

L. Wyatt 1071

Chapter 1071: Not Convinced

As soon as Kylen Gagnon finished speaking, Wyatt Barnes hadn't even had time to refuse when a group of Gagnon Family elders had already begun speaking, preventing Wyatt from having a chance to refuse.

At the same time, the Gagnon Family head, "Randy Gagnon," and the other two Protector elders also looked at him expectantly.

How could he refuse?

Of course, if he really had set his heart on refusing, he could still refuse.

But when he thought about the future benefits he would be obtaining from the Gagnon Family, he dismissed the idea of refusal.

"Then I'll join in on the fun."

Following that, Wyatt nodded and agreed.

For him, acting as the "chief judge" in the alchemy competition held by the Gagnon Family wasn't stressful, and it also allowed him to closely observe a group of alchemists' "techniques."

Although he had never seriously studied the art of alchemy, the memories left by the reincarnated Martial Emperor in terms of alchemy were enough for him to dominate across the Cloud Skies Continent.

It must be known that the reincarnated Martial Emperor was an "Emperor Grade alchemist"—far superior to a Grade One alchemist!

As a person who had merged with the memories of an Emperor Grade alchemist, Wyatt found it effortless to critique the alchemy skills of fifth and sixth-grade alchemists.

Wyatt initially wanted to refuse simply because he feared the trouble.

However, now, even if he feared the trouble, he had to get involved.

As the saying goes, "Eat from others, and you owe them; take from others, and you are obliged." Although he hadn't yet taken any benefits from the Gagnon Family, he would inevitably need to in the future.

Because that was his primary "purpose" for joining the Gagnon Family!

"Stop!"

Suddenly, a severe shout entered Wyatt Barnes's ears, causing him to involuntarily look towards the person who had shouted.

"Jadiel Gagnon?"

Quickly, Wyatt saw that the person who had shouted was none other than the Gagnon Family's Second Young Master, "Jadiel Gagnon," who was shouting at three middle-aged men sneakily trying to leave.

When Wyatt followed Jadiel's gaze and saw these three men, he recognized them at a glance.

These were not strangers but precisely the three middle-aged men who had blasphemed against Winnie Romero lying in the ice coffin outside the Gagnon Family and had been injured by him earlier.

Later, these three sought revenge, and one of them, a man in green, joined forces with Gagnon Family elder "Dion Gagnon" during this alchemy competition to expel him.

Unfortunately for them, they had not succeeded.

Even Dion Gagnon had ended up killed by his hand.

Since then, Wyatt had not paid any attention to these three, mainly because he was busy dealing with the Gagnon Family's Third Young Master, "Damari Gagnon," and thus had no time to deal with them.

Now that everything was resolved, he had successfully become an "Honorary Minister" of the Gagnon Family.

The three middle-aged men, seeing him rise in power, clearly wanted to leave.

But are there really such good things in the world?

Wyatt's gaze toward the three middle-aged men turned cold, and his expression slightly darkened.

As Jadiel Gagnon shouted angrily, including Wyatt, all present turned their gaze towards the three men, causing them to freeze as if turned into statues.

"Lord Wyatt Barnes, spare our lives!"

Quickly, one of them turned around and, with a "thump," knelt on the ground, kowtowing and pleading for mercy from Wyatt.

"Lord Wyatt Barnes, spare our lives! This has nothing to do with me."

Another one also knelt and began kowtowing.

Now, only the middle-aged man in green turned around, remaining standing there, glaring hatefully at Wyatt—the killer of his uncle.

"Hmph! Elder Wyatt is not someone you can belittle with your mere eyes."

Instantly, an angry shout erupted.

Following that, Wyatt felt a gust of wind by his side, evidently someone had brushed swiftly past him at high speed, catching him off-guard.

Boom!

By the time he reacted, he immediately heard a loud noise.

Subsequently, he saw where the green-clothed middle-aged man had just stood, now occupied by a figure resembling a bamboo pole, none other than one of the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family, "Elio Gagnon."

In the air not far in front of Elio Gagnon, a mist of blood spread, and the green-clothed middle-aged man was nowhere to be seen.

Wyatt knew.

That green-clothed middle-aged man was now dead, annihilated by the force of Elio Gagnon, his body exploding into the mist of blood that filled the air.

Elio Gagnon, a Protector elder of the Gagnon Family, a Martial Emperor powerhouse.

His strike had effortlessly killed the green-clothed middle-aged man. So effortlessly, in fact, that the forces of heaven and earth hadn't even started to manifest before the man had already perished, completely vanishing from this world.

"Lord Wyatt Barnes, spare our lives! Lord Wyatt Barnes, spare our lives!"

"Elder Elio, spare our lives! Elder Elio, spare our lives!"

The remaining two middle-aged men, seeing their accomplice eradicated so quickly, changed their expressions drastically and kowtowed in terror, their heads soon bloodied.

"Elder Wyatt, how should they be dealt with?"

Elio Gagnon turned around, looked at Wyatt, and forced a smile on his face.

However, with his gaunt cheeks and skin stretched over bones, his smile appeared uglier than if he were crying.

"Whatever."

Wyatt shrugged nonchalantly.

At the same time, he withdrew his gaze, no longer bothering to look at the two middle-aged men again, effectively treating them as if they were mere air.

After a moment of surprise, Elio Gagnon turned to look at the Gagnon Family head, "Randy Gagnon."

"Those who offend Elder Wyatt don't deserve to live in this world."

Randy Gagnon spoke calmly, his tone devoid of any emotion.

"No..."

As Randy Gagnon finished speaking, the two middle-aged men kneeling on the ground trembled violently, suddenly raising their heads with a drastic change of expression.

Boom!

Almost at the moment they looked up, a loud noise spread and thundered in their ears.

In front of everyone, they followed in the footsteps of the middle-aged man in green clothes, turning into a sky of blood mist and completely disappearing from this world.

Hiss! Hiss! Hiss! Hiss! Hiss!

...

For a moment, the group of alchemists who had come to participate in the "Alchemist Competition" couldn't help but gasp.

Their gaze towards Wyatt Barnes was filled with awe.

"This Elder Barnes, after joining the Gagnon Family, seems to have a status even above the head of the Gagnon family!"

Someone couldn't help but exclaim.

"That's quite normal... after all, he is a 'Grade One Alchemist'!"

"Some people must be regretting terribly now, right?"

...

Many whispered privately, and some people's eyes unconsciously fell on a middle-aged man not far away.

The middle-aged man stood there with a grim expression.

"I remember this man... he was previously on good terms with Wyatt Barnes, almost becoming friends. However, when Wyatt was targeted by the Elder Dion Gagnon from the Gagnon Family, he avoided Wyatt like the plague."

"I remember him too... back then, he even denied knowing Wyatt!"

"Just in a blink of an eye, once Wyatt revealed his identity as a 'Grade One Alchemist', his fortunes soared! Had he not acted that way, he might have ascended to heaven along with Wyatt."

"That's destiny! Some people are not lacking in opportunities, but because they fail to seize them, they can only sigh in vain in the end."

...

More and more people discussed animatedly, their gaze towards the middle-aged man tinged with a touch of pity, and even more so, some had a gleeful expression.

The middle-aged man was none other than Finley Yellow!

Standing there, surrounded by the snippets of conversation, each word pierced his ears like sharp needles, causing his body to tremble involuntarily.

These discussions no doubt reopened his wounds!

His heart was already filled with regret, and hearing these satirical comments was like adding fuel to the fire, deepening his regret.

"Why did I have to act like that?"

"If I hadn't done that, I might not have needed to participate in the 'Alchemist Competition' and could have joined the Gagnon Family as a member!"

...

Along with regret, his heart was also filled with self-blame.

Whoosh!

Finally, unable to bear it any longer, he rose into the air and disappeared from everyone's sight in the blink of an eye.

Clearly, he no longer wished to continue participating in the 'Alchemist Competition'.

Finley Yellow's departure was noticed by Wyatt Barnes, but he showed no emotion.

Previously, Finley Yellow had abandoned him to save himself, which he could understand.

But afterward, Finley Yellow claimed he did not recognize him.

From the moment Finley Yellow made that statement, Wyatt had already considered him a stranger, so even if Finley Yellow left, it did not stir any emotion in Wyatt.

"The Alchemist Competition begins!"

Following Zen Gagnon's light shout, the people around snapped back to reality and stopped discussing Finley Yellow who had just left.

"It's starting!"

"In the Gagnon Family's historical 'Alchemist Competitions', there seems to never have been a 'Grade One Alchemist' as a judge!"

"Today, even if I get eliminated, it's still worth the trip."

"Being eliminated by a Grade One Alchemist, even if spoken about, is enough to make people envious."

...

A group of alchemists talked animatedly, their words filled with excitement.

Hearing these discussions, Wyatt Barnes was somewhat speechless.

As for the high-ranking members of the Gagnon Family, they could understand this, as even they would have felt the same if they were in the place of these alchemists participating in the 'Alchemist Competition'.

Soon, the Alchemist Competition began.

The Alchemist Competition was divided into preliminary rounds, semi-finals, and finals.

The preliminaries eliminated half the people.

The semi-finals eliminated the remaining thirty people, who were then eligible to join the Gagnon Family.

The finals determined the specific rankings of the thirty, who received the rewards of the Gagnon Family.

In the Alchemist Competition, whether the preliminaries, semi-finals, or finals, everyone concocted the same Pill Medicine, with Wyatt Barnes personally inspecting the final products as the chief judge.

In the inspection aspect, in the Gagnon Family's previously held 'Alchemist Competitions', they only checked 'purity'.

But Wyatt Barnes did more than that.

Beside testing the 'purity' of the Pill Medicine produced by the group, he also discerned the sophistication of their techniques from the medicines, thereby determining who was more outstanding.

Initially, during the 'preliminary' round, it was acceptable for Wyatt Barnes to do so.

However, by the time it reached the semi-finals, someone started to complain, "Elder Barnes, his pill's purity is clearly not as good as mine, why can he advance while I must be eliminated?"

An alchemist pointed at another alchemist beside him, looking towards Wyatt Barnes, with a face full of dissatisfaction.

Chapter 1072: The Knack

As the alchemist voiced his doubt to Wyatt Barnes, a wave of astonishment swept across the room.

Could someone actually dare to question a Grade One Alchemy Master?

Including Fill Bear, everyone's gaze swiftly shifted to Wyatt, and then to the seemingly identical Pill Medicine on the table in front of the two alchemists.

"The Pill Medicine he made has indeed a higher purity.... Why did Elder Barnes eliminate him and let the other advance?"

A group of competing alchemists were deeply puzzled.

"What's going on?"

Now, it wasn't just them— even the members of the Gagnon Family, led by the family head Randy Gagnon, looked puzzled and perplexed.

Among them, some were not alchemists, but being part of an alchemist family, even if they weren't alchemists themselves, they could still discern the purity levels of Pill Medicine.

They could see it.

The Pill Medicine created by the alchemist who questioned Wyatt did indeed have a higher purity.

"Elder Barnes, in terms of Pill Medicine 'purity,' I truly am not his equal."

The alchemist whom Wyatt had permitted to advance now also looked at Wyatt with a wry smile, showing a great deal of self-awareness as he spoke.

His words made the doubting alchemist even more smug, "Elder Barnes, I know you are a Grade One alchemist, and in terms of Alchemy, I am far inferior to you.... but your judgment seems..."

"Seems what?!"

