.

The clacking sound they had heard was the sound of Zeke lighting up his cigarette with his lighter.

He took a drag of smoke and swept his contemptuous gaze across the scene.

That sight blew the crowd's minds. They had no idea what happened, how he escaped, or how he suddenly appeared behind Grayson and Lenard.

They thought they were looking at a ghost.

Zeke smirked at Grayson and Lenard. "Is this all you can do? How disappointing."

Grayson roared furiously, "What are you-"

Before he could finish, Zeke abruptly unleashed two punches.

The punches cut through the air so fast that the crowd couldn't even see the fist moving. All they saw was the vague afterimage of a fist hitting Grayson and Lenard.

In the next second, the duo flew away and landed on the group of fighters, like two bowling balls crashing into two dozens of bowling pins.

When they landed on the ground, they convulsed and foamed in their mouths. Moans of pain could also be heard from them.

While the fighters could still fight, none of them were willing to continue attacking.

Since Zeke could send the two of them flying away with a punch, it meant that he was powerful enough to take all of them down.

If they were to attack, they would be stepping into an early grave. Only an idiot would do that, and they weren't stupid.

It took a long while before Grayson returned to his senses.

Chapter 2366

Grayson was experiencing shortness of breath. His chest felt as if it was on fire, as that attack had almost sent him into a shock.

He could tell one of his ribs had been broken, and he felt as though the rib bone was about to jut out of his chest.

Bearing the pain, he gulped and asked, "Who are you? Why are you here?"

Zeke replied, "Who am I isn't important. The important thing is why I'm here. Tell Tavvy to meet me or death is your only way out."

Enraged by his arrogance, Grayson roared, "Mr. Tavian isn't someone a nobody like you can insult! If he comes here, you'll be dead!"

Even at a critical moment, he was still defending the man called Mr. Tavian. It was obvious just how much they respected Tavian.

"Looks like you're still unwilling to ask Tavvy to meet me. Never mind. I'll send you all to hell first before paying Tavvy a visit," Zeke uttered before assuming a battle stance.

The crowd was finally afraid after he threatened to kill them.

Grayson quickly said, "Fine! I'll let you meet Mr. Tavian! But you'd better consider the consequences. If Mr. Tavian shows up, you will most likely die! If you aren't certain you're a match for Mr. Tavian, I suggest you get that thought out of your head."

That piqued Zeke's curiosity. "Oh? Tell me how powerful is Tavvy exactly?."

"Mr. Tavian's valiant deeds will terrify you if I tell you. Have you heard about the recently famous superhero? He's—"

"Shut up, Gray," Lenard piped up. "Have you forgotten what Mr. Tavian told us? We mustn't tell anyone about it..."

Fear instantly crept onto Grayson's face, and he quickly shut up.

Zeke was dumbfounded. Superhero? What superhero? Is Tavvy pretending to be a superhero and helping people anywhere he goes? Well, it's very possible. He always had that vibe when he was by my side. Sometimes he'd say he's the "incarnation of justice."

Without wasting another second, Grayson pulled out his phone and called Tavian. "Hello, Mr. Tavian. It's me, Grayson. Yes, I have something to talk to you about. You see, someone is here at the company and he's beaten our people up. Yeah, he hurt the person in charge of the investment department. He is super arrogant. Yes, he even insulted you and called you Tavvy... I'm innocent, Mr. Tavian! I definitely wasn't the one who picked a fight with him! He started it first! Don't worry. I swear on my name that I didn't pick a fight with him. Okay, okay. All of us will wait for you to return and stand up for us."

After he hung up the phone, his previous arrogant attitude returned. "Just you wait, punk. You're going to die soon! Mr. Tavian is angry now, and when he's angry, the whole city shakes in fear. Today's the day you meet your end!" "We'll see," Zeke said casually.

He then approached the window, admired the view outside, and took in a deep puff of his cigarette.

There are quite a lot of warriors who are scattered across the world like Tavvy. If all these people gather together, they'll be a formidable force. At the very least, one branch of the Netherworld won't be able to beat this group of people. It's time to reunite these people to help the country.

After he waited for ten odd minutes, heavy footsteps could be heard outside the door.

Even the floor itself shook slightly each step.

Moments later, the door to the office was violently pushed open, and a big fat man entered the room.

He was built like a tank, had a murderous aura emanating from his body, and had a face full of facial hair. If children saw him, they would be terrified.

That man was the Tavvy Zeke had been talking about and the Mr. Tavian the crowd had been clamoring about.

Tavian was taken in by Zeke when he was very young.

Chapter 2367

He was born with mighty strength and a fat body. When he grew up, he was sent to Drieso by Zeke to train.

As time passed, he garnered more success until he gained the nickname Titan.

At the peak of his career, he couldn't ignore how Drieso had mistreated Eurasia. He had smashed up the cars on the streets of Drieso with a brick.

That night, he had smashed more than three thousand cars before returning to Eurasia.

Ever since that incident, he had been staying by Zeke's side.

He was still wanted by Drieso, and, of course, Drieso had already figured out his identity.

However, they didn't dare to do anything to him because he was one of the Great Marshal's people.

No one dared to cross the Great Marshal even if they had ten guts to spare.

The moment Tavian stepped in, Grayson and Lenard rushed toward him and began putting up a pitiful act. "You must stand up for us this time, Mr. Tavian! He's totally crossing the line and disrespecting you! If you don't kill him now, there'll be no end of troubles waiting for us!"

Tavian looked at them suspiciously. "Tell me the truth. Did you two piss off the other party first? Why would someone just come over here and cause a mess?"

Without hesitation, Grayson said, "I swear on my life that he struck first, Mr. Tavian."

Lenard swiftly chimed in, "That's right, Mr. Tavian. Look at him. Not a scratch on his body, yet all of us are hurt to some degree. What do you think this means?"

"This means you lot are a bunch of incompetent b*stards!" Tavian exclaimed. "You lot can't even beat a single person up with this many people! How dare you act so pitifully in front of me!" Lenard's and Grayson's faces turned red.

"I will investigate this matter properly. I won't frame any good people, and I won't let any bad people off the hook! So, tell me, who did this to you?"

Looking at Zeke's face, Tavian trembled all over. He was filled with disbelief. Are my eyes playing tricks on me? This face.... This man... It's the Great Marshal, Zeke Williams! Yeah, it's him! I can't believe he's here! He actually came to visit me!

Waves of emotions were crashing against each other in his heart. He was so emotional that he was about to cry.

At that moment, he was as excited and shocked as a man who had just seen an alien.

He almost kneeled before Zeke as he choked out, "You're here, Zeke! I, a former member of Dragon Guards, Tavvy, humbly welcome your visit!"

Not many people had a close relationship with Zeke. He was one of the few.

Zeke glanced at him indifferently. "You've gotten fatter compared to before."

Tavian blushed. "I-I'm guilty as charged. I didn't listen to you and cut my weight down. I'll definitely start working out soon."

Chapter 2368

"Mm." Zeke extinguished his cigarette and headed to the big chair clearly meant for the boss of the company. "Get up."

"Okay, okay." Tavian promptly stood up and followed behind Zeke, his body half bent.

Even when Zeke had sat on the chair, Tavian was still standing in a bowing posture next to the former like a subordinate.

Grayson, Lenard, and the others were all dumbfounded. Holy sh*t. My eyes are working fine, right? What kind of joke is this? Our boss is the great Mr. Tavian! Someone the people in the underworld treat as a deity! And yet here he is, bowing before him and acting like a loyal dog. Who the f*ck is he?

The crowd started to experience a headache because they realized they had messed with the wrong person.

Lenard straight up fainted out of fear.

As for Grayson, his legs turned to jelly, and he kneeled on the ground.

"I heard you called yourself a superhero, Tavvy," Zeke asked.

Tavian shook in fear. "A-Are you making fun of me, Zeke? There's no way I'd call myself a superhero with you around. That's just what my friends in the underworld call me. No need to pay attention to that."

Friends in the underworld? Zeke's gaze turned sharper. "You're dealing with the underworld now?"

Tavian was scared out of his mind by Zeke's terrifying look and kneeled on the ground. "It's a misunderstanding, Zeke! You have no idea how chaotic the underworld in this city is. The people there are willing to commit countless heinous crimes. Not only that, they have connections with the higher-ups. No one can put a leash on them. The public security here is a

mess. It's like stepping into the last century. People from the underworld harass us occasionally, so I have to deal with them. After interacting with them for a while, I saw their dark side. They have done many unspeakable things. As you know, I'm someone who values justice very much. I can't stand by and watch people who need help struggle. Naturally, I couldn't ignore the crimes they committed, so I infiltrated the underworld and successfully conquered them. After that was done, I punished the evilest criminals first. Then I shut down all illegal establishments and put an end to stuff like protection fees as well as debt collecting. Lastly, I invested in many legitimate businesses and sent those who were not thrown into jail to work there. Now, there's not much of an underworld left. It has been thoroughly integrated into the business industry."

"Is what you're saying true?" Zeke raised his eyebrows.

"You know me, Zeke. I would never lie to you. If you don't believe me, just ask the people around. They're grateful for my hard work and call me an agent of justice."

Zeke knew what Tavian was saying was ninety-nine percent true. "I'll send someone to investigate if this is true. If it is, I'll reward you. If not, punishment awaits you. Now, let's talk about Redwood Capital." "What's going on with Redwood Capital, Zeke?"

"I founded the company to help local businesses, not to generate profit. But the current Redwood Capital has put profit above all else and become a tool of revenge for someone. The people who work here accept bribes and abuse their power. Why would I want that kind of Redwood Capital?"

Seeing that Zeke was truly angry, Tavian, his face pale, fell to his knees once more. "I deserve to be punished! I deserve to die! It's my fault for not doing a good job. Please, punish me! You know that I'm really only good at fighting. When you told me to use my brain to take care of Redwood Capital, you put me in a difficult spot. I had no idea how to take care of a business, so I just let Grayson and the others manage the company. However, while I asked them to run the company, I am still the one responsible. Please punish me. Also, when you mentioned bribery and abuse of power, what specifically are you referring to?"

Chapter 2369

Zeke's gaze fell on Grayson and Lenard. "Are these two your aides?"

Tavian quickly explained, "Not exactly. I just thought I should put them in charge of Redwood Capital because they're quite skilled in business-related matters. As for aides, well, they don't have the right to become my aides yet. Are you saying these two were taking bribes and abusing their power?"

