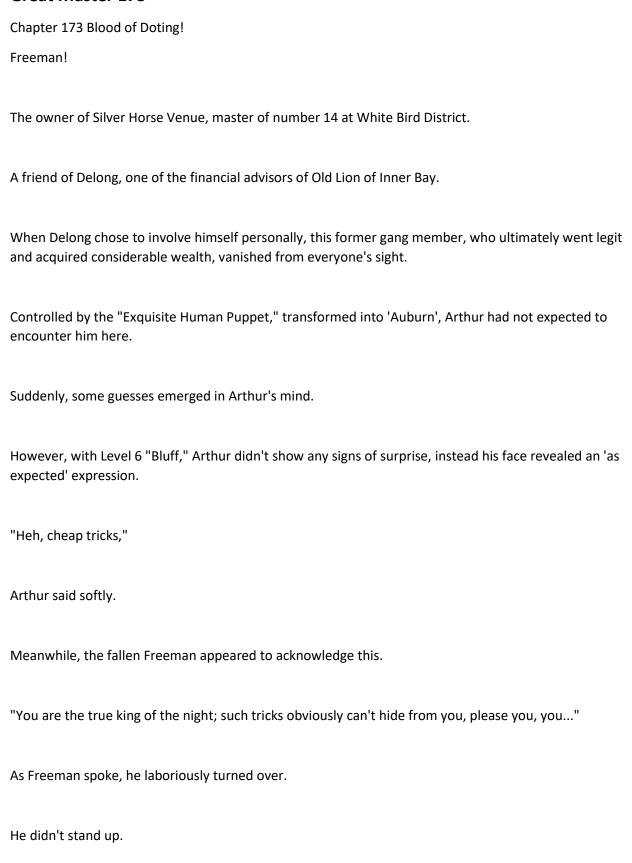
## **Great Master 173**



Instead, he chose to crawl on the ground, raising both hands holding a ring high over his head, presenting it in front of Arthur.

This was an ancient silver ring, unadorned with any form of decoration, engraving, or script—Arthur immediately recognized that this ring, filled with a familiar style, was made by the hand of the Blood Marchioness.

Instantly, a trace of nostalgia and remembrance surfaced on Auburn's face, even his crimson eyes softened at that moment.

The secretive Freeman, observing 'Auburn,' immediately lost any hesitation upon seeing this expression.

"According to the contract, I bring back the legacy originally belonging to the 'Bloodline Clan' to you, and you shall restore my youth—when you take this ring, it will signify your willingness to swear by the honor of the 'Bloodline Clan', to adhere to this contract!"

## Contract!

Upon hearing this term, Lady of the Long Night's gaze instantly turned towards Auburn, who was controlled by Arthur.

Freeman also raised his head, his visage slackened and wrinkled by the years, his hair graying, but in that moment, his eyes were filled with fervor.

Arthur sneered inwardly.

He had guessed as much just moments before.

Without a doubt, the current Freeman was merely a pawn, one that had been placed from the start—stepped up a rank, to be used at a critical moment.

Like now!
When the other party aimed to retrieve the 'complete cheque' and unexpectedly encountered the 'Bloodline Clan', it was time for this pawn to be activated.
Who was the other party?
The answer was self-evident.
Naturally, it was that traditional member of the 'Death Poetry Society', who continuously provoked conflicts and orchestrated deaths.
Arthur was already somewhat admiring this old 'Death Poetry Society' member, how long he had lurked in South Los to bewitch so many people.
And for what purpose, to be able to lurk in South Los for so long?
Merely to admire death?
This was a bit excessive!
In fact, if it weren't for Freeman's words like 'He actually betrayed the 'Bloodline Clan'', 'Has he forgotten who gave him everything?' which could damage Spirit Medium's status and reputation, he wouldn't have bothered to appear—since Freeman performed well enough, seeming even more like a 'Blood Descendant' than he did.
However, unfortunately, that old 'Death Poetry Society' member did not wish for this.
The other party was digging deeper.

The other party still wanted to figure out his exact role in the 'complete cheque' incident and whether the 'Blood Descendants' actually appeared.
And also, the relationship between the 'Blood Descendants' and him.
If not for the "Exquisite Human Puppet," it was highly likely that something about him would have been exposed—the 'Death Poetry Society' bastard had everything planned out.
The strength of the 'Blood Marquis' was undeniable, as was the wealth of the 'Blood Marquis'.
Equally indisputable were the strict rules set by the 'Blood Marquis' for the 'Bloodline Clan'.
The most famous included 'no fratricide', 'no abandoning of bloodline', and 'no forsaking of family ancestors' legacy'.
Simply put, upon making an appearance, he had already stepped into the overt plot of that old 'Death Poetry Society' member.
Not taking the ring would arouse suspicion.
By taking the ring, he would have to fulfill the contract.
Regarding 'my capabilities are insufficient, I cannot fulfill this type of contract loophole now'?
The other party would definitively remedy that to ensure the fulfillment of this contract.
Like
The ring right before his eyes!