Before the alchemist could finish, Wyatt interrupted him, glancing at him faintly, "You think just because the 'purity' of the Pill Medicine you produced is high, in terms of Alchemy, you are better than him?"

"Or perhaps... the 'Alchemist Competition' hosted by the Gagnon Family is just about Pill Medicine purity and not about Alchemy skill?"

Towards the end, Wyatt glanced over at Randy Gagnon and the rest of the Gagnon members, clearly posing a question to them.

"For making the same Pill Medicine, naturally, 'purity' is used to judge the Alchemy skill.... Otherwise, what else can determine it?"

The interrupted alchemist asserted as a matter of course.

"Do you all feel the same way?"

Wyatt's gaze moved over the group of competing alchemists nearby, then shifted to the group from the Gagnon family.

Soon, he received an answer.

Both the group of competing alchemists and the Gagnon group nodded, clearly agreeing.

"If Elder Barnes has another way to judge the 'Alchemy skill,' we are quite interested to know.... Perhaps, Elder Barnes can bring us a surprise."

Randy Gagnon spoke in a loud voice.

He said this because he saw confidence and intrepidity brimming from Wyatt's eyes, and subconsciously, he believed Wyatt had another method to judge the level of Alchemy.

Following Randy's words, Wyatt became the focus of everyone's attention.

"Young Master."

Even Fill Bear was now looking at Wyatt expectantly.

He believed the Young Master would certainly have a way.

"It seems, today I need to give you all a good lesson."

Wyatt withdrew his gaze from the surroundings, speaking faintly.

If someone else had said this, the moment the words left their mouth, they would probably have been torn to shreds.

However, coming from Wyatt, while it made them somewhat reluctant to believe, they were also somewhat expectant of what Wyatt would say next.

But, they soon realized Wyatt had no intention of explaining right away.

"You two, recreate the same Pill Medicine as before.... This time, I will teach you a 'small trick'! This small trick can somewhat enhance the purity of the Pill Medicine you produce."

Wyatt looked at the two alchemists beside him again, speaking faintly.

"When you are making the Pill Medicine later..."

Then, Wyatt unabashedly stated his 'small trick' there and then.

His words clearly reached everyone's ears, as though he wasn't worried about revealing this trick in such a public setting.

"Place a palm on the medicine tripod, and as the Pill Medicine emerges, let the 'red flame' from the palm create a barrier for the Pill Medicine to pass through?"

This was the trick revealed by Wyatt.

To Wyatt, this trick was nothing out of the ordinary, yet for the other alchemists, it was extremely novel.

"Alright! I'll recreate according to the trick you mentioned, Elder Barnes.... This time, if the purity of the Pill Medicine I produce surpasses his again, what would you say, Elder Barnes?"

The unconvinced alchemist looked at Wyatt and asked.

"If you can still outdo him, he will be eliminated, and you will advance."

Wyatt said nonchalantly, his gaze as calm as ever, as if he didn't believe at all that the alchemist could win over the other.

"Elder Barnes, do you have such confidence in me?"

The other alchemist's heart trembled greatly and in an instant, his face became extremely solemn and earnest.

Then, taking a deep breath, he earnestly said to Wyatt, "Elder Barnes, I won't disappoint you."

"Don't be nervous, just maintain your previous level... Of course, remember to use the 'small trick' I just mentioned! Although the increase in purity isn't huge, it's not insignificant either, and varies from person to person."

Wyatt spoke.

"Yes."

The alchemist nodded seriously.

"Begin."

Wyatt said.

For a moment, the two alchemists became spirited, each beginning their Alchemy process.

This time, their Alchemy process was the focus of the entire venue, increasing their pressure while also driving them to outperform each other and advance.

As long as he advanced, he would be able to join the Gagnon Family, becoming an external member of the family!

Time quietly elapsed.

An hour passed quickly.

Snap!

The alchemist who had previously concocted Pill Medicine with a lower purity was the first to finish, pressing a palm on the medicine tripod, causing the shaped Pill Medicine to fly out.

During this process, he always remembered the small trick Wyatt Barnes had just mentioned, expelling red flame from his palm to form a barrier covering the pill exit.

Swoosh!

A Pill Medicine shot out, passing through the red flame above the pill exit, and he finally caught it in his hand.

Pill ready!

Snap!

This time, the alchemist who previously concocted Pill Medicine of a higher purity and who did not accept Wyatt's judgment finished and released his pill.

Two identical Pill Medicines appeared.

However, when the two alchemists glanced at the Pill Medicine in their hands and then at the 'Pill Medicine' in the other's open palm, their pupils shrank simultaneously, and an inexplicable horror appeared on their faces.

"How is this possible? No... This can't be!!"

The previous dissatisfied alchemist turned pale, shaking his head repeatedly, unwilling to believe that everything before his eyes was real.

All of this was because he found that the 'purity' of the Pill Medicine in his hand had only increased by less than 5% compared to earlier.

And the 'purity' of his opponent's Pill Medicine had increased by nearly 10%!

Nearly 10%!

What did that imply?

He was completely outperformed!

"It's miraculous!"

The other alchemist's eyes lit up, his face showing disbelief, feeling that everything happening before him was beyond comprehension.

Using the same small trick, he managed to increase the purity of the Pill Medicine by nearly 10%!

Whereas, the Pill Medicine concocted by his opponent only increased by less than 5%.

"It's impossible! You must have taught him another trick, it must be so!"

The former pointed at Wyatt, speaking with reluctance.

"Did I teach him another trick?"

Hearing this, Wyatt laughed, laughed unexpectedly, and that laugh gradually turned into a cold smirk, "Do you want the other alchemists to try it too?"

Eventually, other alchemists who had advanced to the semi-finals and had not been eliminated began to use the small trick taught by Wyatt for their alchemy.

After they successfully concocted their Pill Medicines, they discovered something bizarre.

Some of these alchemists barely improved the 'purity' of their Pill Medicines by less than half a percent, while others increased it by more than 10%!

"Now... Do you still think I taught him another trick?"

Wyatt looked at the resentful alchemist, his tone calm and devoid of any emotion.

The latter turned pale, but for the moment, said nothing more.

He knew he had overthought.

"Why?"

However, as time passed, this alchemist still felt unsatisfied and sternly asked Wyatt.

Wyatt clearly understood what the alchemist wanted to ask.

Even including the Gagnon family head and other members of the Gagnon family, along with the other surrounding alchemists, all looked at him with puzzled expressions.

Clearly, they also wanted to know the answer.

"It's because of 'red flame'!"

Under the watchful eyes of everyone, Wyatt provided his response.

It must be said, his answer was beyond everyone's expectations.

"The problem lies in the 'red flame'?"

"No! I am a Grade Five alchemist, producing 'Grade Five Red Flame' ... but the Pill Medicine I concocted through that small trick only improved its purity by less than 5%!"

"Although I'm only a Grade Six alchemist, producing inferior red flame compared to you... I managed to increase the purity of the Pill Medicine by a whole 10% using that small trick."

"What's going on here?"

...

The group of alchemists was deeply perplexed.

Some Grade Six alchemists achieved a greater improvement in the 'purity' of their Pill Medicines compared to some Grade Five alchemists.

Some Grade Six alchemists, however, didn't match up to the Grade Five alchemists.

"It isn't due to the grade of the red flame but the inherent purity of the red flame... Oftentimes, alchemists who rush their Alchemy tend to produce coarser, lower purity red flame."

"Whereas, those who are methodical and steady produce finer red flames with extremely high purity."

"Using the small trick I mentioned earlier, the former can elevate the purity of the Pill Medicine to another level... the latter, however, falls a bit short."

Facing a crowd of curious onlookers, Wyatt explained gently.

Immediately, the room fell into a dead silence, and everyone began to reflect.

"Elder Barnes truly deserves his title as 'Grade One Alchemist'! To even uncover such a small trick."

Many people, upon realizing this, sighed in admiration.

Chapter 1073: South Outlands

"Do you still have any doubts now?"

Wyatt Barnes looked at the alchemist who doubted him, and asked indifferently.

If "red flame" wasn't used for refining in the end, the Pill Medicine this alchemist produced would indeed be purer compared to the other alchemist.

However, once the "red flame" was employed, it was just the opposite.

In today's "Alchemist Competition," from the beginning, Wyatt Barnes never judged the level of a group of alchemists solely by the "purity" of their Pill Medicines.

Besides looking at the purity of the Pill Medicine, he also scrutinized the purity of the "red flame"!

The greater the purity of an alchemist's red flame, the greater their potential.

This point was something he knew from the memories of the Reincarnating Martial Emperor.

Faced with Wyatt Barnes's question, that dissatisfied alchemist, his face flushed with shame, nodded apologetically to Wyatt Barnes, and then flew off somewhat dejectedly.

"Thank you, Elder Barnes,"

Meanwhile, another alchemist was brimming with excitement, never expecting that he would actually pass the semifinals, qualify for the 'finals,' and become an honorary member of the Gagnon Family.

In the Alchemist Competition, those who could make it from the semifinals to the finals were a shoo-in to join the Gagnon Family.

"You don't have to thank me; your alchemy skills are commendable... With your talent, becoming a 'Grade One alchemist' would not be difficult, as long as you continue to work hard."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head as he spoke.

"A Grade One alchemist? Could I really achieve that?"

The alchemist asked excitedly.

He was currently just a Grade Six alchemist, and the thought of becoming a 'Grade One alchemist' in the future was something he didn't even dare to contemplate.

"That will depend on whether you work hard or not... You may step down now, and wait for the final."

Wyatt Barnes said.

"Yes."

Upon hearing this, the alchemist respectfully took his leave.

At the same time, many admiring gazes were cast toward Wyatt Barnes, filled with ever-increasing reverence.

This was what being a 'Grade One alchemist' entailed!

In just a few words, he had turned the tide for an alchemist who was initially at a disadvantage, enabling him to advance through the semifinals and into the finals.

"No wonder the ancestral notes left by our family recorded that a 'Grade One alchemist' is never mediocre! It seems to be true indeed."

An elder of the Gagnon Family exclaimed in admiration.

Wyatt Barnes's 'methods' thoroughly impressed him.

"Of course! Anyone who can become a 'Grade One alchemist' is undoubtedly a peerless figure in the art of alchemy!"

Another Gagnon Family elder said.

Regardless, Wyatt Barnes's actions in the Alchemist Competition commanded the deep admiration of all the participating alchemists and simultaneously overawed the Gagnon Family members led by the family head 'Randy Gagnon.'

With Wyatt pulling such a move, no one dared to question him again.

The Alchemist Competition's 'semifinals' soon concluded smoothly, leaving only the thirty most outstanding alchemists.

However, most of those who were eliminated did not leave, instead, they eagerly awaited the 'finals' with great interest.

For them, this was undoubtedly a superb learning opportunity.

Such a gathering of excellent alchemists was rare to witness, and perhaps they could glean insights from a particular alchemist that would enhance their proficiency in the alchemical arts.

The finals arrived as scheduled.

The thirty prospective honorary members of the Gagnon Family took their positions, one after the other.

Wyatt Barnes, as the 'chief judge,' was responsible for overseeing the event.

With Wyatt Barnes, the 'Grade One alchemist' in attendance, other judges—including Zen Gagnon—knew their place, stood where they were, and watched from a distance, not daring to disturb Wyatt Barnes.

As time passed, the thirty alchemists began refining their Pill Medicines.