Zeke nodded.

Both Grayson and Lenard were terrified to the bones. They smashed their foreheads on the floor as a sign of apology so hard that they were bleeding.

"We were wrong. We were truly wrong."

"Please forgive us! We'll definitely change!"

"Please be merciful and forgive us! Please, just think of us as nothing but a piece of trash to be thrown away and let us go!"

Tavian's mind had already been filled with rage. He rushed forward, kicked both of them to the ground, and started beating them like a madman.

"How dare you two bully Zeke! Are you two sick of living already? I worship him as a deity every day. What right do you two have to bully him? If I don't kick you both to death today, I'll die a horrible death!" He was a member of Dragon Guards, so it was easy to imagine just how strong he was.

There was no way Grayson and Lenard could endure his attacks.

Not long after, both of them were foaming at their mouths. Blood was bleeding out of their facial orifices. At any moment, they could go into shock.

Since both of them were still useful, Zeke waved his hand and stopped Tavian. "That's enough, Tavy. Don't kill them."

Only then did Tavian stop and spit on them. "You two should be thankful that Zeke stopped me. Otherwise, both of you would've been dead in my hands!" "Hand both of them to the authorities and have them investigated. They must be punished severely."

"Understood!"

Grayson and Lenard promptly thanked Zeke for sparing them.

They thought they were going to die after insulting and trying to kill the boss of their boss.

Yet they were surprised at how forgiving Zeke was and how he only wanted to sanction them by law. They had assumed they would be punished privately.

Zeke glanced at Lenard. "You, come over here!"

Like a dog, Lenard crawled toward Zeke. "I'm sorry, Zeke. I'll do whatever you-"

Tavian kicked Lenard again, causing the latter to stumble on the ground. "F*ck off! You don't get to call him by his name!"

"I'm sorry, Sir!" Lenard quickly changed how he called Zeke.

"Tell me everything about your deal with Daisy." Zeke's tone was as cold as ice.

Of course, Lenard didn't have the guts to hide anything as he spilled the beans.

Once Tavian finished listening to the story, he exploded in anger again. "How dare you take bribes! I'm going to kick you to death, motherf*cker! Also, you have some nerve to work with Zeke's enemies! Are you that eager to visit the afterlife?"

"All right, that's enough." Zeke quickly stopped him. "I've told you this guy's still useful to me. If you kick him to death, you'll affect my plan."

Only then did Tavian stop.

Zeke told Lenard his plan in detail.

Lenard quickly nodded. "Don't worry, Sir. I'll definitely do as you ask."

"If anything goes wrong, I won't stop Tavian from doing things to you." "Yes, yes."

Zeke glanced at the time. "All right, I have things to take care of, so I'll be leaving now. Tavvy, take good care of Redwood Capital. Clear out all unsavory elements left in the company."

"Don't worry, Zeke. I won't disappoint you again," Tavian replied. "One more thing, Zeke."

Zeke stopped in his tracks. "Speak."

"I beg you, Zeke. Can you stop making me take care of Redwood Capital? I'm not a business guy, and I want to help out our old war buddies. Please let me return to the battlefield. I'd rather die on the battlefield to atone for my sins than stay here."

Chapter 2370

Zeke took a deep breath. "Standby in position."

Tavian's eyes lit up like stars in the sky as tears poured out his eyes.

The meaning Zeke had tried to convey with that phrase was clear enough.

Tavian's original military position had been restored, and he was to wait for his commander's order.

He had been waiting to hear that phrase for a long time.

Standing up quickly, he gave a proper military salute. "Yes, Sir!"

Zeke then left.

Both Grayson and Lenard trotted toward Tavian. "You must help us, Mr. Tavian! You must! I still have young and old family members to take care of! If I'm thrown into jail, my family will suffer! I can't go to jail, Mr. Tavian. Please be merciful. We're willing to do anything for you two!"

Tavian stared at the two again and started beating them. "You two expect to leave scotfree after pissing off Zeke? Go to hell! You two should feel lucky to be able to keep your lives!"

When Zeke returned to his home and opened the door, the fragrance of food rushed into his nose.

He changed into his slippers and entered the kitchen.

Lacey was cooking with sweat all over her head. "You're back so soon? Have a seat. The food will be ready soon."

"Okay!" With a smile, he headed to the dining table.

At the table, Nelly was already sleeping with a picture in her hand.

He picked it up and looked at it.

It was a crude but simple drawing of a tall man and a soft woman. Both of them were holding a cute girl's hands as they stood next to the sea, enjoying the breeze.

The man's shirt and the woman's long hair" fluttered in the wind, and the girl's body, too, gently swayed in the breeze.

It was a simple drawing, yet it touched him. So that's what a perfect world is like in Nelly's mind. She wants the company of her parents. It makes me feel ashamed that I couldn't fulfill even this little wish of hers.

Zeke carefully lifted Nelly and stared at her innocent face before kissing her on the forehead.

Unexpectedly, that caused the girl to wake up.

She carefully opened her eyes and looked around in a daze. Ultimately, her gaze settled on his face.

Initially, there was shock on her face as disbelief filled her eyes.

When she returned to her senses, her eyes sparkled with excitement and joy. "Daddy! You're back, Daddy! I miss you so much."

Listening to her voice made Zeke's heart ache.

"Tell me, Nelly. Which part of you misses me?" He held Nelly tighter.

Nelly pointed at her heart. "My heart misses you."

That answer surprised Zeke because she would always answer him with, "My stomach misses you."

And yet, she was saying her heart missed him.

What did that mean?

It meant Nelly had grown up and understood things better.

In the future, when she said her head was missing her father, it would mean she had truly grown up.

He regretted not being by Nelly's side as she grew up. I need to stay by Nelly's side more often in the future.

Suddenly, the girl recalled something and quickly showed him the picture in her hand. "Look at this, Daddy. This is the holiday present I'm giving to you."

Holiday present? Zeke was slightly stunned. "What holiday present?"

"Today is Father's Day. Happy Father's Day, Daddy."

"I see! Thank you, Nelly." Zeke smiled.

That was his first real Father's Day.

The girl continued to show off her picture to him. "Look, this is you, Daddy. You look so cool when you wear a military outfit. This is Mommy. She's beautiful when she's wearing a dress.

This is me holding you and Mommy's hands. I'm the happiest girl in the world. Daddy, this is a super-duper big beach. I heard there is seafood there. Hopefully, one day, you'll take me and Mommy there to gather seafood."

Chapter 2371

Zeke pulled Nelly's hand and said, "You've never been to a beach before, right, Nelly? Who told you there is seafood there to be gathered?"

"I saw it on my phone. Other kids have their parents take them there, so I want to go too."

"Okay. I'll take you and Mommy to gather seafood there later."

"Really, Daddy? Will you really bring me there later?" Disbelief was written all over the girl's face.

Zeke nodded. "Of course. When have I ever lied to you?"

"Hooray!" Nelly was so happy that she jumped. "Daddy's bringing me to gather seafood! I'm so happy."

"All right, it's time to eat." Lacey placed the delicious food on the dining table.

The girl quickly said to Lacey, "Mommy, Daddy said he's going to bring us to the sea to gather seafood! Let's have a picnic at the beach, Mommy."

"Stop messing around, Nelly. We're very far away from the sea. By the time we reach there, it'll be sundown already, and there won't be anything left on the beach. Eat quickly, then take a bath and go to bed."

Nelly looked disappointed. "Were you lying to me earlier, Daddy?"

Zeke smiled silently, pulled out his phone, and made a call. "Zayne, I want to go to the beach right now and gather seafood with my daughter. Make some arrangements right away. Hmm? We can only do that when there's a low tide? When is that happening? Two hours later? Okay, then we'll make it to the beach within two hours. Land transport won't make it. Arrange a flight for us. Even if you need to use military jets, you must complete the mission. Okay. I'll wait for you at my home."

Upon hanging up the phone, Zeke turned to Nelly and said, "I've made the arrangements, Nelly. We'll be going to the beach soon to gather some seafood."

"Hooray! You're the best, Daddy." Nelly kissed his cheek.

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Lacey regarded Zeke in resignation. "Zeke, don't you think this is a little too ridiculous? You're asking for a fighter jet to take us to a beach to gather seafood."

"It's fine. As long as it makes my daughter happy, I'll call an aircraft carrier to come over even if I have to."

Lacey clicked her tongue as she witnessed the transformation of another father into his daughter's slave.

The fighter jet arrived shortly after. Zeke and his family boarded the jet, and it carried them to the beach.

To Zeke and Lacey's surprise, Nelly was mentally stronger than they had expected.

There wasn't a hint of fear on the girl's face as she rode on a high-speed fighter jet. Instead, there was only excitement seen on her face.

She was very animated as she continuously cheered the pilot on to fly the jet faster.

People would think she wanted to drive the jet herself if they looked at her.

Even the pilot couldn't help but raise his thumb. "It'll be a waste of talent if this kid doesn't pilot a fighter jet in the future."

They soon arrived at their destination, which was a cluster of rock formations on the beach.

At that moment, it was the perfect season for seafood. Just as the tide receded, shells could be seen everywhere on the rocks. There were octopuses, crabs, and a bunch of different fishes. There were so many sea creatures there that it was overwhelming to stare at.

That beautiful scene stunned Nelly.

Strangely enough, no one was on the beach.

The person who greeted Zeke was the person in charge of the local military district.

The person in charge bowed to Zeke politely. "Welcome, Great Marshal. It's my honor to welcome you here. We've prepared a small banquet to welcome you. I hope you'll give us the honor."

Of course, the man thought Zeke was there to inspect the local military facility instead of gathering seafood.

Zeke shook his head. "No, thanks. I'm just here to accompany my daughter to gather some seafood. There's no need for all that."

Chapter 2372

A wave of shock passed through the heart of the person in charge. Did I hear that right? The busy Great Marshal actually has time to come here and play with his daughter? How much does he love this daughter of his?

Zeke asked, "Why isn't there anyone here? Tourists should be pouring into this beach rich in seafood."

The person in charge replied politely, "Outsiders naturally have to avoid this place since you're here to conduct an inspection, Great Marshal. I've driven them all far away from here. It'll be an insult to you if these peasants are to share the same space with you."

In the distance, Zeke saw a military barrier preventing tourists from getting in. All they could do was stare at the beach in front of them.

Rage burned in Zeke's eyes as he roared, "You have some balls!"