Arthur took a subtle breath, now clearly understanding the other party's plan, yet the other party did not understand his state.
"Exquisite Human Puppet"!
That was where the other party miscalculated!
The opponent was unable to accurately predict what he would encounter.
Nor could anyone imagine that he would get hold of such a thing as an "Exquisite Human Puppet"—in fact, without the "Exquisite Human Puppet," he wouldn't have come at all.
Why not leave everything to his dear partner Marinda?
And now?
Arthur didn't hesitate, but it was only after temporarily disengaging from direct control over the "Exquisite Human Puppet" that he commanded it to pick up the ring and wear it on the index finger of the left hand.
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"Exquisite Human Puppet" that he commanded it to pick up the ring and wear it on the index finger of the left hand.  In the sight of Lady of the Long Night and Freeman—

Whew!

The Blood Descendant wore the ring on the index finger of his left hand with a soft, murmured chant.
The entire process lacked any hesitation.
Lady of the Long Night was surprised at the decisiveness of the "Blood Descendant."
Afterward, the lady thought of something and her eyes narrowed slightly.
Freeman's breathing began to quicken, his entire body trembling with excitement!
Fifteen years!
A full fifteen years!
He had done so much!
Supporting a worthless James, willingly becoming the Old Lion of Inner Bay's spy, enduring pain as if his flesh were being cut every day—all for this moment, wasn't it?
To return to youth, no longer tormented by illness!
He had waited far too long!
Now, it was finally about to come true!
Looking at an excited Freeman, and making sure there was no danger, Arthur, who was again controlling the "Exquisite Human Puppet," directed his attention to the ring on his finger—
[Name: Blood of Doting]

[Type: Ring]

[Quality: Hero]

[Attributes: 1, Child of Blood; 2, contract]

[Requirement: Complete contract]

[Remarks: When they discovered their son was a commoner but still did not give up and strove to rise, the Blood Marquis and Marchioness felt relieved. However, during a banquet, their son was 'insulted' by his fiancée. As parents, the Blood Marquis and Marchioness hunted down and killed all members of that family that night, and crafted this ring from the corpses of the entire family along with a fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm and 3,000 kilograms of Blood Extraction Grass. Inside the ring, they inscribed their blessing for their son—even if you cannot display all the characteristics of the 'Bloodline Clan,' we will still give you everything.]

...

[Child of Blood: When you wear this ring, it continuously consumes the fresh blood in your body to feed the fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm which, in return, blesses you with power, making you as if one of the purest Bloodline Clan, not only being able to turn into mist, harness the power of frost, possess a robust physique, but also control half-finished Blood Brides, Bloody Warriors, and complete Blood Slaves, Blood Gladiators using your own blood.]

[Contract: Upon Freeman being the second person to pick up 'Blood of Doting,' an additional contract etched on the ring must be undertaken. One must use it once to create a Blood Slave or Blood Gladiator in order to complete the contract and normally use other powers. If one violates the contract, they will suffer a 'Death Curse,' and under the constraint of the contract, Freeman himself can only use a very limited part of its power.]

(Remark 1: Blood Brides, Bloody Warriors must strictly adhere to cultivation conditions to control at a critical step.)

(Remark 2: Controlled Blood Brides, Bloody Warriors are extremely unstable; when the fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm is affected, it will self-destruct.)
(Remark 3: The creation of Blood Slaves, Blood Gladiators can use a large amount of one's own blood, utilizing the abilities of the fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm.)
(Remark 4: When excessive bloodflow occurs inside the body, the fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm will accelerate its absorption speed.)
(Remark 5: When the wearer dies, the fragmentary Bloodsucking Ancestor Worm will consume the wearer's corpse.)
(Remark 6: After the contract is completed, the contract trait disappears.)
<b></b>
'Just as I thought!'
Just as he had anticipated, that veteran member of the Death Poetry Society had plugged the loophole here.
At the same time, he had used the "Blood of Doting" to begin a new plan—
Whether to complete the contract, converting Freeman.
Without converting, he could not use this ring and would suffer a 'Death Curse.'
By converting, the other party could determine the role his true self, Arthur, was playing based on the substantial blood loss.

Moreover, they could even take advantage of his weakened state due to major blood loss after converting Freeman to carry out an assassination.

Just as before, that veteran member of the Death Poetry Society once again left anyone who stepped into his trap in a dilemma—Arthur could distinctly feel that the opponent quite enjoyed torturing his adversaries.

Even now, the opponent might be nearby, closely watching this drama unfold, and already sporting that satisfied and deranged smile.

'What a vile fellow!'

Arthur inwardly criticized, but he was not afraid.

Present was Auburn, the "Blood Descendant," what did that have to do with him, a "Spirit Medium?"

Moreover, since you want to watch the drama, then—

You'd better watch carefully!