Wyatt Barnes commented on each alchemist's Pill Medicine, long or short; each remark won wholehearted acceptance from every alchemist.

In the process of commenting, the extensive knowledge Wyatt Barnes displayed in the art of alchemy once again shocked everyone.

"It seems that our Gagnon Family has indeed found a treasure this time... An ordinary 'Grade One alchemist,' in theory, might not even be qualified to carry Elder Barnes's shoes!"

Randy Gagnon, the family head and himself a Grade Two alchemist, after witnessing Wyatt Barnes's extensive knowledge, could hardly contain his excitement.

His low murmur was also distinctly heard by the people of the Gagnon Family, leaving them stunned.

"Family head... are you suggesting that even 'Chairman Keller' of the South Outlands Alchemist Guild would be inferior to Elder Barnes in theory?"

Kaizen Gagnon's small eyes widened, and his chubby face revealed a shock.

"Chairman Keller, whom I've visited several times for advice... Although he is also a 'Grade One alchemist,' he falls far short of Elder Barnes in terms of understanding the art of alchemy."

This was the conclusion that Randy Gagnon reached after comparisons.

For a moment, the people of the Gagnon Family were once again enveloped in silence.

The 'Chairman Keller' the family head mentioned—they were well aware of who he was.

He was the chairman of the South Outlands Alchemist Guild of the Cloud Skies Continent, a prestigious 'Grade One alchemist.'

The Cloud Skies Continent, with the Weak Water River as the boundary, is divided into the Inner Land and Outer Land.

The territory of Northumberland, where the Gagnon Family resided, was located within the Southern Outer Land of the Cloud Skies Continent, an area also known as the 'South Outlands.'

To really speak of it,

whether it be Wyatt Barnes' initial location, "Great Turdo Dynasty," or that "Northern Desert," both belonged to the "South Outlands."

"In the past, I only knew our current South Outlands had only one 'Chairman Keller,' a Grade One alchemist! Now it seems, that is not the case."

"Yes. It turns out, within our South Outlands, there is another alchemist like Elder Barnes, a monstrosity of a Grade One alchemist! In terms of age, Elder Barnes is much younger than Chairman Keller."

"Younger in age, yet the level of alchemy is not inferior... Moreover, even the patriarch who had communicated with Chairman Keller felt that Chairman Keller was not a match for Elder Barnes."

...

A group of Gagnon Family elders whispered among themselves, and soon, their gazes unanimously fell upon the distant figure in purple.

To them, that young man had now become even more inscrutable.

"Wyatt Barnes..."

Jadiel Gagnon always had a thick smile on his face. Ever since Wyatt Barnes revealed his identity as a 'Grade One alchemist,' other than surprise, all that was left on his face was a smile.

He had never imagined it.

Not long ago, he was worried that Wyatt Barnes, who was about to be executed by the Gagnon Family, would suddenly soar to the heavens and become the most popular person in the Gagnon Family.

"Patriarch, with such high regard for Elder Barnes, if you could receive his guidance, do you think you have a chance to break through to a 'Grade One alchemist'?"

The Gagnon Family Protector Elder 'Kylen Gagnon' looked at Randy Gagnon with a solemn face and asked.

Randy Gagnon, the patriarch of the Gagnon Family, had exhibited exceptional 'alchemy talent' from a young age and was recognized by the Gagnon Family as the person most likely to become a 'Grade One alchemist' in nearly a century.

"There's a chance."

Randy Gagnon's eyes flashed, expectancy appeared on his face, and his eyes sparkled.

Hiss! Hiss! Hiss! Hiss! Hiss!

...

As Randy Gagnon spoke, as expected, it sparked a series of gasps.

Including the Three Great Protector Elders of the Gagnon Family, all the higher-ups involuntarily drew in a breath of cold air.

Randy Gagnon's response had utterly astonished them.

When they looked at Wyatt Barnes again, their eyes gleamed.

It was as if he was not a person, but a peerless work of art, easily enchanting anyone who beheld it.

However, Wyatt Barnes was currently reviewing the alchemists who participated in the final round of the Alchemist Competition, unaware of these gazes.

It wasn't long before he had listed the rankings of thirty alchemists.

And to this ranking, not one of the thirty alchemists raised any objections.

"Elder Zen Gagnon, I'll leave the rest to you."

After the matter was settled, Wyatt Barnes returned to Fill Bear's side and spoke to Zen Gagnon.

Zen Gagnon quickly responded, not daring to delay, and turned to address the thirty alchemists, ready to release the Gagnon Family's predetermined 'rewards.'

But before Zen Gagnon could speak, someone couldn't resist asking, "I wonder if the top three of this Alchemist Competition could receive guidance from Elder Barnes?"

According to the rewards set by the Gagnon Family in the past.

The top three individuals of the Alchemist Competition could receive guidance from a 'Grade Two alchemist' of the Gagnon Family.

Today, with the addition of an Honorary Minister like Elder Barnes, who was also a 'Grade One alchemist' with profound knowledge in alchemy, the top three alchemists of this competition were captivated.

The one who inquired was none other than the person who ranked 'second' in the Alchemist Competition.

"Being too greedy isn't a good thing."

Zen Gagnon gave the alchemist a deep look, but instead of giving a definitive reply, he turned his head to consult with the patriarch 'Randy Gagnon.'

"Elder Barnes has been through a long journey and must be tired... Jadiel, take Elder Barnes and that brother down to rest."

However, Randy Gagnon seemed not to notice Zen Gagnon's look and directly addressed Jadiel Gagnon.

"Yes."

Jadiel Gagnon respectfully replied and then looked at Wyatt Barnes and Fill Bear.

"Fill Bear, let's go."

Wyatt Barnes called out to Fill Bear, took the 'ice coffin,' and followed Jadiel Gagnon to leave. As they departed, he glanced at the Gagnon Family's high-ranking members, nodding and smiling as a greeting.

The high-ranking members of the Gagnon Family, from the patriarch to the Three Great Protector Elders, smiled back in response, not daring to neglect a detail.

In their eyes now,

Elder Barnes was a 'treasure,' a treasure that could greatly aid the Gagnon Family in producing another Grade One alchemist.

Wyatt Barnes' departure left the top three alchemists of the competition feeling greatly disappointed.

"After joining the Gagnon Family, work hard and strive to stand out... Perhaps then, you might earn Elder Barnes' guidance."

At this moment, Randy Gagnon looked towards the thirty inducted cadet branches and spoke indifferently.

Randy Gagnon's words ignited hope once again in the eyes of the thirty.

Yet the high-ranking members of the Gagnon Family knew all too well.

Given Elder Barnes' capability to guide their patriarch in alchemy, even their other Grade Two alchemists would likely be clamoring for Elder Barnes' guidance.

Besides the few Grade Two alchemists, the Gagnon Family also had a group of Grade Three alchemists.

For these newly inducted 'youngsters' to receive guidance from Elder Barnes would undoubtedly be more difficult than ascending to the heavens.

Chapter 1074: Soul-stabilizing Root, Soul-setting Grass

"She..."

Just as they were about to enter the Gagnon Family estate, Jadiel Gagnon's gaze inadvertently swept past the 'ice coffin' beside Wyatt Barnes, and for the first time, he clearly saw the face of the woman lying within.

The woman in red left a deep impression on him.

It was the woman who had been with Wyatt Barnes and his benefactor when he had almost been killed.

At that time, he had been astonished by her peerless beauty.

Even in Northumberland, he had never seen a woman with such an outstanding appearance.

"She is the daughter of the person who saved you back then."

Wyatt Barnes looked at Winnie Romero in the ice coffin, his eyes brimming with tender love.

"The benefactor's daughter?"

Jadiel Gagnon's expression changed slightly, "What's wrong with her?"

At this moment, Jadiel Gagnon began to carefully examine Winnie Romero lying in the ice coffin, and soon, he could tell that there was a thriving vitality within her body, "Is she in a deep sleep?"

"Her soul is wounded, and she is in a coma."

Wyatt Barnes sighed.

Jadiel Gagnon nodded with a solemn face, as if he somewhat understood.

"Young Master."

At this time, Fill Bear, who had been following Wyatt Barnes, respectfully said to him, "I heard you say before that if we could find some rare 'heaven and earth treasures,' Miss Winnie could be awakened..."

"The Gagnon Family has a heritage of ten thousand years; perhaps they possess the heaven and earth treasures that could awaken Miss Winnie!"

After Fill Bear finished speaking in one breath, his eyes were fervently fixed on Jadiel Gagnon.

His words caused Wyatt Barnes's body to tremble slightly.

Yes.

Why hadn't he thought of this?

The Gagnon Family was a clan with ten thousand years of heritage.

In the Cloud Skies Continent, there were only a handful of powers that had a ten-thousand-year heritage, apart from those two ancient families that stood at the peak of the Cloud Skies Continent.

Of course, Wyatt Barnes was clear in his heart that the reason he hadn't thought of this was because he had a preconceived notion.

Through the memories of the Martial Emperor, he knew that those 'heaven and earth treasures' were extremely rare, so rare that even the Big Treasure left behind by the Martial Emperor did not contain them.

Because of this, he subconsciously felt that those treasures, which might not even appear in the 'Inner Land,' could not possibly exist in the 'Outer Land.'

"Jadiel Gagnon, does your Gagnon Family have 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass'?"

Wyatt Barnes looked at Jadiel Gagnon, asking urgently.

Although he wasn't sure that the Gagnon Family possessed these two treasures that could help heal Winnie Romero's soul, he decided to ask anyway, not wanting to miss any opportunity.

After all, the Gagnon Family had a heritage spanning ten thousand years; they might have these treasures in their collection.

"Soul-stabilizing Root? Soul-setting Grass?"

However, upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's inquiry, Jadiel Gagnon shook his head, "This is the first time I've heard of these two things..."

"In that case, I'll make arrangements for you to stay. After you've rested, we can go together to see the family head; perhaps the family head knows."

Jadiel Gagnon suggested.

"Hmm."

Wyatt Barnes nodded, his eyes revealing a glimmer of hope.

If the Gagnon Family truly had the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass,' he could prepare a medicinal liquid to heal Winnie's wounded soul in one go, enabling her to wake up again.

"Now, I just hope that my luck is really this good."

Wyatt Barnes thought to himself.

Whether it was the Soul-stabilizing Root or the Soul-setting Grass, both were extremely rare 'heaven and earth treasures' on the Cloud Skies Continent; even the former Martial Emperor had only seen them a few times.

Soon, under Jadiel Gagnon's lead, Wyatt Barnes and Fill Bear arrived at a cluster of buildings on the eastern side of the Gagnon Family estate, coming to the outer area of a separate 'mansion within a mansion.'

"Second Young Master."

Outside the spacious residence, a beautiful maidservant stood, bowing respectfully to Jadiel Gagnon.

"Hmm."

Jadiel Gagnon nodded at the maidservant, then seriously said, "Starting from today, Elder Barnes will be living here... I will arrange for a few more people to come later; you must serve Elder Barnes well."

"If you cause Elder Barnes any dissatisfaction and the family head blames you, even I won't be able to take the responsibility! Understand?"

It had to be said, Jadiel Gagnon's words frightened the maidservant at the entrance of the mansion.

"Elder Barnes?"

Then, the maidservant's gaze swept over Wyatt Barnes and Fill Bear, eventually settling on Fill Bear.

In her eyes, the older one seemed more like the 'elder.'