The person in charge was instantly terrified. by Zeke's wrath. His mind turned blank as he kneeled on the ground. "Please let me know what I did wrong, Great Marshal. I promise I'll change. I'll make amends..."

"How could you call them peasants? Don't you know they are the pillars of Eurasia and the soul that supports our great country? Everything we have today is given to us by them! They're the ones keeping the military running, yet you call them peasants. You are being ungrateful!"

That prompted the person in charge to knock his forehead on the ground repeatedly. "I know what I did wrong now, Great Marshal. I've realized my mistake. Please forgive me!"

"Leave and take that military barrier down. Let them in."

Fear was still present on the face of the person in charge. "Bad people may be hiding inside that crowd, Great Marshal. What if they try to harm you? If that happens, I won't be able to atone for my sins!"

"What, you think a bunch of tourists can threaten the Great Marshal?"

That rendered the person in charge speechless.

That's right. He's the Great Marshal, the most powerful man in the country. Even on a global level, he's still one of the most powerful people around! There's no way anyone can hurt him. I'm just being a worrywart.

"Okay, Great Marshal. I'll remove the barrier now."

The moment the military barrier was taken down, tourists flooded into the area.

Zeke, Lacey, and Nelly promptly rushed to the beach with the tourists to pick up shells, capture fish, and grab shrimps. Joy could be seen on their faces.

That group of tourists could never imagine that the ordinary seafood lover next to them was the Great Marshal.

At the end of it, Zeke and his family had a good harvest and a small basketful of seafood.

Instead of staying in the five-star hotel arranged by the person in charge, Zeke went to a pretty good farmhouse nearby.

He asked the people there to prepare the seafood he had caught with his family. Nelly couldn't wait to give it a taste.

While the food wasn't the fanciest around, it was very fresh. Not to mention the family captured the seafood by themselves. That was why Nelly enjoyed herself very much while eating.

As she was very tired, she lay on the bed and slept after she finished her meal.

Zeke's heart thumped when he saw Lacey's figure in the bathroom.

He gritted his teeth, took off his shirt, and went into the bathroom, too.

"Don't mess around. Nelly's here," Lacey protested.

"It's fine. She's sleeping."

"But-" He didn't give her a chance to speak as he covered her mouth.

It was a pleasant night.

The next morning, Dave, as the head among all suppliers of Linton Group, marched toward the company with Daisy as the leader to collect their debts.

Daisy had specifically asked Dave to get a few extra muscles to join them.

If Linton Group refused to obey, then they would use violence to threaten the company.

On the way there, Dave asked, "Ms. Daisy, are you sure Redwood Capital won't lend money to Linton Group? What if they actually manage to get the money from Redwood Capital? Won't that mean all our effort will go to waste?"

Chapter 2373

Daisy smirked viciously. "Don't worry about that. Redwood Capital will never lend any money to Linton Group. I've already communicated with the people inside."

Only then did Dave and the rest heave a sigh of relief. "That's great! That's great!"

Suddenly, a supplier yelled, "Everyone, look who's coming!"

Everyone glanced over, only to see those suppliers who had betrayed them yesterday by siding with Linton Group.

The group became furious when they saw those traitors.

Those people had suddenly discovered their conscience and sided with Linton Group. In fact, they had even criticized Dave and the rest from a moral high ground, which made them seem even more heartless.

Hence, Dave and the rest started to mock those people.

"Hah! I was wondering who it was. Aren't they the guardians of justice?"

"Why did you come to the Linton Group today? Are you hoping to see the rise of Linton Group? Haha! I'm afraid I'll have to disappoint you. Linton Group will not rise today and will never rise in the future. Their cash flow has been completely cut off. Redwood Capital will never lend them any money."

"Hmph! How dare you oppose Ms. Daisy? Just wait to be bankrupt!"

Those suppliers who sided with Zeke turned crimson. They knew that what the rest said was most likely true.

The Linton Group would probably collapse.

When that happened, they would be dragged down as well.

However, even if they were losing, they must not lose out on their confidence. Hence, they remained resolute.

"Hmph! It's just bankruptcy. We can't make ourselves do something so horrible as to betray our conscience and gang up against our benefactor."

"Even if we go bankrupt and our business collapses, we can still live in peace, unlike some people who will be tortured by a poor conscience for the rest of their lives."

"Even if heaven doesn't punish you while you're alive, you'll have to pay the price in hell."

Their words amused the other suppliers, who mocked them even harder.

"In hell? I'm afraid you'll die first before we go to hell."

"Now that you've aggravated Ms. Daisy, do you think she'll let you off the hook?"

"Haha! Live in peace? Well, after you die, you'll naturally have peace of mind."

Daisy waved her hand, signaling everyone to quiet down.

"All right, everyone, quiet down. Listen to what I have to say." She glanced at the twin sisters and the other suppliers coldly. "I'm giving you another chance now. If you side with me, I'll let everything that happened slide. How's that?"

The twin sisters and the other suppliers hesitated for a short while before turning around and leaving with determination.

Very well!

Revealing a vicious expression, Daisy gritted her teeth and spat, "How dare they refuse my goodwill? They must die!"

Daisy had already issued a killing order for those people in her mind.

If she did not eliminate those troublemakers, she would not be able to lead her followers in the future, as everyone would dare to betray her easily.

The group soon reached the Linton Group.

Linton Group was completely empty. There were barely any employees, let alone Zeke and Lacey. When the employees realized yesterday that a huge fight might break out there, they did not dare to attend work.

When Daisy entered, she commanded, "Search the place and bring Zeke and Lacey to me!"

"Understood!"

Daisy's subordinates immediately heeded her orders and started searching the place.

Searching was an understatement-they were violently tearing everything down, smashing everything in the building that could be broken.

The building was immediately reduced to rubble.

Their destruction ended three hours later, and they went downstairs to report the situation.

"Ma'am, we couldn't find Zeke and Lacey at all. They've probably escaped."

Escaped? Everyone burst out laughing.

"They were acting all tough and mighty yesterday, but they don't even dare to show themselves today. This is so hilarious!"

"Since they don't dare to show up, doesn't this mean that Linton Group will be ours in the future?"

"Of course! Haha! Boys, what's the first thing we should do after we conquer the Linton Group?"

"Of course, it's to chase all irrelevant people out."

Chapter 2374

Everyone's gazes landed on the twins and the other suppliers simultaneously.

"Hmph, now that Zeke has run away, what else do you have to say?"

Impossible! Impossible!

The twin sisters immediately rebuked, "We know Ms. Hinton and Mr. Williams very well. They'll never do something like this."

"That's right! They must be late because they encountered something."

"They're very responsible. It's impossible for them to abandon everything."

Daisy laughed mockingly. "You refuse to give up until you witness the grim reality personally, huh? Since you don't believe me, give Zeke a call and see if they dare to come."

The twin sisters whipped out their phones anxiously and called Zeke.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable..."

When the two girls heard the automated voice on the phone, their hearts sank.

Unwilling to give up, they quickly dialed Lacey's number.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable..."

There was a look of despair on the twins' and the other suppliers' faces. They no longer harbored any hope.

It was still understandable for one person's phone to be turned off. However, if two of their phones were unreachable at the same time, it meant that something fishy was going on.

They were filled with so much despair that they felt like crying.

Meanwhile, Lacey and Zeke were completely oblivious to it. There were still heading back leisurely on the fighter jet.

Since they were on the fighter jet, they had to turn off all electronic devices, including their phones so that they would not affect the plane's systems. Otherwise, their life would be in danger.

Lacey stared out the window with a gloomy expression.

Barring accidents, that day would be the day of Linton Group's bankruptcy.

With all those years of effort turning to waste, Lacey was filled with indescribable sadness.

When she saw Zeke hugging Nelly and telling stories to her, the gloomy feeling in her heart faded slightly.

As long as her family was safe and happy, wealth was insignificant.

After their fighter jet landed on the ground. Zeke ordered someone to send Nelly home, while he and Lacey rushed to Linton. Group.

On his way there, Zeke received a call from Nancy.

Nancy told Lacey that Daisy had brought the suppliers to Linton Group and kicked up a fuss. It was even worse than the previous day—they had destroyed everything in the office.

Afraid that the employees would be in danger, Nancy had ordered them to hide and avoid direct confrontation.

Hearing that, Lacey spat through gritted teeth, "They're too much! Nancy, go and hide first. Don't show yourself. Protecting yourself is the most important. Zeke and I are rushing over right now. Don't worry. Since she destroyed our office, I'll definitely settle the score with her."

Nancy reminded, "Lacey, you must be careful. She brought quite a few fighters with her."

"Got it."

The call ended.

Zeke's blood boiled when he saw how angry Lacey was.

D*mn it! How dare you anger my wife? I'll make you pay for it a thousand times.

When both of them arrived at Linton Group, the scene in front of them made them even angrier.

The office was smashed beyond recognition, with a few employees bleeding as well.

Some suppliers and their hatchet men were surrounding the suppliers who sided with Zeke.

There were bruises on the twin sisters' faces as if they had been hit.

Daisy yelled arrogantly, "You're the first ones who dare to become enemies with me publicly! If you are my enemy, you have to pay a huge price. Say, would you rather take your own life, or would you prefer to have me do it for you? Forget it. You should do it yourself. I don't want to dirty my hands."

The twin sisters clenched their jaws. "Ms. Daisy, don't you think you're crossing the line? This is just a normal business dispute. Is there a need for you to smash the office, beat people up, and even kill them? Have you forgotten where you are? We're in Eurasia! If you kill us, you'll be punished by the law."

Daisy smiled. "I'm sorry to inform you this, but Eurasia's laws only apply to commoners like you. My power has already transcended Eurasia's laws. Even if I kill you, I don't need to sacrifice anything at all. At the very most, I'll just have to settle it using money. That tiny sum of money is barely a day's worth of allowance for me. In other words, you are even more insignificant than a cat or a dog to me."

"Y-You're being too arrogant!" roared the twin sisters and the other suppliers furiously.

Daisy was looking down on Eurasia's laws and bullying its citizens despite being in Eurasia.

This was not only a humiliation to them but also a humiliation to Eurasia! It was unbearable!

As the lawmaker of Eurasia, Zeke was even more furious. His fury had never reached such a peak before.

He made laws to protect the citizens. However, a foreigner was now humiliating Eurasia's laws within its territories. Paying absolutely no regard to the legal system, she was harming the citizens of Eurasia so openly.

To Zeke, this sin merited a death sentence. There was no way he could tolerate it.

