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Chapter 202 202: Elder Qin

The crowd grew restless, their anger fueling their determination. "We cannot let this slide!" a cultivator shouted, his fists clenched. "We must show them that the people of the Three Kingdoms won't be trampled upon."

As the discussions continued among the cultivators, a ripple of excitement spread through the crowd. A group of cultivators approached, adorned in distinct robes that marked them as members of a well-known group in the Eternal City. Their leader, a seasoned cultivator with a strong aura, stepped forward.

"We have heard of the attack on the Phoenix Blades," he proclaimed, his voice commanding attention. "Our sect extends our condolences and offers our help to Alix and his group. We stand united against any threats to the safety and harmony of the Eternal City."

The crowd murmured with approval, impressed by the group's swift response and willingness to aid Alix. The group's reputation for fairness and strength had earned them respect throughout the city.

Before the atmosphere could settle, another group stepped forward, representing a different martial group renowned for their skilled archers. Their leader spoke with a fierce determination in his eyes, "The Dark Moon Clan's actions cannot go unpunished. We pledge our arrows and skills to Alix's cause. Let justice prevail!"

The show of support continued as various groups, clans, and lone cultivators approached Alix's group base, eager to offer their assistance. Some came with resources, while others offered their expertise in tracking, espionage, or battle formations. Even cultivators from distant regions who had heard of Alix's heroic deeds arrived, eager to lend a hand.

Alix stood in awe, humbled and moved by the outpouring of support. He had always strived to just help people in need, but he never imagined the extent to which he had touched the hearts of others. His reputation as a kind and just cultivator had spread far and wide, and it seemed that his actions had earned him a legion of admirers. Grateful and overwhelmed, Alix addressed the crowd, his voice steady with emotion. "I am deeply touched by your kindness and support," he said. "Your willingness to stand beside us in this challenging time means the world to me and my comrades."

The crowd erupted in cheers and applause, their admiration for Alix soaring even higher. They saw him not only as a powerful cultivator but also as a symbol of hope and unity in the face of adversity. Together, they formed a united front, and under Alix's leadership.

Alix's popularity in the Eternal City reached new heights, becoming a legend in the making. His name was spoken with reverence, and tales of his heroic deeds inspired cultivators young and old. The once modest base of Alix's group now stood as a bastion of unity and hope for all who sought justice and harmony.

In the midst of the crowd's cheers and celebrations, Alix's five vice-captains—Eryx, Nox, Kato, Jin, and Zam—stood by his side, looking at their leader with immense pride. These vice-captains were not just subordinates; they were like family to Alix, together in the same village. They were like uncles and big brothers to him, always there to support and guide him through life's challenges.

Seeing the genuine admiration and love in his vice-captains' eyes, Alix felt a surge of gratitude. He turned to them, a smile on his face, and said, "Thank you all for being with me, not just today, but every step of the way. Your support and loyalty mean everything to me."

Zam, the stalwart and disciplined vice-captain, nodded solemnly. "You've always been a beacon of hope and justice, Alix. It's an honor to fight alongside you and protect the people of the Eternal City."

Eryx, the calm and strategic vice-captain, added, "We may be your vice-captains, but you have always treated us like equals, valuing our opinions and trusting our decisions. It's what makes us a strong team."

Nox, the cheerful and spirited vice-captain, grinned widely. "Haha! We're like the five elements, different but essential together! With you leading the way, we can take on anything!"

Jin, the wise and insightful vice-captain, spoke in a measured tone, "Your ability to inspire others is truly remarkable, Alix. These people gathering here today are a testament to the impact you've had on their lives."

Kato, the loyal and fierce vice-captain, crossed his arms and said, "We've seen you grow from a determined young cultivator to the respected leader you are today. We have your back, Alix, always."

Alix felt a lump in his throat, touched by the words of his vice-captains. "I couldn't have asked for better brothers-in-arms," he said, his voice filled with emotion. "We've been through thick and thin together, and I wouldn't be the person I am without each of you by my side."

The vice-captains exchanged knowing glances, reaffirming their unbreakable bond with Alix. They had all chosen to follow him not just because of his exceptional talents but because of his unwavering sense of justice and the way he treated everyone with kindness and respect.