"Then I won't disturb your rest."

Jadiel Gagnon nodded to Wyatt Barnes and Fill Bear with a smile, then said, "After you've rested, let her come to find me at my residence."

"Alright."

Wyatt Barnes and his companion nodded.

After Jadiel Gagnon departed, the maidservant breathed a sigh of relief and then looked at Fill Bear with a smile, "Elder Barnes, nice to meet you, I'm 'Yesenia,' and I will be in charge of your daily needs from now on."

Fill Bear was mortified and said a bit embarrassingly, "Miss, you've made a mistake... My young master is 'Elder Barnes.'

Fill Bear said, glancing at Wyatt Barnes.

"Ah!"

The maidservant Yesenia was startled and then re-examined Wyatt Barnes, her pretty face filled with disbelief as she murmured, "You... you're really Elder Barnes?"

"What, do I not look like it?"

Wyatt Barnes was also amused by the maidservant Yesenia's teasing and joked,

"Not... not at all! Elder Barnes, I... I just find it somewhat inconceivable. Our Gagnon Family has never had an elder as young as you before."

Maidservant Yesenia hurriedly said, her autumn eyes brimming with curiosity as she took a closer look at Wyatt Barnes.

It seemed she wanted to see what was different about Wyatt that allowed him to become an elder of their Gagnon Family at such a young age, especially since he was an 'outsider elder'.

Although she was just a maidservant, she knew quite a lot about the affairs of the Gagnon Family.

The male associates from outside the Gagnon Family could only become an 'outsider elder' if they possessed exceptional abilities.

"Elder Barnes, please come this way."

Soon, maidservant Yesenia came back to her senses, welcomed Wyatt Barnes into the mansion behind her, and arranged accommodations for him—a spacious room.

The room was large and contained all kinds of furniture; it was the 'master bedroom' of the mansion.

Boom!

With a raise of his hand, the 'ice coffin' followed into the room and steadily landed on a table inside.

"So beautiful!"

Maidservant Yesenia had been aware of the ice coffin moving with Wyatt Barnes from the start, and only now did she have the chance to take a close look at it, quickly noticing the lady in red lying inside it.

The lady in red lay there, her beauty breathtaking enough to make Yesenia feel somewhat ashamed in comparison.

"If there's nothing else, you all can leave now... I would like to rest."

Wyatt Barnes said.

"Yes, Young Master."

Fill Bear respectfully responded, and then looked at maidservant Yesenia, "Girl, it's time for us to go."

Maidservant Yesenia came to her senses, reluctantly shifting her gaze away from the red-dressed lady in the ice coffin and followed Fill Bear out of the room.

Fill Bear conveniently closed the room's door for Wyatt Barnes.

"Uncle, what's your name?"

Maidservant Yesenia asked Fill Bear.

"Fill Bear."

Fill Bear coolly replied.

"Uncle Fill Bear... do you know who the lady lying in Elder Barnes's ice coffin is? It's the first time in my life I've seen such a beautiful woman."

Curiosity flashed in maidservant Yesenia's eyes as she asked.

"She's the Young Master's woman."

Fill Bear sighed, then seeing Yesenia looked as if she wanted to ask something more, he preempted her: "Alright, girl, don't ask too much... Please arrange a room for me as well."

Inside the master bedroom.

After Fill Bear and maidservant Yesenia left, Wyatt Barnes approached the ice coffin, laid his hand gently on it, and tenderly gazed at the woman lying inside—Winnie Romero.

"Winnie, you rest well... Brother Barnes will wake you up soon, I won't let you wait too long."

Wyatt Barnes spoke softly, his voice as tender as could be.

After a moment, Wyatt Barnes changed into fresh clothes, lay down on the bed to rest, and unknowingly fell into a deep sleep.

It had been a long time since he had slept so well.

On the other hand, Fill Bear had also settled down, thanks to the arrangements made by maidservant Yesenia.

After settling Fill Bear in, maidservant Yesenia wore a puzzled look, "That Elder Barnes, where did he come from? He doesn't seem much older than me."

"No, wait!"

Suddenly, maidservant Yesenia seemed to realize something, her pretty face slightly changing color, "In our Gagnon Family, someone who can become an 'outsider elder' is either an individual of astonishing strength or an exceptionally outstanding alchemist."

"If Elder Barnes is a human, with his age, he couldn't possibly have such powerful strength, nor could he be an alchemist qualified to be our Gagnon Family's outsider elder!"

"That means... he's a 'demon'! A powerful 'demon'!"

Thinking of this, she broke out in a cold sweat.

She had never dealt with 'demons' in her life.

"I've heard that 'demons' have strange tempers... and some demons might even transform into their true forms to eat people."

With that thought, maidservant Yesenia shivered uncontrollably.

"Yesenia!"

Suddenly, a warbler-like voice came from outside the mansion, snapping Yesenia back to reality. Wiping the cold sweat off her face, she walked outside the mansion.

As soon as she stepped out of the main gate, she saw six maidservants walking shoulder to shoulder towards her.

"Did... did the Second Young Master send all of you here?"

Being maidservants of the same Gagnon Family, they knew each other. Seeing the five maidservants, Yesenia's eyes widened in shock.

As far as she knew.

Within the Gagnon Family, a typical elder's mansion would at most accommodate two or three maidservants.

Even the head of the household's mansion had no more than five.

But now, six had arrived at her side, making a total of seven including herself.

Seven people serving and attending to an outsider elder?

"Who exactly is that Elder Barnes?!"

At that moment, maidservant Yesenia faintly felt that something was amiss.

Even if that Elder Barnes was a 'Demon Emperor powerhouse,' he couldn't possibly be treated this well, could he?

"Yesenia, you'll be our 'female boss' from now on... You're so lucky to have stumbled upon such a cushy job," said the six approaching maidservants, looking at Yesenia with envy.

This only added to maidservant Yesenia's bafflement.

Chapter 1075: Level Eight Advanced Sword Realm!

"A cushy job?"

Maid Yesenia furrowed her brow and asked, "Do you all know something? Or perhaps... have you heard about that young 'Elder Barnes'?"

"Can it be... Yesenia, you haven't heard about 'Elder Barnes'?"

Six maids looked at Yesenia as if she were a strange creature.

"Is that strange?"

Seeing their reactions, Yesenia couldn't help but be stunned.

"Yesenia, now the entire Gagnon Family has probably already spread the tales of Elder Barnes... You, being the first to serve Elder Barnes and having the advantage of proximity, still don't know?"

The six maids collectively shook their heads in dismay, feeling that Yesenia was rather out of the loop.

"Stop beating around the bush, all six of you."

Yesenia managed a bitter smile.

Then, without further ado, the six maids spoke one after another, telling her all they knew about 'Elder Barnes' who had just arrived in the Gagnon Family and became an elder.

"Elder Barnes, upon arriving at our Gagnon Family, killed Elder Dion Gagnon?"

"And killed the Third Young Master too?"

As she heard about the young Elder Barnes' deeds and how two major Protector Elders appeared wanting to kill him, Yesenia couldn't help breaking into a cold sweat for him.

However, she knew the outcome must be that Elder Barnes was unharmed.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have had the chance to serve Elder Barnes.

"A Grade One alchemist?"

When she heard that the young Elder Barnes had revealed a Grade One red flame and exposed his identity as a Grade One alchemist, Yesenia's eyes involuntarily sharpened.

"An alchemist, and even a Grade One alchemist... Does that mean Elder Barnes is not a 'demon'?"

"Still, him being a human, apart from having the strength to kill Dion Gagnon of Transforming Void Realm Level Eight, he is also a distinguished 'Grade One alchemist'... How is that possible?!"

Yesenia murmured, her voice low, but it still reached the ears of the other six maids.

"Yesenia, if it had been before, we wouldn't believe that such a human could exist... However, the reality is before us, leaving no room for disbelief."

"That's right, Yesenia. Now, the whole Gagnon Family is talking about Elder Barnes, saying Elder Barnes is a rare 'prodigy' of the Cloud Skies Continent!"

"Some even say, Elder Barnes is a 'gift' bestowed to our Gagnon Family by the heavens."

"After nearly a thousand years, our Gagnon Family has once again produced a 'Grade One alchemist'... Once this news spreads, it will surely shock the entire Northumberland region, and even most of the South Outlands!"

...

The six maids chatted excitedly, one sentence after another, their voices tinged with excitement.

Though they were only maids, they still considered themselves half a part of the Gagnon Family, sharing in its honor and disgrace.

"I really didn't expect that Elder Barnes could actually... actually..."

Thinking of the unpretentious young man in purple clothing, and how casually she had acted in front of him, maid Yesenia felt a chill running down her spine.

So, that young man in purple, is such an incredible being!

Not just extraordinarily powerful, but also a 'Grade One alchemist'!

"Yesenia, how is Elder Barnes as a person? Is he easy to get along with?"

Very soon, the six new maids bombarded Yesenia with questions.

"Elder Barnes is very kind, very easy-going."

Yesenia said.

After who knows how long he had slept, Wyatt Barnes gradually woke up and glanced at the 'ice coffin' on the table nearby, then he got out of bed.

After washing up and changing into clean clothes, he walked out of his room.

"Elder Barnes!"

"Elder Barnes!"

Just as he opened his door to step out, Wyatt heard two voices like those of orioles, and he then realized that a maid stood on each side of his room door.

"Morning."

Wyatt nodded in response, but couldn't help but smile wryly to himself, "That guy Jadiel, he really did end up finding a few more maids..."

Meanwhile, Wyatt noticed that there were other maids busy around in the residence he was staying in.

"Elder Barnes, I'll have someone help you tidy up the room."

Soon, Wyatt saw maid Yesenia approaching to greet him, and after bringing the two maids at the door, they entered his room to clean for a bit.

Of course, they were mainly dusting.

After a moment, when the three maids came out, the whole room was spotless.

"Elder Barnes, do you have any more instructions?"

After leading the maids out, maid Yesenia respectfully looked at Wyatt, waiting for any further instructions from him.

At that moment, Wyatt also noticed.

The attitude of maid Yesenia towards him had changed drastically from when he first arrived; she had lost her casual demeanor, and her every move was filled with restraint.

"Yesenia, you don't need to be so formal in front of me, just be as casual as before."

Wyatt said.

"Yesenia dares not."

Maid Yesenia said with her head lowered.

What a joke!

Previously, she didn't know the 'real deal' about Elder Barnes before her. Now that she did, even given a hundred times more courage, she wouldn't dare be as casual as before.

Seeing this, Wyatt, although helpless, didn't insist any further, and merely said calmly, "Go fetch the Second Young Master for me."

"Yes."

Yesenia the maid answered and left. As for the other two maids, they returned to stand at the sides of Wyatt Barnes' door, like statues.

Wyatt Barnes shook his head and stepped out to find Fill Bear.

As for the "ice coffin" in the room, he did not take it out.

In his view, this was Northumberland of the Gagnon Family, one of the two most powerful forces in the region, and no one would come seeking wild fire.

Therefore, it was very safe to leave it temporarily in the room.

And he would not leave the Gagnon Family for a short time.

Under the guidance of the maid, Wyatt Barnes soon met Fill Bear in the back yard of the mansion. Fill Bear was there, training with his sword intensely and sweating profusely.

"Fill Bear."

Seeing Fill Bear training so hard, Wyatt Barnes sighed in his heart.

He knew why Fill Bear was so diligent and desperate; it was nothing more than wanting to become stronger and then stay by his side to better assist him without dragging him down.