Zeke also wanted to know which force was backing Daisy up, such that she had enough confidence to act so arrogantly.

He must eliminate Daisy once and for all today.

When Daisy saw how the twin sisters and the other suppliers were still putting up a tough front, she lost her patience. She stretched out her hand, wanting to teach them a lesson.

Quickly, Zeke kicked a stone. It flew at such a rapid speed that it shot toward Daisy's wrist like a bullet.

Before Daisy's hand could reach the twin sisters, a loud thud sounded. Everyone was surprised to see that there was a bloody hole in Daisy's wrist. The blood spurted out like a waterfall, landing two to three meters away.

"Argh!"

Daisy was in so much pain that her eyes rolled back into their sockets. She almost fainted right on the spot.

What happened? What's going on?

Panic broke out in the crowd as they glanced around anxiously.

Finally, someone found out that Zeke was there.

"Look! It's Zeke! Zeke is back!"

"D*mn it! He must be the one who ambushed Ms. Daisy earlier."

"How dare he use a gun in Eurasia? Isn't he afraid of being punished by the law?"

Sorrow filled Zeke when he heard that.

When Daisy, a foreigner, humiliated Eurasia's laws earlier, they did not say anything at all.

Now that he, who was a citizen of Eurasia, taught the foreigner a lesson, he got criticized by his fellow citizens. This was completely ridiculous.

Daisy clutched her arm. The pain was unbearable, but it still could not conceal her fury.

"Zeke Williams, you b*stard! I'm Eurasia's distinguished guest. If you dare to treat me like this, I'll definitely make you pay the price!"

Slap!

Zeke slapped Daisy's face unhesitatingly, sending her flying backward.

Her wails of agony echoed in the hall for a long time.

Everyone was bewildered when they saw that. Is Zeke crazy? She already said that she's Eurasia's distinguished guest. Yet, he still dared to hit her! Isn't he afraid of being punished by the law?

Ignoring Daisy, Zeke bent down and helped the four suppliers who sided with him up.

"I'm sorry that I'm late. It's been tough on you. Don't worry. I'll definitely settle the score for you."

The suppliers panicked. "Mr. Williams, why don't you leave and hide for a while? We've investigated Daisy's background. She came to Eurasia as an envoy from another country, so she's a distinguished guest in Eurasia. Now that you've hit her, Eurasia won't let you off the hook so easily. Don't worry. At the very most, she'll just injure us physically. She won't make things too difficult for us."

Zeke sneered, "Hmph! Eurasia's laws will only protect distinguished guests who treat others equally and in a friendly manner. An arrogant and disdainful guest like her is nothing but a criminal in Eurasia. Eurasia's law will not protect her. In fact, they will punish her!" •

"But..." The four suppliers wanted to say something, but Zeke interrupted them, "All right. You don't have to bother about what happens next. Go back and rest. I'll seek justice for all of you today!"

Chapter 2376

Not daring to say anything else, the four suppliers had no choice but to find seats with fear in their hearts.

As Lacey immediately went forward to calm them down, Zeke shifted his gaze back to Daisy and walked toward her.

Alarmed, she gulped nervously. "W-What do you think you're doing? Stop right there! If you take another step closer, I'll call the police!"

An innocuous smile appeared on Zeke's lips. "Go ahead. I assure you I'll kill you before the police arrive."

"Such arrogance! Such insolence!"

Daisy began hurling curses at him.

"In terms of arrogance and insolence, I don't hold a candle to you," Zeke responded.

Seeing that he was about to walk right up to her, Daisy was so frightened that a chill ran down her spine. She turned to the suppliers and shouted, "Hey! Why are you just sitting there? Hurry up and stop him!" Right! Of course!

To curry favor with her, the suppliers and the fighters they brought quickly rushed at Zeke and attempted to stop him.

But as soon as they attacked, Zeke's body also moved slightly, and he disappeared from where he stood. The next moment, he appeared next to Daisy and struck her hard across her cheek in one lightning-quick motion before the others could react.

Slap!

The sound reverberated through the room, loud and crisp. The memory of it also lingered in the minds of the others for a long time.

Daisy was sent flying again, and she even slammed against the ceiling. When she landed on the floor, blood mixed with several of her sparkling white front teeth spewed forth when she opened her mouth. Daisy felt as though she was truly on the brink of a meltdown. All her life, she had been thoroughly spoiled like a princess and had never been humiliated like that.

At that moment, she desperately wished she could summon her family's bomber and blow Zeke to smithereens!

Before she had time to vent her anger, she saw him walking toward her again.

Daisy had another emotional breakdown. "Help me! Quick, save me! Stop him!"

The suppliers surged forward again to intercept Zeke.

However, they did not expect him to disappear again with a slight twist of his body. Then, he reappeared beside Daisy a split second later and sent her soaring through the air with a slap.

He struck her with more force than before, and the impact threw her body upward, causing her head to get stuck in the ceiling. Her body swayed in mid-air like a dead earthworm.

The suppliers looked at each other, stupefied.

We thought our eyes were playing tricks on us the first time he suddenly "teleported." No one expected him to do it again! What the heck is going on? How can a human move that fast? Don't tell me he's one of those superhumans we see in movies.

The four suppliers siding with Zeke were also stunned, realizing for the first time how terrifying he was.

He used to treat everyone and everything with such warmth and kindness. It's a far cry compared to how he is now.

Zeke strode over to Daisy and yanked her down from the ceiling.

She was only a weak and feeble woman. Hence, getting slapped twice by Zeke had taken a heavy toll on her, and she was barely alive.

If I get slapped again, that'll truly be the end of me.

She hurriedly pleaded, "It was my fault. Please don't hit me. I-I'll die..."

"When you hit the others, did you consider their feelings?" Zeke demanded with a menacing smile.

"I-I only slapped them twice. Now that you've hit me, why don't we call it—"

Slap!

Without waiting for her to finish her sentence, Zeke slapped her again to settle the score as promised.

"Things may be even between you and them, but it's time we settled the score between us. Don't you think you need to get a taste of your own medicine after disrupting my quality time with my family? That slap was for my wife!" Having said that, he teleported himself right next to Daisy and smacked her. "This is for my daughter, Nelly."

Chapter 2377

Then Zeke appeared before her again. "And this last slap is for me!"

The group of suppliers did not attempt to stop him anymore.

How the f*ck are we supposed to stop him? We can't even see him, so what's the point of trying to do so?

After those few blows, Daisy was truly on the verge of breathing her last.

Her face was red and swollen by then, making it a terrible sight to behold.

Even Lacey could not help wavering as she watched. She wondered whether Zeke was being overly harsh.

Then Zeke's gaze fell upon the group of suppliers and the fighters.

"It's your turn now."

For some reason, they could not stop their hearts from lurching as he fixed his gaze on them. It felt as though an enraged leopard was targeting them, ready to attack them at any second and kill them.

Nonetheless, someone soon calmed down and yelled, "Everyone, don't be afraid! He may be incredibly powerful, but we've got the upper hand because we outnumber him! Even if every one of us spat on the ground once, it'd be enough to drown him. Come on, let's charge together! I doubt we won't be able to take him down!"

Mustering all their courage, they rushed. toward Zeke.

At that time, Zeke did not dodge and faced his foes head-on.

For someone of his caliber, those charging at him were nothing more than paper tigers.

In fact, he did not even bother to make a move.

When the four suppliers supporting Zeke saw that, they subconsciously got up to go and help him.

However, the suppliers were too late. They had just gotten to their feet when Zeke was surrounded, disappearing among a sea of people.

It's over. Mr. Williams may be fast, but he's already surrounded and probably has no hope of escaping.

Just as that thought surfaced in their minds, they heard a series of dull thuds.

One by one, the men flew through the air every which way, groaning in pain after crashing onto the ground.

A closer look revealed that practically all of them were knocked unconscious, and even those who sustained the lightest injuries cut a miserable sight with their bloody noses and swollen faces.

Meanwhile, Zeke was still standing where he had stood earlier, unscathed. In fact, not a single strand of his hair was out of place. It was as though nothing had just happened!

What the hell!

Everyone's eyes widened like saucers. They could not believe the scene before them.

Those people didn't even manage to lay a finger on Zeke before they got thrown into the air simultaneously. How on earth did he do that? Apart from it being a form of "celestial magic," we can't think of another plausible explanation. Is Mr. Williams a god? What the f*ck is going on in this world? Is it still the same world we know?

One of the suppliers stared at Zeke in wideeyed disbelief and stammered, "I-if you. dare to hit us, w-we'll call the police..."

Zeke knew at one glance that the man was Dave, the supplier who had instigated the chaos. He was the one who had been the first to side with Daisy and was one of the main culprits.

Zeke did not show Dave any mercy. He kicked him hard and sent him flying backward. The latter smashed through the window and fell into the lake outside.

There was a gaping cut on Dave's stomach, exposing his intestines. Whether he ended up alive or dead would entirely depend on his fate.

Filled with rage at the group of suppliers, Zeke growled, "You scoundrels! You were born and raised in Eurasia. But in the end, you colluded with foreigners to oppress your fellow citizens and trample on our laws. You're the lowest of the low and an utter disgrace to Eurasia! I now declare that you're all banished from Eurasia and never allowed to step foot in this country again!"

The others glared at him as they fumed inwardly. Who the f*ck do you think you are? What authority do you have to strip us of our citizenship?

Even though those thoughts were running through their minds, they dared not utter them aloud.

Don't even kid about that. This guy is no pushover.

Zeke slowly walked over to Daisy and said, "All right. Now that we've settled our personal grudges, let's talk about Linton Group. You barged in here with a bunch of men to wreck my office, so how do you propose to compensate for your actions?"

Chapter 2378

Daisy breathed in deeply. The heavy weight that was bearing down on her chest did not seem so burdensome anymore.

She was thankful that the personal grudges were resolved, for her body was too weak to take another major blow.

Steadying herself against the wall, Daisy took quite an effort to get up. She glanced at Zeke and said, "All right. I can compensate for your company's losses. That will only amount to twenty million, tops. Before I compensate you, however, aren't you going to pay off the penalty fee to the suppliers first?"

Daisy then threw a look at the suppliers.

A few suppliers mustered some courage and voiced out their concerns. "Mr. Williams, you promised to pay us the penalty fee yesterday. Please honor your words."

"Yes. One's reputation is of utmost importance in business. Once it is tainted, and you display no integrity, you will not go far in business."