Amidst the camaraderie and warmth of the moment, Alix knew that the challenges ahead would be daunting. The Dark Moon Clan was a formidable adversary, and the threat from the Azure Continent loomed large. However, with his vice-captains and the newfound support of the various groups, they stood a chance to protect the city they loved.

Determined to address the gathering, Alix raised his hand, signaling for silence. The cheers died down, and the crowd turned their attention back to their beloved leader.

"Today marks the beginning of a new chapter in our journey," Alix declared, his voice resolute. "United, we shall face the darkness that threatens the Eternal City. We shall protect our home, our people, and ensure that justice prevails!"

The crowd erupted once more, their fervor matched by Alix's determination. The two groups that had joined them were—the 'Radiant Dawn' for the sect that offered their help and the 'Silver Phoenix Archers' for the martial group with skilled archers.

With the Harmony Alliance, Radiant Dawn, the Silver Phoenix Archers, and the support of the other groups, Alix's forces were growing stronger and more diverse. The cultivation world had witnessed the rise of a formidable alliance—one driven by unity, righteousness, and the unwavering bond between Alix and his vice-captains.

Together, they would face the trials ahead, ready to defend the Eternal City and protect its people with everything they had.

As the cheering crowd slowly dispersed, the atmosphere around Alix's manor became calmer. The cultivators who were directly involved in the meeting now made their way inside, eager to discuss strategies and solidify the alliance further. Alix's vice-captains walked by his side, their expressions still filled with pride and determination.

Meanwhile, the spy from the Dark Moon Clan, a devious and cunning individual, slipped away unnoticed, a twisted grin forming on his face. His mission had been to gather information on Alix's group, but witnessing the overwhelming support they received had left him seething with envy and rage. The insults and slurs he spat towards Alix's group and the people of the Three Kingdoms were fueled by his bitterness.

"Fools! Insects! They think they can stand against the might of the Dark Moon Clan," the spy hissed, his voice laced with contempt. "Alix and his pitiful allies will soon learn the true meaning of despair."

With each step, his anger simmered, feeding his determination to seek vengeance for his clan's humiliation. He knew he had valuable information to share with the Elder of the Dark Moon Clan, and he intended to report every detail of Alix's growing strength and the formation of the alliance against them.

Making his way towards the inn that served as the temporary residence of the Elder, the spy's thoughts raced, concocting strategies to strike back at Alix and his formidable coalition. The Dark Moon Clan had thrived in the Azure Continent for centuries, and they would not let the rise of a mere cultivator and his allies diminish their power.

Inside the dimly lit inn, the Elder of the Dark Moon Clan sat, his eyes narrowing as the spy entered the room. Sensing the tense atmosphere, the spy knelt before the Elder, his head bowed low.

"Elder Qin," he began, his voice trembling with a mix of fear and frustration. "Alix and his allies have formed an alliance, gathering support from sects and skilled martial groups. The people of Three Kingdom dare to challenge us openly!"

The Elder's gaze pierced through the spy, his voice cold and commanding. "Speak, and do not hold back. I want every detail, every weakness we can exploit."

The spy proceeded to recount the events, describing the show of unity and support Alix had garnered. He spoke of the sect offering condolences and aid, the martial group pledging their arrows and skills.

Elder Qin listened intently, his face a mask of calculated fury. "Alix... He has grown bolder than we anticipated. But mark my words, this alliance shall crumble beneath our might. We will tear them apart, piece by piece."

The spy, trembling with anticipation, nodded fervently. "Yes, Elder. We have spies within their ranks, gathering information. We will strike when they least expect it."

Elder Qin's eyes narrowed further, his patience waning as he absorbed the news. The spy's trembling form only fueled his growing anger. "What about the city lord's mansion?" he demanded, his voice sharp with impatience.

The spy swallowed hard, his voice barely above a whisper. "I... I'm afraid every spy we sent to investigate the city lord's mansion hasn't returned. It seems they have met their demise, Elder Qin," he admitted, his fear palpable.

A menacing silence filled the room as Elder Qin's face contorted with rage. The air grew heavy with the weight of his fury, causing the spy to tremble involuntarily. Elder Qin was known for his short temper and his willingness to eliminate anyone who failed him.

"Dead?" Elder Qin's voice boomed, echoing through the chamber. "Dead, you say? How dare they?!" His eyes flashed with an intensity that sent shivers down the spy's spine.