"Young Master."

Quickly, Fill Bear stopped and stood up, noticing Wyatt Barnes.

"Fill Bear, how much have you grasped of the information contained in the 'sword' character?"

Wyatt Barnes asked with a smile.

The 'sword' character Wyatt Barnes was talking about naturally referred to a carving left by a guy who called himself 'Sword Saint' in a deep valley in the mountains near Fill Bear's hometown in the Royal Country.

That 'sword' character contained extraordinarily impressive Sword Dao insights.

According to Wyatt Barnes' estimate,

Even if it was just grasping one percent of the Sword Dao insights contained in that 'sword' character, one could probably roam unchallenged on the Cloud Skies Continent.

This, he had discovered not long ago.

Not long ago, he gained a further understanding of that 'sword' character stored in his mind, thereby elevating his 'Sword Realm' to 'Level Eight High-order Sword Realm'!

Now, although he had not improved much in other aspects, just because of the improvement in his 'Sword Realm', it added an extra power of three hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

Using an Emperor Grade Spirit Sword, he could unleash the power of three thousand eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons at full strength!

This was still without borrowing the 'Earth's power' through the 'Earth Realm'.

This is why he was able to instantaneously kill a Dion Gagnon from the Transforming Void Realm Level Eight in the Gagnon Family last time, without breaking a sweat.

"Young Master, Fill Bear is dull and has made no progress."

Fill Bear said, a frown and a bitter smile on his face.

"Don't rush... Many things still depend on fate. Who knows, maybe at some moment a spark will flash in your mind, and you will naturally grasp it all."

Wyatt Barnes consoled.

Yet, seeing Fill Bear's discouraged expression, his consolation was obviously of little use.

"Wyatt Barnes!"

Just then, a loud and familiar voice came, breaking the slightly silent atmosphere.

"Jadiel Gagnon!"

The person was Jadiel Gagnon of the Gagnon Family. Wyatt Barnes was straightforward and said without mincing words, "Jadiel Gagnon, I want to see the family head."

"A few days ago, you told me about the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass', I've already conveyed it to the family head... You should be able to learn the result by going with me to see the family head this time."

Jadiel Gagnon knew the purpose of Wyatt Barnes wanting to meet the head of the Gagnon Family, and he spoke frankly, "The two celestial materials you mentioned, judging by their names, sound like medicinal materials... Our Gagnon Family has countless collections of rare medicinal materials, who knows, maybe we have what you need."

"Hope so."

Wyatt Barnes nodded, and then looked at Fill Bear, "Fill Bear, do you want to come along?"

"Young Master, I'd rather not go, I'd like to continue training a bit longer... Moreover, by staying here, I can also help look after Miss Winnie."

Fill Bear said.

"Alright."

Wyatt Barnes nodded and then followed Jadiel Gagnon alone to meet the family head of the Gagnon Family, 'Randy Gagnon'.

The mansion where Randy Gagnon lived was not far from Wyatt Barnes', and even Jadiel Gagnon's residence was nearby.

"This eastern area of our Gagnon Family's mansions is where the high-ranking family members and direct descendants live... The most grandiose mansion up front is where the family head resides."

Jadiel Gagnon explained as he pointed ahead.

Hearing this, Wyatt Barnes glanced ahead.

In the distance, a mansion stood proudly, grand and towering among the surrounding residences, particularly conspicuous.

"Hmm?"

As they continued walking forward, Wyatt Barnes raised an eyebrow, distinctly sensing that a gaze from afar was locked onto him.

When he looked in that direction, he saw a young man, almost middle-aged, striding toward him and Jadiel Gagnon, followed by an elder.

"Hmph!"

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes heard Jadiel Gagnon snort, clearly directed at the newcomer.

"Jadiel Gagnon, not even a greeting for your 'big brother'?"

Then, the young man in gray who had approached them, shifted his gaze from Wyatt Barnes to Jadiel Gagnon.

"Am I familiar with you?"

Jadiel Gagnon swept a cold glance at the young man in gray, speaking disdainfully.

"Jadiel Gagnon, is there any misunderstanding between us?"

The young man in gray maintained a smile, even though Jadiel Gagnon didn't show him any good expression.

This forced Wyatt Barnes to marvel at his good temperament.

Chapter 1076: Kartier Gagnon

Suddenly, Wyatt Barnes seemed to remember something, his brows lifting.

Big brother?

This grey-clothed youth, calling himself "big brother" in front of Jadiel Gagnon?

"Kartier Gagnon!"

Quickly, Wyatt realized who the grey-clothed youth in front of him was.

Within the Gagnon Family, the only person who could call themselves "big brother" in front of Jadiel Gagnon was the legitimate eldest son of the Gagnon family, "Kartier Gagnon", who was also Jadiel's arch-enemy and the stumbling block to Jadiel's path to becoming the next patriarch of the Gagnon Family.

Not only that.

"The 'Third Young Master' of the Gagnon Family, 'Damari Gagnon,' whom I killed before... I overheard discussions that he was supposedly this Kartier Gagnon's 'biological younger brother'!"

Biological brother means his own younger brother!

For a moment, Wyatt's gaze towards Kartier carried a few more traces of vigilance.

"This must be Elder Barnes, right?"

Seeing that Jadiel ignored him, Kartier did not get annoyed and quickly shifted his target, looking towards Wyatt with a radiant smile on his face.

However, the brilliant smile on Kartier's face seemed incredibly glaring in Wyatt's eyes.

"This Kartier... does he have a bad relationship with his 'biological brother' Jadiel?"

Wyatt did not respond to Kartier, instead using Origin Force to inquire with Jadiel.

"They lost their parents when they were young and supported each other, their relationship was naturally very good... for Damari, besides being an older brother, Kartier also played the role of 'father,' both brother and father!"

Jadiel replied using Origin Force.

All of a sudden, Wyatt felt a chill within.

He did not believe that Kartier was unaware of his killing of Damari.

Yet even so, Kartier could still smile in his presence, which made him feel a cold shiver down his spine, "This Kartier, he's a highly dangerous person!"

This much, Wyatt could almost ascertain.

Being able to behave normally in the face of the man who killed his younger brother wasn't something ordinary people could do; those who could were all scheming.

If Kartier had met him with hostility and conflict, he might not have taken Kartier seriously.

But Kartier's current demeanor made him feel genuinely wary from the bottom of his heart.

An open enemy, not frightful.

A hidden enemy, truly terrifying.

"And who might you be?"

Wyatt looked at Kartier and asked knowingly.

"I am Kartier Gagnon."

Kartier maintained his smile, responding politely to Wyatt.

"Kartier Gagnon? The eldest son of the Gagnon Family?"

Wyatt feigned surprise.

"Yes."

Kartier nodded, then continued, "However, in front of you, Elder Barnes, my position as the eldest son of the Gagnon Family doesn't count for much... You are a 'Grade One alchemist,' and even our patriarch and the three Protector Elders have to show you respect."

As he spoke, Kartier's face showed humility.

Faced with Kartier's flattery, Wyatt did not pay much attention, instead, he looked deeply at Kartier and asked with a smile, "I heard that... the 'Third Young Master' of the Gagnon Family, 'Damari Gagnon,' was your biological younger brother?"

As soon as he finished speaking, Wyatt's gaze sharpened, locking onto Kartier with a penetrating look.

At the same time, he extended his spiritual power.

"Yes."

Kartier nodded, his smile growing even denser, showing no signs of anger at the mention of 'Damari.'

"Do you know that I killed him?"

Wyatt asked further.

A shock went through Wyatt's heart as he asked this question.

Because he noticed that when he mentioned 'Damari,' whether it was his gaze or his spiritual power, none detected any change in Kartier's emotions.

Not even the slightest bit!

What did this imply?

Either Kartier didn't care at all about the life or death of his biological brother 'Damari,'

Or Kartier perfectly concealed his emotions.

If it were the former, so be it.

But if it were the latter, then Kartier was far too frightening.

Through the Origin Force query he had just made, he could determine it was not the former; it had to be the latter, which raised an involuntary chill in his heart.

Now, in his eyes, Kartier was like a venomous snake that could easily blend into its surroundings, perfectly hidden.

And such a snake was undoubtedly extremely dangerous, leaving one forever on guard!

Once it strikes, it will kill invisibly.

"Hmm?"

Suddenly, Wyatt felt his extended spiritual power violently tremble.

That's when he noticed.

Just as his words fell, there was a significant abnormal fluctuation in Kartier's emotions.

Kartier's emotional fluctuation was extremely slight, and fleeting, but his keen spiritual power still clearly sensed it.

Within the emotional turbulence, there lurked a thirst for blood, brimming with murderous intent.

"I know. However, I must thank Elder Barnes for cleaning up my family's mess! With Damari Gagnon's temperament, trouble would have inevitably arisen sooner or later. To die at the hands of Elder Barnes can be considered his good fortune."

Kartier Gagnon nodded, his face still adorned with a smile.

However, when his smile caught Wyatt Barnes's eye, it sent a chill down Wyatt's spine.

It was also due to Wyatt's perception through his mental strength that he detected the emotional fluctuations in Kartier Gagnon; otherwise, if judging merely by sight, Wyatt might have been deceived.

"Then it appears I unintentionally provided shade with my planted willow... But there's no need for your gratitude, as it was merely a trivial effort for me,"

Wyatt Barnes glanced indifferently at Kartier Gagnon and spoke in a calm tone.

"You're seeking death, boy!"

Just at that moment, a cold light flashed in the eyes of the old man behind Kartier Gagnon, as his energy immediately locked onto Wyatt Barnes.

Following that, he stepped forward, intending to strike at Wyatt.

Whoosh!

However, before the old man could act, he was stopped by an outstretched hand from Kartier Gagnon.

"Elder Barnes, I truly apologize... Elder Lester had a close relationship with Damari Gagnon. If he has been presumptuous, I hope you can forgive him,"

Kartier Gagnon said to Wyatt Barnes with an apologetic face.

Upon hearing this, Wyatt didn't look at Kartier Gagnon but kept his gaze fixed on the elderly man behind him. The old man's white hair and eyebrows complemented his hateful and angry stare towards Wyatt.

In an instant, as if perceiving something, Wyatt's face took on a thoughtful expression.

"This is intriguing indeed."

Wyatt gave the old man a deep look before shifting his gaze. He didn't engage Kartier Gagnon any further and after beckoning to Jadiel Gagnon, he left alongside him.

Only Kartier Gagnon and the old man behind him remained, standing in the original spot, watching the receding figures of Wyatt Barnes and Jadiel Gagnon.

"Young Master, you should not have stopped me! Just now, I was absolutely confident I could kill him and avenge the Third Young Master,"

The old man, staring at the departing purple silhouette, spoke with a face full of rage and indignation.

"And then what?"

By now, the rich smile on Kartier Gagnon's face had vanished, replaced by a cold indifference.

"Then..."

The old man, upon hearing this, was momentarily at a loss for words.

If he killed Wyatt, he could indeed become a fugitive, but the Young Master would inevitably be implicated.

After all, his every action represented his Young Master, Kartier Gagnon.

"If you killed him, you would either die or have to flee... And I, even if I could continue to stay with the Gagnon Family, would surely be out of contention for the position of family head! The Gagnon Family wouldn't want someone who disregards the interests of the family as their head,"

"You should be well aware of this,"

Kartier Gagnon said in a solemn tone.