Zeke was calm and composed. "Don't worry. I will pay the penalty fee. Of course, I will have to reiterate my words yesterday. It depends greatly on your capabilities if you can take away the penalty fee."

The suppliers laughed.

"We have the agreement in our hands. It is our right to claim the penalty fee. Why can't we take it?"

"Do you think the penalty fee is too much and we won't be able to take that much cash with us? Don't worry. We've brought a truck over for this very purpose."

Zeke ignored the group's snide comments and snapped his fingers.

The group was puzzled by his move.

Right then, somebody in the group shouted, "Look! It's Mr. Wayne from Redwood Capital!"

Everyone turned their attention to the direction of the voice.

A slightly plump figure staggered his way into Linton Group.

He was none other than the head of the investment department of Redwood Capital, Lenard Wayne.

Lenard had been beaten up severely yesterday. Hence, he still could not walk straight and had to rely on canes as he hobbled around.

At the sight of Zeke, he shuddered in response and hurriedly averted his gaze.

Zeke had left an indelible impression on him.

Everyone was befuddled by Lenard's presence.

What's going on? Did Lenard just show up after Zeke snaps his fingers? Did Zeke summon him? Did Zeke really convince Redwood Capital to invest? Is Linton Group going to rise against the odds?

A myriad of notions fled across everyone's minds.

Lacey was exhilarated by the turn of events as she asked, "Zeke, did you really invite Mr. Wayne here?"

The four suppliers who were rooting for Zeke also cast him expectant glances.

Zeke shook his head.

Inviting him? More like instructing him to come here.

Zeke would not deign to invite a man of lower station. Then again, Lacey and the others were oblivious to his thoughts.

They assumed Zeke was denying that he had invited Lenard over.

Daisy was likewise baffled by Lenard's presence.

She cast a glance at Zeke as her heart started to beat frantically again.

D*mn it. Does Zeke know Lenard? Has Lenard been tricked by Zeke? I'm going to be d*mned if that's the case.

She endured the numbing pain all over her body and stood up to approach Lenard.

"Mr. Wayne, what brings you here?" Daisy asked respectfully.

Lenard smiled and nodded. "I'm here to look for someone."

"Oh? Who are you looking for? I might be able to help you out."

Lenard scanned the crowd and said, "Who is the person in charge of Linton Group around here?"

Daisy felt her heart almost leaping out of her chest.

She never expected him to look for the person in charge of Linton Group!

Is he really going to invest in Linton Group?

"Mr. Wayne, have you changed your mind about investing in Linton Group now that you're looking for the person in charge?" Daisy hurriedly asked.

"No, I am not investing in Linton Group," Lenard said as he shook his head.

Daisy heaved a sigh of relief at his reply.

Phew. That's good as long as he is not here to invest in Linton Group. Then... why is he here?

Chapter 2379

Is he here to help me out? Haha! Joan must have pleased him so much that he feels the need to come all the way here to Linton Group to show his support. I was right about Joan. That girl deserves a reward.

Zeke and Lacey exchanged glances, and he nodded at her.

Lacey understood his intention. Even though she knew Lenard might have come to trouble her, she chose to stand up and speak for herself.

"I am Lacey Hinton, the person in charge of Linton Group."

Lenard hurried to approach her.

Lacey was fidgeting uneasily.

Daisy and the others watched on, anticipating to see how Lenard would teach Lacey a lesson.

However, to everyone's surprise, Lenard bowed to Lacey and said, "Ms. Hinton, it is my honor to meet you. This is my name card."

With that, Lenard produced a gold name card.

The fact that Lenard presented a gold name card to Lacey baffled everyone present.

What the hell is going on? Are our eyes playing tricks on us or something?

Not only did Lenard not berate Lacey, but he even presented the latter with a gold. name card.

Only distinguished VIPs were entitled to receive a gold name card from Lenard.

Even Daisy was not eligible to receive the sought-after gold name card.

Yet, Lenard just presented Lacey with a gold name card. What was he getting at?

Even a dimwit could see that Lenard was not there to trouble Lacey at all. On the contrary, he was trying to butter up to Linton Group.

Enraged, Daisy demanded, "Mr. Wayne, what could you possibly mean by doing this?"

Lenard looked daggers at Daisy and ignored her.

She was the very woman who had caused him to offend his boss' boss, and he almost went to jail because of the wretched woman.

I'm not going to tolerate you, woman!

Lacey looked at the gold name card presented by Lenard and was pleasantly surprised. "Mr. Wayne, this is?"

Lenard said politely, "Ms. Hinton, please accept my gold name card and I'll explain further."

Lacey looked at Zeke. He nodded at her, and she carefully accepted the name card.

The heavy weight of the gold name card was telltale of its pure gold content. Lacey reckoned it must have cost a fortune.

"Ms. Hinton, we from Redwood Capital are truly impressed by your business management talent. Hence, it is our honor to appoint you as the chairperson of the board of directors of Redwood Capital. We hope you will honor us by accepting the offer," Lenard said.

Gasps of disbelief filled the crowd.

They had heard about the hiring of top management executives and assistants. However, it was their first time hearing about offers for the chairperson position.

It was even baffling considering the fact that they were appointing an outsider to be the chairperson of the board of directors.

What in the world is going on? Is Lenard toying with Lacey?

It would make more sense if Lenard was making fun of Lacey.

However, Lenard did not seem as though he was joking around.

The crowd went abuzz with heated speculations about what was going on.

Overcome with rage, Daisy shouted, "Lenard Wayne! What on earth are you doing?"

Lenard shot Daisy a vicious glare and said through gritted teeth, "We will settle our scores later."

Daisy was intimidated by Lenard's ferocious stare.

She did not understand what went wrong.

In fact, even Lacey was stumped. Zeke's heart melted when he spotted just how adorable Lacey was.

"Um... Mr. Wayne, are you kidding me? It's my first time hearing a company appointing an outsider as the chairperson. Besides, I'm afraid I'm far from being qualified for the position."

"Oh, no. Do not think too little of yourself, Ms. Hinton. You have managed to transform a small steel mill into one of the five hundred most valuable companies in the world. That speaks volumes about your capabilities. In fact, we think that you being appointed as our chairperson is not a full utilization of your potential," Lenard said.

Chapter 2380

Lacey rejected it over and over again. She was unwilling to take over the position as the chairperson of the board.

Everyone did not know how to respond to the scene before them.

The chairperson of the board of directors of Redwood Capital was everyone's dream position. Yet, one of them was crying and begging to give it away, while the other party was unfazed and voiced her rejection repeatedly.

The scene could not be more comical to them.

They so badly wanted to switch their identities with Lacey.

Meanwhile, Lenard was losing his patience when he saw how Lacey was so firm with her decision.

Finally, he pulled out his final trick.

"Okay, Ms. Hinton. What about this? You can reject the position of becoming the chairperson of the board, but you have to accept this request of mine."

Lacey asked warily, "What is it?"

"You see, Redwood Capital may look glorious on the outside, but the truth is, there are storms brewing on the inside that are causing many internal damages. Technically, the value of the company is not as great as it looks. We, Redwood Capital, have done some research and have decided to transfer fifty-one percent of our shares to Linton Group. That means Redwood Capital will anchor itself to Linton Group. We'll be wholly owned by Linton Group."

Suddenly, the crowd, including Daisy, burst into laughter.

Lenard is totally making fun of Linton Group. But he must've been holding himself back from revealing his true intentions of humiliating Linton Group. Even a fool knows his intentions by just listening to him.

Everyone knew Linton Group was about to go bankrupt. Not only did they not have the money to purchase Redwood Capital's shares, but they also had a huge debt.

Even if they were at the peak of their business, they still had to consider carefully if they had the capital to purchase Redwood Capital's shares.

Now that Linton Group was left with nothing, there was no way they could purchase the shares.

Daisy laughed so hard that tears trickled down her face. "I'm sorry, Mr. Wayne. I misunderstood you earlier. I didn't know you were standing up for me."

Lenard snapped, "Shut up. No one's standing up for you."

Daisy smiled but said nothing. Wow! I never expected Lenard to be so good at acting.

At that moment, Lacey, too, believed Lenard was making fun of her.

She said in a huff, "Mr. Wayne, we don't have any grudges against each other. Why do you have to make things difficult for Linton Group?"

Lenard explained hurriedly, "Ms. Hinton, you've misunderstood my words. Really. I don't mean to make things difficult for you and Linton Group."

"Mr. Wayne, do you really need me to spell things out? You're from the business world as well. Everyone in the industry knows Linton Group is on the verge of collapsing. We have a huge debt. How could we possibly fork out money to buy more than half of Redwood Capital's shares?"

Suddenly, Lenard smacked his head as if he had just remembered something. "Ah! I've got such a terrible memory. I can't believe I forgot about such an important thing." He took out an agreement and handed it to Lacey. "Ms. Hinton, this is the agreement for the purchase of shares. Please have a look before deciding if you want to accept it."

Daisy smiled. "Your acting skills are superb, Mr. Wayne. You're so detailed to the point of preparing an agreement."

Lenard was exasperated. What on earth? Since when am I putting on an act? Everything I said is true, you idiot! I'm going to tear you into pieces and feed you to the dogs if you keep spouting nonsense.

Lacey had no intention of browsing through the document. However, Zeke said, "Lacey, perhaps you should take a look. The fact that they've prepared an agreement shows how sincere they are."

Lacey glanced at Zeke in confusion.

She sensed something odd about his words.

What does Zeke mean? He seems to be hinting at something. This agreement is fishy.

After thinking it through, Lacey took the agreement and went through it meticulously.

Chapter 2381

The more she read, the grimmer her expression became.

After reading half of it, Lacey suddenly shuddered violently and exclaimed, "How is this possible? How on earth? This must be a typo. It must be. Mr. Wayne, please take a look. Is this a typo?"

Lenard glanced at the agreement and denied, "It's not, Ms. Hinton. How could we make a typo for such a major transaction?"

Lacey quickly called out to Zeke, "Quick, Zeke! Take a look at this. Could this be a typo? If it's not a typo... No, this is impossible!"

Hearing that, Zeke read the agreement. Sure enough, the agreement stated Lacey could use one hundred to purchase fiftyone percent of Redwood Capital's shares and become their biggest shareholder.

There was no way it could be a mistake, for that unreasonable condition was set by Zeke.

He smiled. "Lacey, I don't think this is a typo. How could Redwood Capital make such a serious typo? They must be sincere about letting you purchase Redwood Capital's shares."