Indeed, if he let this old man here kill Wyatt Barnes, even if the Gagnon Family didn't punish him, the family's higher-ups would undoubtedly hold a grudge against him, believing he had utterly ignored the family's interests.

Wyatt Barnes was a Grade One alchemist and the top Honorary Minister of the Gagnon Family.

If he were to be killed, it would be a huge loss for the Gagnon Family's interests.

"Young Master, what about the Third Young Master's revenge? Are we not going to avenge him?"

The old man said with a sorrowful expression.

"Not avenge him? Impossible! He was my own blood brother! The brother I watched grow up!"

A cold light flickered in Kartier Gagnon's eyes, but he quickly hid it away, as his slightly fierce expression returned to calm, "However, we must not act rashly... This calls for thorough planning."

"I will follow the Young Master's arrangements,"

The old man said, his eyes lighting up as he respectfully responded.

On the other side, Wyatt Barnes and Jadel Gagnon had reached the vicinity of the Gagnon Family Patriarch, Randy Gagnon's residence. In a mere dozen breaths or so, they would arrive at the mansion in front of them.

"Wyatt, you need to be cautious around Kartier Gagnon... He's a 'smiling tiger'—one way on the surface, another way in the shadows! Since you killed his blood brother, there's no way he'd let it go so easily. He'll certainly not rest until he's even."

Jadel Gagnon looked at Wyatt with a serious expression, offering his caution.

Wyatt nodded.

This was something he had noticed long ago without Jadiel Gagnon's reminder.

"Jadiel Gagnon, the old man behind Kartier Gagnon... do you know 'the details' about him?"

Wyatt swiftly recalled the old man who had been behind Kartier Gagnon, eager to make a move on him.

"I only know that the old fellow's surname is 'Lester,' and people call him 'Elder Lester'... As for his background, I heard he was once a servant by Kartier Gagnon's grandfather because of his notable talent and later became a collateral member of our Gagnon Family."

"Afterwards, when Kartier Gagnon's grandfather died, he followed Kartier's father... And after the deaths of Kartier Gagnon's parents, he took care of Kartier and Damari Gagnon, the two brothers,"

"It's said that the old fellow's strength has stepped into the 'Transforming Void Realm ninefold', and he's not very far from the peak of the 'Void Realm.' His strength is greater than many elders in our Gagnon Family."

Jadiel Gagnon shared everything he knew.

"Transforming Void Realm ninefold?"

Hearing Jadiel Gagnon's words, Wyatt Barnes's eyebrows rose in surprise, "That old man is truly hidden deep... He's clearly a 'Martial Emperor,' but he proclaims to be only at 'Transforming Void Realm ninefold.'"

Just then, when the old man locked on to him with his energy, intending to strike, Wyatt's mental strength extended immediately, attempting to probe the old man's cultivation. But as his mental power neared the old man, it seemed to melt into cotton, vanishing without a trace soon after.

At that moment, he knew.

The old man was a 'Martial Emperor'!

Chapter 1077: Soul-stabilizing Root?

"However, that old fellow is at most a presence at the 'First level of the Martial Emperor Realm'."

Wyatt Barnes was able to roughly infer this through the memories of his past two lives as a Martial Emperor.

"How so? Is there something amiss?"

Jadiel Gagnon noticed Wyatt Barnes suddenly stop in his tracks, looking somewhat lost and dejected, and paused as well, asking curiously.

"There's nothing."

Wyatt Barnes snapped back to his senses upon hearing the voice and shook his head.

He still decided not to share his discovery with Jadiel Gagnon.

If Jadiel Gagnon knew that Kartier Gagnon was always accompanied by a 'Martial Emperor powerhouse', he definitely wouldn't be in a good mood.

After all, as long as he still wanted to become the next patriarch of the Gagnon Family, he had to remove Kartier Gagnon, this 'stepping stone'.

If he knew that a Martial Emperor was protecting Kartier Gagnon, it might lead him to despair.

Seeing Wyatt come back to his senses, seemingly with a heavy heart, Jadiel Gagnon felt puzzled, but he did not continue to inquire.

He could tell that Wyatt didn't wish to discuss further.

Therefore, he didn't plan to force Wyatt to speak.

Shortly thereafter, under the lead of Jadiel Gagnon, Wyatt Barnes entered the grand and towering mansion ahead, proceeding into the central hall of the mansion.

Within the hall, someone was already waiting there.

The patriarch of the Gagnon Family, Randy Gagnon!

"Patriarch."

Upon seeing Randy Gagnon, Wyatt Barnes smiled and greeted him, not bowing deferentially like Jadiel Gagnon had.

Had it been anyone else, Randy Gagnon would certainly have been displeased.

However, since it was Wyatt Barnes, he didn't just feel okay with it; instead, he responded with a smile, "Elder Barnes."

"Elder Barnes, about the two types of medicinal ingredients you're looking for, I have gone through some ancient texts and finally found some written records about them... These past two days, I've been searching through our Gagnon Family treasure vault and eventually found several medicinal ingredients with characteristics similar to those you described. I just don't know if they are the ones you're looking for."

Randy Gagnon got straight to the point.

"Several kinds?"

Upon hearing Randy Gagnon's words, Wyatt Barnes's eyes lit up, and he asked eagerly, "Patriarch, could you please bring those medicinal ingredients out for me to identify?"

There was a hint of excitement in Wyatt Barnes's voice.

In his view,

Since there were several medicinal ingredients for him to choose from, perhaps among them were the items he desired.

"Of course."

Randy Gagnon raised his hand, and took out seven types of medicinal ingredients.

Three of them were root-like, resembling ginseng but with many differences.

The other four types were leaf-like.

"Elder Barnes, tell me... Huh? None of them?"

Randy Gagnon, who was about to hand the seven medicinal ingredients to Wyatt Barnes, just lifted his head to look at Wyatt when he saw disappointment all over Wyatt's face, along with a sigh.

For a moment, he vaguely realized something.

"Yes."

Wyatt Barnes nodded with a bitter smile, "None of these match the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass' that I'm searching for... Nevertheless, I would like to thank the patriarch for going to the trouble for me."

Toward the end, Wyatt Barnes expressed his gratitude.

"Elder Barnes, you're too polite."

Randy Gagnon said, "My understanding of the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass' is limited to the rough textual records in ancient texts, so even if I really saw them, I may not have been able to recognize them."

"There are still some medicinal ingredients in our Gagnon Family's treasure vault that match the characteristics described for these two 'heaven and earth treasures', but I didn't bring them all out... How about this, Elder Barnes, you accompany me and take a look yourself?"

Randy Gagnon suggested at the end.

"Then I must thank the patriarch here in advance."

Wyatt Barnes's reply clearly meant that he agreed to accompany Randy Gagnon to the Gagnon Family treasure vault to check the medicinal ingredients, to see if they had what he was looking for.

Following that, Wyatt Barnes and Randy Gagnon left the mansion together, as for Jadiel Gagnon, he went back to his own residence and did not follow along.

The Gagnon Family's treasure vault was located to the north of the Gagnon Family mansion, surrounded by several layers of protection, within which were spread 'Inscription formations', and some of these were even powerful 'killing formations'.

The Gagnon Family's treasure vault was a 'palace' enveloped in numerous Inscription formations, with only one entrance, guarded personally by an elderly man.

"Elder Barnes, Patriarch."

The elderly man was somewhat surprised to see Wyatt Barnes and Randy Gagnon appear together but still greeted them warmly.

"Elder Kylen."

Wyatt Barnes responded with a smile.

The old man in front of him was no stranger; he was one of the Gagnon Family's Three Great Protectors, 'Kylen Gagnon', a powerful Martial Emperor.

"Elder Kylen, I'll take Elder Barnes inside to find some medicinal ingredients."

Randy Gagnon told Kylen Gagnon.

Kylen Gagnon nodded and extended a gentle force that activated one of the Inscription formations at the entrance of the treasure vault.

Creak!

Simultaneously, the treasure vault's door swung open on its own.

Wyatt Barnes and Randy Gagnon entered the vault, and a rainbow of colors greeted them, caused by a massive heap of jewels that, when bathed in the light brought by the two men, shone with a dazzling radiance.

Among them, some large pearls continued to sparkle even after the light had faded, illuminating the entire treasure vault and making it all the more eye-catching.

"Night Pearls!"

Wyatt Barnes's eyebrows raised.

"Elder Barnes, if you're interested in these items, feel free to take them."

It seemed that Wyatt Barnes's gaze was drawn to a pile of jewels, and Randy Gagnon spoke readily.

For a family like the 'Northumberland Gagnon Family,' heaps of jewels strewn on the ground were nothing but exceedingly common decorations of negligible value.

"I'm just looking."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head, indicating his lack of interest in those things.

"Family Head, where are the medicinal ingredients?"

Scanning his surroundings, Wyatt Barnes did not see the medicinal ingredients and, perplexed, he curiously turned toward Randy Gagnon to ask.

"The medicinal ingredients are inside."

Randy Gagnon led the way as he spoke.

Besides being one of the two strongest clans in Northumberland, the Gagnon Family was also an 'alchemist family.'

To an alchemist, the most precious things were, apart from the 'medicine tripod,' nothing other than the 'medicinal ingredients' needed to concoct Pill Medicines.

Thus, for the Gagnon Family, medicinal ingredients were the most precious treasures,

Especially those that were rarer.

On the way from the area storing 'jewels' to the place where 'medicinal ingredients' were kept, Wyatt Barnes also passed through several other areas.

These places stored ancient books, pieces of realms, and treasures like spiritual weapons.

"Right here."

As Randy Gagnon triggered the mechanism, a stone door in front rose.

The next moment, Wyatt Barnes caught the rich aroma of herbs wafting from inside, quickly filling his nostrils.

For a moment, he felt as if he were floating, like he had consumed some kind of Spirit Pill.

A short while later, he came back to his senses.

"Elder Barnes, please."

Randy Gagnon invited Wyatt Barnes into a spacious side hall beyond the stone door, where numerous medicinal ingredients were stored and, at a glance, he could not take them all in.

"Spirit Heart Grass, Butterfly Dance Flower, Traceless Stem... So many rare medicinal ingredients!"

After a short while, Wyatt Barnes was attracted by many of the medicinal ingredients in the side hall, and he couldn't help but exclaim a bit agitatedly.

These medicinal ingredients, while not as urgently desired as 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass' he currently sought, were also quite uncommon.

Randy Gagnon stood to the side, not surprised by Wyatt Barnes's agitation.

He still remembered.

The first time he came here, he was older than Elder Barnes is now, but his will was far less than that of Elder Barnes.

Back then, he saw a pile of rare medicinal ingredients and couldn't move for a long time.

Later, it was the old Family Head who gave him a slap to wake him up.

"Family Head, where are those ingredients you mentioned?"

Wyatt Barnes looked at Randy Gagnon to inquire.

With so many medicinal ingredients here, if he truly had to sift through them all, it would at least take a few days, and the thought gave him a headache, prompting him to ask Randy Gagnon.

Now, all he hoped was that Randy Gagnon had put those ingredients aside, allowing him to directly choose.

"I had people categorize those ingredients and place them over there."

Randy Gagnon pointed to a corner of the side hall and said.

At his words, Wyatt Barnes felt relieved and immediately went to that corner of the side hall, pulling back the 'dust cover' that shrouded a pile of medicinal ingredients.