Lacey went through the agreement several times. "This is too surreal. This doesn't even happen in television dramas!"

The others were lost. They did not know what was written on the agreement that could make Lacey act like that.

The twins carefully scooted to Lacey's side. "What's wrong, Ms. Hinton? Is there anything we can help with?"

Lacey handed the agreement to them. "Here. Have a look. Do you think this is real?"

As soon as they saw the content of the agreement, the twins exclaimed in unison, "Oh my goodness!"

One of them exclaimed, "One hundred to purchase fifty-one percent of Redwood Capital's shares? Only fools will believe that it's not a typo!"

The younger one said, "But Mr. Wayne of Redwood Capital has denied it just now. It's not a typo. It's real."

"Huh? Mr. Wayne, so y-you're saying it's true? She can actually buy fifty-one percent of Redwood Capital's shares with just one hundred?"

Lenard nodded seriously. "Yes, it's true. I swear it on my life."

The twins gasped. "Mr. Wayne, I'll give you one hundred. No, I'll give you one thousand to have the shares transferred to me."

Lenard smiled silently.

Meanwhile, as they were joking, Daisy was too stunned to speak.

The matter earlier was nothing compared to the shocking news she had just heard.

Only one hundred is needed to transfer the ownership of fifty-one percent of the shares? How on earth is that different from giving it away for free? Have people from Redwood Capital lost their minds? Right, only crazy people will do such a thing.

Daisy did not believe it and inquired hurriedly, "Mr. Wayne, this is fake. Please tell me this agreement is fake. Here, I-I'll tear it up for you."

With that, Daisy rushed over to snatch the agreement from Lacey.

However, Lenard was not going to let her do as she pleased.

He stopped Daisy with a cold smile on his face. "Daisy, stop causing me trouble! When are you going to give up?"

At that moment, Daisy had officially lost her temper. "Lenard, what's the meaning of this? You promised me yesterday that-"

Slap!

Lenard gave Daisy a tight slap across the face, causing her to stagger backward and stumble to the ground.

Despite that, he was not done. He stomped toward Daisy aggressively and scolded, "You b*tch! I used to be someone cautious and unpolluted by corruption. It's you who sugarcoated a trap and made me fall into it, ruining my reputation. I'm going to teach you a lesson today!"

Bam!

Lenard kicked Daisy.

"Ms. Hinton, let me tell you the truth today. It was actually Daisy who bribed me to work with her to set you up. Thankfully, I came to my senses just in time before making a major mistake. I hope you can forgive me. If you don't, I'll beat Daisy to death and kill myself to compensate for my sins," he said.

Chapter 2382

Lenard attacked more violently.

Upon hearing that, Lacey glared at Daisy. "Ms. Daisy, as the saying goes, what goes around comes around. You'll be punished one day for plotting against my company several times."

Zeke said, "Lacey, isn't this her punishment already? By the way, I think you should sign the agreement. Otherwise, Lenard's really going to beat Daisy to death. Both of them deserve to be dead, but it'll be troublesome if they die at Linton Group."

In truth, Zeke did not want Daisy dead yet.

After all, he still wanted to use her to look into her backer. He wanted to know who the person powerful enough to make her act so arrogantly was.

Worried Lenard would actually beat Daisy to death, Lacey quickly said, "Okay, Mr. Wayne. I'll sign it. I'll sign it now."

Lenard let out a sigh of relief upon hearing that. "Thank you, Ms. Hinton. Thank you so much." Lenard was really worried Zeke would kill him if he failed to convince Lacey to accept the shares.

The twins rolled their eyes in exasperation. You're giving away shares worth hundreds of billions. What are you thanking her for? What logic is this?

After Lacey signed the document, Lenard glanced at Zeke fearfully.

Zeke shot Lenard a look, signaling that he could leave.

Seeing that, Lenard quickly nodded and excused himself.

Daisy, who was in terrible shape, fixed her eyes on Lenard as he left.

She clenched her jaws and swore to herself that she would get back at him.

Zeke sat behind the office table and scanned the suppliers coldly. "All right. It's time to settle our issues. How much do I have to pay for your penalty fee? Name your prices."

The suppliers' cheeks burned as if they had been slapped.
There was instantly a pin-drop silence in the room.

Feeling rather impatient, Zeke said, "Weren't you guys in a hurry to get the penalty fee? I'm offering to pay for it now. Why are none of you speaking? Hurry up and name your price now."

The suppliers looked at each other, feeling conflicted.

Back then, it was confirmed that Linton Group was going bankrupt. Hence, they were sure that they would never be able to get a single cent from Linton Group. That was why they sided with Daisy.

They figured siding with her would give them a promising future.

Yet little did they expect Linton Group to be resurrected miraculously when they were on the verge of collapsing.

It would not take long for Linton Group to rebuild its former glory.

After all, they currently own fifty-one percent of Redwood Capital's shares, which meant Redwood Capital was Linton Group's subsidiary.

Together, they would form a powerful alliance and achieve great things.

Hence, the suppliers could not afford to mess with such a powerful organization. That included Daisy, too.

It was only when Zeke urged them again that the suppliers responded one by one.

"Mr. Williams, please don't be angry. Please hear us out."

"It was just a misunderstanding earlier. It's all Daisy's fault. Now that she's punished, do you think perhaps this misunderstanding can be resolved?"

"Of course, I admit we bear an unshirkable responsibility for this, too. We'd like to express our deepest apology, Mr. Williams. Please forgive us."

"Please give us another chance, Mr. Williams. If we work together in the future, we'll definitely give Linton Group the biggest share of the profit. Even if we don't earn a profit, we'll be grateful enough to have made friends with you, Mr. Williams."

Zeke put on a fake smile and scrutinized them. "Haha! I can't help but wonder how thick-skinned you people can be to say such things. Will you forgive me if I apologize after stabbing each one of you?"

Chapter 2383

His words made the suppliers' cheeks flush due to embarrassment.

Then again, they were business people. Naturally, they had better mental strength than others. That was how they could put aside their ego and continue begging Zeke for forgiveness.

Even so, Zeke was unfazed as he rejected them with no hesitation.

Finally, the suppliers lost their temper at Zeke.

A man with a big beard stepped forward, saying, "Zeke, stop being so unreasonable. You should learn how to live and let live."

Suddenly, Zeke clapped. "That's a nice proverb! Then again, I don't see you guys doing the same when you pushed Linton Group to the limit."

The bearded man said, "Very well, Zeke. If you want to burn all bridges, then so be it. You'll lose a huge sum of money by paying us the penalty fee. We, on the other hand, won't face any losses. In fact, we'd even earn a sum of money. This a great deal. Please pay up the penalty fee now."

With a half-smile, Zeke stared at the bearded man. "Okay. Please tell me your name."

The bearded man announced, "My name is Javon Zabinski."

Zeke took out a cheque and asked, "Okay. So, how much does Linton Group owe you?"

Javon replied, "One hundred million."

Zeke scribbled the words "one hundred million" on the cheque.

When Javon was about to reach out to take it, Zeke stopped him. "Hold on. I have something to show you."

"What is it?" Javon was perplexed.

Zeke took out a stack of documents from the drawer and slammed them on the table. Javon eyed Zeke suspiciously. "What's this? Are you trying to use a stack of useless stuff to scare me? Do you really think that'll work?"

Zeke answered flatly, "Why don't you take a look? We'll see if it works or not."

Javon picked up the documents and glanced through them. His face reddened in an instant.

He fumbled through the large stack of documents, looking flustered to the max. "Sh*t! This is my company's account! How dare you steal them? T-This is against the law. I'm going to call the police!"

Zeke responded, "Oh, you don't have to go through that trouble. I've already called them for you. You're a bold one, Javon. You actually made fake accounts to evade last year's taxes that are worth one hundred million. According to the law, you'll have to pay up to eight hundred million if this is discovered. On top of that, you'll have to be imprisoned for one and a half years."

"You jerk! B*stard!" Javon grabbed the documents and burned them. "Hmph, they're all burned now. You have no more evidence. I'm going to sue you for defamation."

Zeke shook his head, sighing. "I must've overestimated your IQ. Do you really think I'll show you the original documents? They're copies. I've given the original ones to the tax administration."

"Y-You..." Javon breathed rapidly from the rage surging within him.

Right then, the sound of a police siren could be heard from the outside.

Everyone looked in the direction of the sound and saw a police car speeding over. The words "tax inspector" were written clearly on it.

The crowd did not even have to think to know that the officers were coming for Javon.

His cheeks flushed with panic, and naturally, his first reaction was to flee.

However, Zeke had already predicted his moves.

Zeke released an Ammo Needle, sending it onto Javon's knee.

His leg went numb, and he could no longer move.

He crashed to the ground heavily, causing one of his teeth to break upon impact.

The tax inspector stepped in and scanned the scene, demanding, "Who's Javon Zabinski, the legal representative of Javon's Cultural Development Corporation?"

Everyone shifted their gazes onto Javon, looking confused.

Chapter 2384

What's up with Javon? Shouldn't he be running away right now? He should return to the company, clean the accounts, and remove all evidence. Why isn't he running away? Could his legs have gone weak from the shock? Such a coward.

At that thought, the crowd's expression changed gradually. If there was something wrong with the accounts of Javon's company, then theirs would have the same problem, too.

If Zeke has a copy of our accounts...

Immediately, everyone's faces paled.

Somebody tried to sneak away before they were found out.

Unfortunately, a row of security guards suddenly showed up at the door and stopped them in their tracks.

They would be in deep trouble if they attracted the tax inspector's attention by trying to leave. They could not afford to alert him unnecessarily.

Hence, they quickly pulled out their phones to give their secretaries a call to make changes to the accounts.

Alas, only after they took out their phones did they realize there was no signal.

What the hell? How could a bustling district like this have no signal? There can only be one answer to this. Someone must've installed a signal jammer. It must be Zeke's doing to prevent us from secretly contacting our employees. That's why he purposely jammed our signals.

It was at that moment that they realized they were in deep trouble.

The person filled with most despair was Javon.

He could not understand how his perfectly healthy leg suddenly stopped moving no matter how hard he tried to move it.

Another tax inspector shouted, "Who is Javon Zabinski of Javon's Cultural Development Corporation?"

Zeke smiled faintly. "Officers, that's him. He wanted to run away earlier, but I stopped him."

The two officers flashed Zeke a polite smile. "Thank you."

They helped Javon up. His leg was too numb that he could not stand.

One of the tax inspectors questioned coldly, "Javon, do you know why we are here for you?"

Javon feigned confusion. "Huh? I-I don't know. I've always abided by the law. You must've made a mistake."

The tax inspector scoffed, "We've gone through your company's accounts and found that you've created tons of fake bills to evade tax. You've really got some balls to do so."

Javon gritted his teeth, denying, "This is a mistake. I've been framed. How could I possibly evade tax? Someone must've set-" The tax inspectors ignored his explanation and took him away by force.

Once again, everyone at the scene was puzzled.

They had thought that Zeke had invited the tax collectors to check their taxes.

To their surprise, they just left with Javon.

Thus, they figured Zeke did not go through their accounts and had no evidence against them.

With that thought in mind, they heaved a sigh of relief.

Zeke said, "Okay. Next."

The suppliers exchanged glances. There was a long silence; no one dared to be the first.

Shortly after, a skinny man stood up. "I'll go."

Zeke glanced at him coldly. "Your name?"

The skinny man answered, "Martin Morales. My friends call me Mr. Morales."

"Do you know with you telling me that I can eliminate every generation from your family?"

Martin sneered, "Oh, really? I'm so scared."

Zeke snorted and pulled out a stack of documents, flipping through them.

Martin smiled with disdain. "Zeke, if you're trying to get me into trouble by going through my taxes, I think you should give up on that idea. My brother-in-law works in the tax department. Even if there's something wrong with my taxes, he'll help me deal with it."

"You're overthinking it. You've committed too many crimes. Punishing you just for evading taxes is too easy for you."

Martin asked curiously, "Oh? What other tricks do you have, then?"

Chapter 2385

Zeke said, "You know, I don't even wanna make a move against you myself lest I get my hands dirty. Someone's going to deal with you later."

Martin snickered. "Don't you think you're overestimating yourself, Zeke? I may not be a big shot, but I have a deep-rooted history in this land. You want to deal with me without making a move yourself? I'm afraid that'll only happen when pigs start to fly."

The other suppliers broke into laughter.

When he finished his words, the lighting in the hall dimmed.

"Someone's at the door," someone said.

"Who's that?"

Everyone turned to look at the door.

Immediately, a burly figure came into view. He had blocked off most of the sunlight, causing the hall to darken.

It did not take long for someone to recognize the newcomer. "It's Mr. Tavian!"

True enough, the newcomer was the current head of Redwood Capital, the Tavvy Zeke had been talking about, and the Mr. Tavian the crowd referred to.

As soon as Tavian's arrival was announced, the atmosphere at the scene reached a climax.

Everyone knew who Tavian was.

When Tavian was rising as one of the young talents in the industry, he could wipe out the entire underworld with ruthless means, winning battles after battles by using few men.

After conquering the underworld, Tavian did not use their powers to cause trouble and become a ruler. Instead, he dismissed all of them.

He also created many job opportunities for those involved in the underworld to make sure they had an income.

In fact, it was all thanks to Tavian that almost half of the bosses in the hall could achieve their current success.

In their eyes, Tavian was like a god, a savior sent from the heavens.

Hence, they feared and respected him.

Seeing Tavian, they quickly rushed forward and surrounded him.

"Mr. Tavian, sorry for our lack of hospitality."

"Please have a seat, Mr. Tavian. You haven't eaten, haven't you? We'll set up a few tables to treat you to a meal later."

"May I know what the purpose of your visit is today? Perhaps you can let us know, and we'll settle it for you."

Tavian was feeling utterly annoyed.

Oh, my goodness. You fools are ignoring Zeke, but you're being so hospitable and respectful toward me. Are you guys trying to get me killed? How can I receive such treatments when Zeke is right in front of me?

Tavian yelled, "Get lost, all of you!"

His words left the crowd stunned, and they hurriedly distanced themselves from him.

They could not understand why Tavian was so fierce toward them. Were we not hospitable enough?

Tavian trotted toward Zeke, and his subsequent action made the people's jaws drop.

He slowly bent over and greeted, "I hope I'm not too late, Zeke."

Zeke nodded. "You're not."

Everyone was mind blown.

What on earth? What is happening? Mr. Tavian should be someone high and mighty, and his status is unmovable. Why is he bowing before him so humbly? He's treating him with so much respect. Even more so than how we treat Mr. Tavian. Who on earth is this Zeke? How is he making Mr. Tavian treat him like that?

Some cowardly ones fainted from fear, while those who were quick-witted wanted to sneak away. Unfortunately, they were stopped by the security guards.

In the end, they had no choice but to take out some money to bribe the security guards.

Much to their surprise, the security guard shouted, "Such shameless people! How dare you guys bribe me?"

His booming voice immediately attracted everyone's attention, including Zeke's and Tavian's.

Zeke's and Tavian's gazes alone were so terrifying that someone in the crowd collapsed to the ground, vomiting bile and twitching.

Chapter 2386

Zeke glanced at Tavian. "Let's begin. I can't waste any more time."

"Okay," Tavian responded briefly.

Everyone felt as though their hearts were about to leap out of their chests. After all, even a fool knew what Zeke meant when he said that.

Clearly, it was time to begin judging them.

Tavian eyed Martin, saying, "You're impressive, Martin. I heard you shouting at Zeke when I was standing outside. The nerve of you to speak to Zeke like that."

Martin was so frightened that his legs went weak and he fell to his knees. "I'm sorry, Mr. Tavian. I was wrong. I'll punish myself as an apology to Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams, please be merciful and forgive me. I really had no idea you were acquainted with Mr. Tavian."

Tavian snorted. "It's too late to regret your actions. You should've known." Martin continued pleading.

Unfazed, Tavian said coldly, "Martin, you bribed a leader of the housing bureau and won a government project. After that, you turned it into a jerry-built building that cost about eight people's lives. During the police investigation, you bribed another public officer to get yourself out of trouble. Surely you still remember this incident?"

Martin's mind went blank.

Sh*t! Sh*t! Sh*t! How did Mr. Tavian find out about this? I made sure all of that was done carefully. No one except those who were involved knew about it. Just exactly how powerful is Mr. Tavian? How is he able to get so much information?

That crime itself was enough to destroy his entire life.

Martin was so terrified that he did not dare to look Tavian in the eye. With a trembling voice, the former said, "Mr. Tavian, y-you must be joking. How could it be real? I wouldn't do such a thing even if I had the guts to."

"Oh, really? Looks like you refuse to admit, eh?" Tavian smirked. "Come in."

A large group of people suddenly rushed in.

Hearing the commotion, everyone shifted their attention to the entrance.

Martin was devastated the second he saw who the newcomers were.

They were the family members of the victims of the jerry-built building incident.

As soon as they entered, they started scolding Martin.

"Martin, you're a murderer!"

"Sir, you've got to seek justice for us. Back then, this person sent our family members to their deaths just for money."

"He's a criminal! Every cent he earns is stained with innocent people's blood."

"Martin, I want you to pay for all the sins you've committed!"

Martin did not hear what the others said after that because he was too overwhelmed. His ears were buzzing, and he was feeling dizzy.

Tavian snorted and took out a stack of documents. "Kamden Wyatt, get your ass out here."

A grey-haired man stepped out tremblingly. "Mr. Tavian, I-"

Tavian cut him off, "Kamden, do you still need me to announce your crimes?"

Tears started flowing down Kamden's cheeks. "Mr. Tavian, I'm wrongly accused. I've been innocent all my life. I've never done anything wrong. You-"

Tavian laughed aloud. "Very well, you old geezer. Looks like you're more thickskinned than Martin here. How dare you call yourself innocent? Are you not going to tell us about how you were determined to kill someone back then? During the construction project of Heavenly Sound Hotel, you pushed one collaborator off the stairs to get his project fund. You even forged evidence to make it an accident when, in fact, you murdered someone. That's worse than Martin's actions."

Kamden paled instantly.

How did Mr. Tavian find out about such things? This is crazy!

Tavian continued shouting, "Samson Lane, come out and receive your punishment! Rocco Walsh, let's talk about your crimes."

Chapter 2387

Within half an hour, Tavian had announced everyone's crimes.

All of their crimes were severe enough to be given the death penalty.

Silence ensued, and fear filled everyone's hearts.

None of them knew what was awaiting them.

Tavian gave Zeke a cautious glance and said, "Zeke, how should we deal with them? Please advise, and I'll do everything you say."

Zeke scanned the crowd coldly. "This group of men deserves to die!"

The words "deserve to die" were like a deafening thunder that rang in everyone's ears.

They were currently at the peak of their lives. Unwilling to die just like that, they glanced at Daisy pleadingly. "Ms. Daisy, please help us."

"You promised we'll have a glorious and wealthy life. We don't want it now. We just want our lives to be spared."

With the final ounce of energy in her, Daisy gazed at Tavian. "I-I don't care who you are, but this is between me and Zeke. You'd better not get involved. Otherwise, you won't be able to handle it once my backers take revenge on my behalf."

Things were better when Daisy kept quiet because the words that left her mouth were like fuel to Tavian's anger.

He strode toward Daisy, who panicked upon seeing his actions. "Stop! Stop there! WWhat are you trying to do?"

She could not endure another beating from a burly man.

Tavian hissed, "You must be the culprit, right? How dare you mess with Zeke? You must be tired of living."

With that, Tavian threw her two punches, one on her stomach and one on her face.

Daisy's wails of agony echoed in the hall for a long time.

She felt utterly miserable. Back then, she had been given special treatment thanks to her looks. There were even large groups of men who were willing to follow her like simps.

That day, however, she was beaten up by Zeke, Lenard, and even Tavian.

It was as if she was receiving all the beatings she deserved in her lifetime.

Tavian did not stop until he was done venting his anger.

At that point, Daisy was no longer moving. No one knew if she was dead or had passed out.

All the suppliers felt incredibly hopeless.

We're screwed. We're doomed. There's no way Daisy can help us now. All we can do now is beg Zeke to go easy on us. They kneeled before Zeke and implored.

"Mr. Williams, we know what we've done wrong. Please forgive us."

"We're willing to do anything you ask in the future."

Zeke, however, said coldly, "I can forgive you, but Eurasia can't."

Someone suddenly said, "Mr. Williams, you mentioned earlier that we don't deserve to be Eurasians. What if we flee the country? That way, we don't have to endure Eurasia's punishments, right?"

"Mr. Williams, we're willing to leave the country."