As the dust cover was lifted, Wyatt Barnes's view cleared up, revealing several dozen varieties of medicinal ingredients.

Upon a quick glance, Wyatt Barnes saw several ingredients that more or less bore some similarities to the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' and 'Soul-setting Grass' he was seeking.

"Family Head, you've taken quite some trouble."

Taking a deep breath, Wyatt Barnes turned to Randy Gagnon, and spoke with sincerity.

The neatly arranged pile of ingredients in front of him had obviously been collected recently, which clearly illustrated Randy Gagnon's thoughtful efforts, warming Wyatt Barnes's heart.

Though he was a 'Grade One alchemist,' he had not helped the Gagnon Family concoct a single Pill Medicine since joining them a few days ago, which meant he had not made any contribution to the family.

Under such circumstances, Wyatt Barnes felt genuinely grateful for Randy Gagnon's and the Gagnon Family's contributions to him.

"I hope Elder Barnes finds what you're looking for."

Randy Gagnon said with a smile.

"Mhm."

Wyatt Barnes nodded, turning back to seriously examine the pile of medicinal ingredients before him.

Quickly, his gaze settled, falling upon one particular ingredient and staying there, immovable.

At the same moment, the atmosphere in the side hall became incredibly tense.

Hiss! Hiss!

...

Wyatt Barnes's increasingly heavy breathing could be heard.

His breaths, growing heavier and heavier, made Randy Gagnon curiously step forward, swiftly moving like a breeze to Wyatt Barnes's side, following his gaze.

Simultaneously, a root-like medicinal ingredient appeared before him.

All the 'roots' of this root-like ingredient were curled together, twisted into a bundle, looking extremely odd.

"This... This couldn't be the 'Soul-stabilizing Root,' could it?"

Randy Gagnon asked, somewhat astounded.

The root-like medicinal ingredient before him differed greatly from the description of 'Soul-stabilizing Root' he had seen in ancient texts, which made no mention of the Soul-stabilizing Root's 'roots' being curled up together.

"Indeed! This is the 'Soul-stabilizing Root'... And it's not just an ordinary 'Soul-stabilizing Root' at that!"

Chapter 1078: Bounty

"Not just an ordinary 'Soul-stabilizing Root'?"

Seeing Wyatt Barnes startled by his words and blurting this out, Randy Gagnon's eyes revealed a hint of confusion, completely unaware of what Wyatt meant.

"Um."

Startled by Randy, Wyatt's face exhibited a deep excitement, "Ordinary 'Soul-stabilizing Roots' are straight... But once they have survived in the world for 'a thousand years,' their 'roots' begin to curl."

"The longer they survive in the world, the more their 'roots' curl."

As Wyatt lifted his hand, he grasped a fully curled Soul-stabilizing Root, his eyes shining with excitement.

"Would this mean, then, this Soul-stabilizing Root has existed for an extremely long period?"

Upon hearing Wyatt's words, Randy's eyes lit up, "Can Elder Barnes estimate how long it has survived in the world?"

"Judging by the degree to which the 'root' is curled... it must have existed for at least five thousand years! Such a Soul-stabilizing Root can already be called a 'Coiled Dragon Root'!"

Wyatt continued, assessing the root in his hand.

Coiled Dragon Root!

Hearing this, Randy's pupils contracted.

Coiled Dragon Root, he had surely heard of it.

A Coiled Dragon Root is not merely a term for a specific type of root medicine; any rare root medicine that has survived more than five thousand years can be called a 'Coiled Dragon Root.'

"I didn't expect this Soul-stabilizing Root to have transformed into a 'Coiled Dragon Root'... no wonder I missed it earlier and didn't take it away."

Randy exclaimed, "Fortunately, Elder Barnes is well-informed and recognized it at a glance... otherwise, even if it had remained in our Gagnon Family's vault, it might have only gathered dust."

"Congratulations, Elder Barnes."

Having regained his composure, Randy smiled and congratulated Wyatt.

"Thank you, Family Head."

Wyatt quickly thanked him, and then, like treasuring a precious gift, he stored the Soul-stabilizing Root into his Storage Ring.

Even now, his excited feelings were slow to calm down.

Whether it was 'Soul-stabilizing Roots' or 'Soul-setting Grass,' throughout the entire Cloud Skies Continent, they were both extremely rare 'heavenly materials,' and many people might never see them in their lifetime.

Before this, Wyatt had never imagined that he would acquire 'Soul-stabilizing Roots' from the Gagnon Family.

Although he had followed Randy to the Gagnon Family's vault, he had primarily kept a mindset of 'trying his luck as a last resort.'

He never truly believed that he could find either 'Soul-stabilizing Roots' or 'Soul-setting Grass' there.

"Maybe... this is what they call a blessing in disguise,"

Wyatt thought to himself.

"With this Soul-stabilizing Root, I can first prepare a medicinal liquid for Winnie to consume, to heal part of the damage to her soul... I just hope that by healing that part, Winnie will wake up."

Wyatt mentally recited this to himself, his face filled with apprehension.

"Elder Barnes, keep looking... see if you can also find 'Soul-setting Grass,'"

Randy said smilingly.

Wyatt nodded and then began assessing the dozens of medicinal ingredients before him, but ultimately, he found nothing, "There's no Soul-setting Grass here."

Although he didn't find Soul-setting Grass, obtaining the Soul-stabilizing Root was already a great surprise for Wyatt.

"Family Head, I would like to return now."

Wyatt was now eager to leave, wishing to prepare the medicinal liquid for Winnie Romero as soon as possible and unwilling to remain there a moment longer.

"Okay."

As the head of the Gagnon Family, Randy was astute enough to detect Wyatt's urgency in his tone.

Following that, the two left the hall storing many medicinal materials and made their way out.

From whence they came, to whence they go.

"Family Head, if the family needs 'Grade One Pill Medicine,' you can list the items for me... as long as the ingredients are delivered, I can directly help the family produce 'Grade One Pill Medicine,'"

Wyatt earnestly told Randy.

Not to mention that he would rely on the Gagnon Family significantly in the future, he already owed them a big favor now.

Randy might not fully understand the real value of the 'Soul-stabilizing Root,' but Wyatt understood it very well.

It was a heavenly material capable of repairing the soul!

Far beyond any ordinary rare medicinal ingredient.

Hearing Wyatt's words, Randy's gaze brightened up, "Good! Good! I'll make a list soon and give it to you along with the ingredients."

Grade One Pill Medicine!

Although the Gagnon Family had some, it was produced by the chairman of the alchemists guild in the South Outlands, and they also had to pay a considerable amount for it.

That was acceptable.

The chairman of the alchemists guild, every time he produced 'Grade One Pill Medicine' for their family, imposed further restrictions and was unwilling to assist more.

This had always made them somewhat helpless, constantly lamenting why their family could not produce another 'Grade One alchemist'!

If the Gagnon Family had a 'Grade One alchemist' of their own, why would they need to seek the chairman from the South Outlands?

The Gagnon Family had only ever had a Grade One alchemist appear nearly a thousand years ago.

Because of this, the appearance of Wyatt Barnes gave the Gagnon Family a glimpse of "dawn," as this meant that the Gagnons no longer needed to depend on others for Grade One Pill Medicine.

This was also one of the reasons why, when Wyatt Barnes revealed his identity as a Grade One alchemist and expressed his intention to join the Gagnon Family, everyone, including the family head Randy Gagnon, treated him with great respect.

The Gagnon Family urgently needed a Grade One alchemist to uphold the "Alchemy Family" prestigious signboard!

After a moment, Wyatt Barnes and Randy Gagnon left the Gagnon Family's treasure vault and returned to the eastern side of the Gagnon Family estate.

"Elder Barnes, regarding the Soul-setting Grass, you need not worry... I will immediately have someone spread the word and offer a reward for the Soul-setting Grass!"

Before parting, Randy Gagnon turned to Wyatt Barnes and said, "However, before that, please draw a detailed sketch of the Soul-setting Grass for me, as my understanding of it is limited to rough textual records in ancient books."

"Others, I'm afraid, might see the Soul-setting Grass and still not recognize it."

Randy Gagnon expressed his decision in one breath.

"Offer a reward?"

Hearing Randy Gagnon's words, Wyatt Barnes's eyes lit up. Then, he took the paper and pen passed by Randy Gagnon and quickly drew the Soul-setting Grass he had seen several times in Martial Emperor's memory.

He didn't miss any detail.

It took him a full quarter of an hour to draw a complete Soul-setting Grass.

"Excellent drawing!"

Looking at the lifelike drawing of the grass handed by Wyatt Barnes, Randy Gagnon's eyes flashed before he smiled and said, "Based on this drawing as a template, copying and distributing millions of copies could mobilize the entire Northern Desert, and even most of the South Outlands, to search for the Soul-setting Grass!"

"What reward are you thinking of offering?"

Wyatt Barnes asked.

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's question, Randy Gagnon pondered briefly, "Considering the reward, it indeed requires careful thought... ordinary items are not enough to motivate all the warriors who know about this to search for the Soul-setting Grass."

"Master, I do have a suggestion."

An idea suddenly popped into Wyatt Barnes's mind, and he immediately spoke.

"Elder Barnes, please speak."

Randy Gagnon looked at Wyatt Barnes.

"Here's the thing... The 'reward' issued by the Gagnon Family, promises to the one who finds the Soul-setting Grass one Grade One Spiritual Artifact and ten Grade One Return-Life Pills!"

Wyatt Barnes stated directly.

One Grade One Spiritual Artifact!

Ten Grade One Return-Life Pills!

Upon hearing this, Randy Gagnon, the head of the Gagnon Family, was so shocked that he couldn't help being stunned.

Both Grade One Spiritual Artifact and Grade One Return-Life Pills are extremely precious even in the "Inner Land," let alone appearing in the "Outer Land."

Appearing in the "Outer Land" was enough to make people fight fiercely over them!

"Elder Barnes, Grade One Return-Life Pills are manageable, our Gagnon Family still has a dozen in stock... even if it's not enough, you can make some more."

Randy Gagnon took a deep breath, calmed his stirred emotions, and then continued, "But the 'Grade One Spiritual Artifact'... even our Gagnon Family has only four, three of which are in the hands of our three Protector Elders, and one in my hands."

"These four Grade One Spiritual Artifacts have been passed down from our ancestors, I..."

Randy Gagnon's words were abruptly cut off.

"Master, I think you've misunderstood."

Wyatt Barnes firmly interrupted Randy Gagnon, knowing that he had misunderstood his intention.

"Misunderstood?"

Randy Gagnon was taken aback.

"Master, the rewards I just suggested were not meant to come out of the clan's resources... I am already grateful that the family could distribute the reward through its extensive network of connections."

Wyatt Barnes first nodded, then continued, "Regarding the reward of one Grade One Spiritual Artifact and ten Grade One Return-Life Pills, they are all personally offered by me."

Upon hearing this, Randy Gagnon immediately felt relieved, "I had forgotten, Elder Barnes, as a Grade One alchemist, acquiring a Grade One Spiritual Artifact for you is naturally not difficult."

A Grade One alchemist, with enough medicinal materials, could freely produce Grade One Pill Medicine.

A certain amount of Grade One Pill Medicine could entirely be exchanged for a Grade One Artifact Refiner's creation of a Grade One Spiritual Artifact.

Of course, that was Randy Gagnon's thought.