"That's right. We're willing to leave Eurasia. "

"Please, Mr. Williams. Don't be so ruthless. Please give us another chance."

Zeke pondered for a while and nodded. "Okay, I shall grant your request."

Hearing that, everyone heaved sighs of relief. Yet, they were not happy about it.

Although their lives were spared, everything they owned in Eurasia would practically be nonexistent once they left the country.

That included their properties, connections, and even their identity.

Moreover, they had no connections in other countries. They would be nobodies at the country's borders.

Zeke turned to the four suppliers, who took his side, saying, "Thank you for your continuous support. We, Linton Group, will rebuild our former glory. Without these suppliers, I'm afraid we'll have many unattended orders. If you don't mind, I hope all four of you could take over them."

The four suppliers were so happy that they teared up.

After all, their companies would definitely increase in their scale if they were to take over the orders from the other suppliers.

Chapter 2388

However, their companies were not that capable of handling all of that at the moment.

Hence, the twins voiced their concerns.

Zeke answered, "That's not a problem. Redwood Capital is currently Linton Group's subsidiary. If your companies lack facilities, then spend some money on expanding them. Redwood Capital will provide you with the funds for free. After all, Redwood Capital's existence is to support local

businesses. Your companies are Eurasia's honorable corporations. It's only right for us to give you our support."

The four suppliers were on the verge of tears, for they were incredibly touched by Zeke's offer. A great offer like that was totally unheard of.

It was at that moment that they realized they had made the right decision to side with Zeke.

Meanwhile, the other suppliers' eyes reddened, their hearts filled with envy.

If only we had sided with Zeke from the very beginning... We could definitely rise to the peak of our lives and make everyone envious of us.

Unfortunately, there was no turning back.

Filled with utter remorse, they walked away dejectedly.

At the same time, Daisy, who had been pretending to be dizzy, slipped into the crowd and walked away.

Tavian wanted to stop her when Zeke said, "Don't stop her. Let her go."

Tavian said, "Zeke, that woman is a jinx. If we don't deal with her, she'll definitely return and cause you trouble."

"Well, that's only if she has the guts to do so. Then again, I need her alive to find out who's her backer. I want to know who is powerful enough to give her so much courage to show off."

"I see," Tavian responded, finally understanding Zeke's intentions.

When everyone was gone, Zeke walked over to the victims' families and said, "We're truly sorry about what happened to your family members. It's our fault for causing such misfortune to your families. As an apology, we'd like to give you all of their properties."

Now that the suppliers had left Eurasia, their properties would no longer belong to them. Hence, Zeke was free to deal with the properties however he wanted.

One of the victim's family members said, "We don't need the money. We just want the culprits to pay for their sins. They killed my family. I want them to pay with their lives."

Zeke assured, "Don't worry. They may have left Eurasia, but they committed those crimes when they were still in Eurasia. Hence, they still have to be punished according to Eurasia's law. I take Eurasia's law seriously. I'll never spare those who break the laws."

The family members asked in puzzlement, "Didn't you let them go already?"

Zeke shook his head. "Of course not. I'm just allowing them more latitude first to keep a tighter rein on them afterward. Based on what I know, this group of men have already prepared a backup plan for themselves and have hidden a large sum of money abroad. If this money isn't brought back to Eurasia, our country will face a massive loss. Hence, I purposely let them return to look for their fortune. After that, I'll send some men to retrieve them. They'll then be charged for privately transferring their wealth, which will be enough to get them imprisoned for life."

The crowd finally came to an understanding. "I see. Thank you, Mr. Williams."

Zeke instructed Tavian, "Tavvy, I'm counting on you. Failure is not an option for this."

Tavian grew emotional to the point of tears.

It was impossible not to get emotional. After all, it was his first time receiving an order from the Great Marshal after so many years.

Tavian quickly gave Zeke a proper military salute. "Yes, Sir!"

With that, he transformed into a puff of smoke and disappeared.

Zeke approached Lacey, saying, "Lacey, I'm afraid you're going to be rather busy in the future."

Lacey studied him with a fiery gaze. "Tell me, Zeke. What's your relationship with Redwood Capital?"

"Why do you ask?"

Chapter 2389

"Stop acting. If you have nothing to do with Redwood Capital, how could they possibly give their shares to us just like that? Not to mention Redwood Capital wants me to be the chairperson of the board because they value my managerial competency. Only fools will believe such things."

Nancy said, "Lacey, don't you know? Apparently, the boss of Redwood Capital is Mr. Tavian. Since Mr. Tavian respects Zeke, it's only right for him to give us the company."

Lacey shook her head fervently. "Nancy, there's a saying where accounts should be settled, even among brothers. Even if Mr. Tavian treats Zeke with respect, there's no reason for him to give us Redwood Capital. It's a large sum of money, you know?"

Nancy fell into deep thought and nodded. "Hmm... You're right."

If Tavian were still around, he would be begging for mercy upon hearing Lacey addressing him as Mr. Tavian. After all, she was the wife of the Great Marshal. It was technically unreasonable for her to address Tavian so respectfully.

Lacey and Nancy shifted their gazes to Zeke.

The latter smiled and explained, "It's nothing complicated, really. To tell you the truth, Redwood Capital is made known to the public as a private business when, in truth, they're a state-owned enterprise. It's a public welfare organization that's funded by Eurasia to support local businesses. Since it's a state-owned public welfare organization, I naturally have authority over it. Back then, the people in charge of Redwood Capital were Grayson and Lenard. However, they are greedy people who only pursued profits. In the end, they turned Redwood Capital into a shady company, which was the total opposite of the organization's original intention. I've already investigated and dealt with them according to the law. And now, Redwood Capital needs a righteous leader. I can't trust the others yet, so I can only let you manage it. Lacey, I believe you'll lead Redwood Capital to a great future."

Lacey and Nancy were convinced by his words, and they nodded.

Lacey assured, "I see. Don't worry, Zeke. I'll definitely help Redwood Capital to unleash its potential as a public welfare organization. Every cent will be used to support local enterprises. Once Linton Group has returned to its former glory, I'll invest regularly in Redwood Capital to expand its scale and influence."

Zeke patted her shoulder. "I knew I made the right decision for making you the person in charge of Redwood Capital."

Meanwhile, Daisy had gotten into her car.

Wasting no time, she called her backer, Jared Mitxel.

Jared was the current head of Mitxel Group. He was the one who had ordered Daisy to purchase Linton Group.

At the same time, Daisy was his assistant before establishing Eminent Group.

Very soon, the call went through. Daisy said meekly, "Mr. Mitxel, t-there has been some change in plans. We failed."

Upon hearing that, Jared flew into a rage and scolded, "Useless! Trash! What's the point of supporting you when you can't even deal with a company that's on the verge of collapsing?"

With great caution, Daisy explained, "Mr. Mitxel, t-this isn't entirely my fault. We were about to succeed, but there was a sudden turn of events."

Jared suppressed his anger and questioned, "A sudden turn of events? What do you mean?"

Daisy explained everything to Jared.

After hearing that, he voiced his doubts. "That's impossible. How can that be? I know the head of Redwood Capital. It's Grayson. Baxter. He's a stubborn, heartless, and selfish man. All he pursues is profit. He'll never give such a big company to Linton Group just like that."

Daisy said, "But they've already signed the agreement. Redwood Capital is now a subsidiary of Linton Group."

Jared said, "I'll give Grayson a call to ask about the situation. I'm going to teach you a lesson if I find out you're lying to me."

Chapter 2390

Daisy mumbled, "I wouldn't dare to."

After finishing the call with Daisy, Jared immediately phoned the person who was previously in charge of Redwood Capital, Grayson.

The call only went through after he dialed a few times.

Jared asked impatiently, "Gray, are you busy? What took you so long to answer the phone?"

Grayson sounded despondent. "Oh, nothing much. Mr. Jared, is there anything I can help you with?"

Jared quickly said, "There's something I need to ask you. Redwood Capital was doing fine. Why has it been gifted to Linton Group all of a sudden?"

It was then Grayson became nervous. "Why are you asking?"

"Oh, nothing. It's just out of curiosity," replied Jared.

"Don't worry about it. If there's nothing else, I'll hang up now."

Whoa! Wait a minute.

Jared stopped Grayson from ending their call. "Gray, to be honest with you, I'm quite concerned about this matter. Please answer my question."

Grayson tried to dissuade him. "Mr. Jared, if this doesn't affect your interests too much. I suggest you stay out of it before you get hurt."

To that, Jared responded, "Honestly, Gray, this affects me greatly."

Grayson inhaled sharply before saying, "Mr. Jared, please don't tell me you are the mastermind behind the series of unjust competitions against Linton Group all the while."

Jared agreed with his silence.

Grayson smiled bitterly. You're finished. Jared. You're done for. In fact, the entire Mitxel family will get into trouble.

"Jared, let me give you a word of advice. Stop going against Linton Group. You are no match for Zeke Williams."

Why?

"Judging from your tone, I suppose he must have forced you to hand Redwood Capital over to him," said Jared.

Grayson sighed. "To be honest with you, I'm not the actual boss of Redwood Capital. It's my brother. But my brother is nothing in front of Zeke."

Jared retorted, "Even if that's the case, there's nothing so great about Zeke. Likewise, I can say the same about your brother."

"You're wrong. Zeke is way more powerful than you think. Even ten Mitxel families will mean nothing to him."

How is that possible?

Jared was in shock. "Mitxel Group is an international organization that-"

Beep! Beep! Beep!

Before Jared could finish his sentence, the phone had been cut off.

In truth, it was not Grayson who ended the call. It was someone who was standing next to him.

The tall, imposing man was wearing his uniform, and there was a logo of a wolf on it.

That was the logo of Cygnus Room.

The tall, burly man was from Cygnus Room. Right now, he was in charge of interrogating Grayson.

Earlier on, Zeke had handed Grayson over to the authorities. However, the authorities found out that Grayson might have some illicit connections with foreign countries.

That would be out of the authorities' jurisdiction. As such, they consulted Zeke, so Zeke decided to get the members of Cygnus Room to handle Grayson.

After that, Grayson discovered Zeke's identity as the Great Marshal. That was why he said that ten Mitxel families would be no match for Zeke.

The staff of Cygnus Room took a look at the phone and asked, "Was that the boss of Mitxel Group on the phone just now?"

Grayson nodded. "Yes."

He did not deny it because the Cygnus Room staff had ordered him to turn on the speaker. They could hear their entire conversation.