If Randy Gagnon knew that the purple-robed young man standing before him was not only a Grade One alchemist but also a Grade One Artifact Refiner, who knows what his expression would be.

"Master, please entrust this matter to you."

Wyatt Barnes spoke earnestly.

"Elder Barnes, rest assured."

Randy Gagnon nodded, "This matter, I will handle it properly... With the 'reward' you promised, I believe even Martial Emperor powerhouses would be tempted and might even personally assist you in finding the Soul-setting Grass."

"That's exactly the effect I am aiming for."

Wyatt Barnes smiled.

After parting with Randy Gagnon, Wyatt Barnes's figure moved swiftly, shooting straight towards his residence like an arrow released from a bow.

"Winnie, Brother Barnes has now found the Soul-stabilizing Root... With the 'five thousand years' of medicinal efficacy of the Soul-stabilizing Root, it should be enough to help you heal most of your soul injuries."

Wyatt Barnes murmured.

Chapter 1079: Winnie Romero Awakens!

Hiss!

The door was tightly shut, and in the exceedingly quiet room, a faint sound suddenly emerged from thin air.

A young man in purple stood before the bed, his palm spontaneously producing a wisp of flame, a wisp of solid flame.

This flame was different from ordinary flames.

Because the flame was entirely purple.

Not only that, but around the purple flame flickered a thin layer of golden edge.

Imperial red flame!

That is, "Grade One red flame."

The young man in purple was none other than Wyatt Barnes, who returned to his room after parting ways with the patriarch of the Gagnon Family, Randy Gagnon.

After returning to his room, he lifted Winnie Romero, who was sleeping in an "ice coffin," and placed her on the bed.

He then conjured this Grade One red flame.

"The 'Soul-stabilizing Root' that has existed in the world for a full five thousand years can only be smelted by 'Grade One' or higher pill fire," Wyatt Barnes muttered to himself, his lips barely moving.

If there had been a second person awake in the room to hear Wyatt's words, they would have been bewildered.

"Isn't Grade One red flame the highest quality of pill fire? Where is there a 'Grade One' or higher pill fire?"

That person would surely have such a question.

Of course, that would be because the person was ignorant of the existence of 'Emperor Grade alchemists' and 'almost Emperor Grade alchemists'.

Otherwise, they would not have said such a thing.

Emperor Grade alchemists are the true pinnacle of "alchemists" on the Cloud Skies Continent!

While muttering, Wyatt casually took out a strange root-shaped medicinal ingredient. All the "roots" of the medicinal ingredient were coiled together, giving it an extremely bizarre appearance.

It was the "Soul-stabilizing Root"!

In an instant, the Soul-stabilizing Root was drawn by Wyatt to the top of the Grade One red flame, allowing the pill fire to completely envelop it.

A quarter of an hour passed, yet the Soul-stabilizing Root showed no sign of change.

"It is indeed the Soul-stabilizing Root that has survived in the world for 'five thousand years'... A full quarter of an hour, and without the aid of a medicine tripod, the Grade One red flame alone is still not enough to smelt it," Wyatt could not help but exclaim.

Subsequently, Wyatt took out a medicine tripod and tossed the Soul-stabilizing Root into it.

With the help of the medicine tripod, Wyatt quickly smelted the Soul-stabilizing Root and added some relatively common medicinal ingredients to successfully concoct the medicinal liquid he needed.

It wasn't that he didn't want to make a solid "Pill Medicine," but after the Soul-stabilizing Root was smelted, it was utterly impossible to form into one, so he could only use it to concoct a medicinal liquid.

Snap!

Wyatt lifted his hand, and with a slap on the medicine tripod, the Grade One red flame wrapped around the tripod's outlet, forming a faint barrier.

Whoosh!

Then, a pool of ink-black medicinal liquid shot out like an arrow, piercing through the barrier formed by the Grade One red flame and pausing in midair.

An invisible force emanated from Wyatt's hand, pulling the pool of medicinal liquid as it continuously rolled in the air.

After putting away the medicine tripod, Wyatt guided the medicinal liquid to the bedside. His other hand lifted Winnie, who lay on the bed, to a half-reclined position against the headboard.

At the same time, he gently parted Winnie's slightly dry lips.

Hoo!

At that moment, the medicinal liquid drawn by Wyatt reached Winnie's mouth, slowly merging drop by drop inside her mouth, into her body.

In a short while, all of the medicinal liquid was sent into Winnie's body by Wyatt.

"Winnie."

After everything was completed, Wyatt sighed in relief, simultaneously extending his spiritual power to follow the direction of the medicinal power derived from the Soul-stabilizing Root.

Wyatt's spiritual power could sense it clearly.

As the medicinal power merged into Winnie's body, it rushed directly to her mind and gathered in her brain within moments, charging straight toward her damaged soul.

Her soul, like a wisp of flame, floated in the depths of her mind, flickering incessantly.

Winnie's soul had a damaged corner.

This was also the 'root cause' of her comatose state.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

The streams of medicinal power gathered in Winnie's brain, sweeping in from all directions, blending into her soul and converging together.

Winnie's soul was completely enveloped, only the medicinal power could be seen rolling around it.

"Logically speaking, if it were just the 'Soul-stabilizing Root,' Winnie's soul couldn't be completely restored... Even if it's a five-thousand-year-old Soul-stabilizing Root, it wouldn't be enough!" Wyatt was a bit lost in thought.

"I don't know if Winnie will be able to wake up... If she does, there might be some negative effects stemming from the soul damage," Wyatt pondered, bracing for the worst-case scenario.

"I hope the 'reward' issued by the patriarch will truly bring forth the 'Soul-setting Grass' ... If so, Winnie's soul could be completely healed."

Thinking this, anticipation filled Wyatt's face.

Time slipped away quietly.

Winnie's soul, still wrapped by the rolling medicinal power, kept Wyatt's spiritual power from getting close, leaving him to watch from afar.

However, Wyatt waited silently at the bedside, awaiting the final outcome.

He knew that when the medicinal power completely merged into Winnie's soul, there would be two possible results.

One of them was simply Winnie continuing to lie unconscious until she took the medicinal liquid refined from the "Soul-setting Grass," which could awaken her once more.

Another possibility was that Winnie Romero would wake up, but her soul would still be in a damaged state, inevitably causing some negative impacts on her.

Night enveloped the land, darkness so thick one could not see their hand before them, yet it didn't affect Wyatt Barnes in the slightest.

The medicinal power continued to churn.

The spiritual force Wyatt Barnes extended seemed to be constantly reporting back the status of Winnie Romero's soul buried deep within her mind.

He sat in front of the bed, patiently waiting.

At some point, dawn broke over the earth, and the room was filled with light once more.

"It's done!"

At that moment, Wyatt Barnes found that the medicinal strength of the Pill Medicine brewed from the Soul-stabilizing Root had completely fused into Winnie Romero's soul, repairing part of the soul's injuries.

"Winnie!"

After withdrawing his spiritual force, Wyatt Barnes looked towards Winnie Romero with a nervous face and reached out to hold her hand.

Winnie Romero's hand was very hot from being constantly exposed to the cold in the ice coffin, and even after leaving the coffin for a whole day, her hand remained that hot.

But Wyatt Barnes didn't pay attention to that.

His gaze was firmly fixed on Winnie Romero's beautiful face; he just wanted to know whether the part of her soul that was repaired would cause her to awaken.

Time slipped away quietly.

Half an hour passed quickly.

Winnie Romero still showed no signs of waking up.

"Sigh."

Seeing this, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but sigh and withdrew his gaze, murmuring, "It seems that we have to find the Soul-setting Grass to wake Winnie up."

"Hmm."

Just then, a soft sound reached Wyatt Barnes' ears like thunder, causing his pupils to shrink, and he stood up abruptly.

His gaze shot out like lightning, once again locking onto the red-dressed woman on the bed, Winnie Romero.

Winnie Romero's mouth moved slightly, and her beautiful face showed signs of life.

Next, her water-like autumn eyes opened, and the first thing she saw was Wyatt Barnes looking at her, but there was no unusual emotion flashing in her eyes.

Stranger.

When Winnie Romero looked at Wyatt Barnes, her eyes were filled with a deep unfamiliarity, as if she had never known the person that was Wyatt Barnes.

This gaze, full of unfamiliarity, pierced Wyatt Barnes' heart with pain.

"It seems that what I was most worried about has still happened."

Wyatt Barnes murmured in his heart.

Whoosh!

Before Wyatt Barnes could react, a streak of red light flashed before his eyes.

In the next moment, he found that Winnie Romero had left the bed and vanished from his sight.

At the same time, he clearly felt a scorching breath behind him.

"Winnie!"

Wyatt Barnes turned around to see Winnie Romero floating in the air, her red dress billowing, surrounded by rising flames.

He noticed that Winnie Romero's gaze towards him still held no emotion and was extremely foreign, as if she were looking at a stranger.

Taking a deep breath, Wyatt Barnes suppressed his restless emotions and asked softly, "Winnie, don't you recognize me? I'm Brother Barnes."

"Brother Barnes?"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes' words, Winnie Romero, who stood suspended in the air, furrowed her brows as if trying to recall something.

Her red dress, along with the scorching flames rolling around her body, made her seem like a lost spirit of fire.

"Yes, I'm Brother Barnes! Wyatt Barnes!"

Seeing Winnie was pondering, Wyatt Barnes quickly followed up, hoping to awaken her memory.

"I don't recognize you!"

However, what he got in return was a cold shout from Winnie Romero.

Moreover, as Winnie Romero shouted, her beautiful face seemed to be covered with frost, frost not even the flames around her could melt.

Shoo!

With a raise of Winnie Romero's hand, a sword appeared, a five-foot-long, thin red soft sword.

It was the Emperor Grade spirit sword Wyatt Barnes had once given her!

Just now, however, she pointed the sword Wyatt Barnes had given her directly at Wyatt Barnes and demanded, "Who on earth are you?!"

"Young Master!"

"Young Master!"

...

Just then, a flurry of urgent voices came from outside the door. It was Fill Bear who heard about the commotion in Wyatt Barnes' room from a servant girl and rushed over.

Yet, he received no response.

"Winnie, I am Brother Barnes... have you forgotten? The sword in your hand was given to you by me not long ago. Have you forgotten all of this?"

Even as Winnie Romero pointed the sword at him, Wyatt Barnes didn't show any wariness; he patiently called to awaken Winnie Romero's memory.

"Brother Barnes? This sword, was it given to me by you?"

Winnie Romero looked at Wyatt Barnes, then at the sword in her hand, and murmured softly.

"Yes. Do you remember now?"

Wyatt Barnes nodded with a hopeful expression.

Although he had been mentally prepared, when he discovered that the awakened Winnie Romero had forgotten him, his heart was still filled with helplessness and bitterness.

Chapter 1080: Amnesia

However, just as Wyatt Barnes looked expectantly at Winnie Romero, something unexpected happened suddenly!

Whoosh!

Winnie Romero moved and stabbed at him with her sword, extremely abrupt and fierce.

At that moment, the flames emanating from her body seemed filled with an ice-cold aura, which chilled Wyatt's heart.

To Wyatt, Winnie's speed did not seem fast.

Yet, he had no intention of dodging.

He stood there quietly, his eyes soft and tender, staring at Winnie Romero, who inexplicably thrust her sword at him.

At this moment, the world in his eyes seemed to only contain the increasingly close fiery silhouette.

Even though the silhouette suddenly seemed to turn into a giant red beast that wanted to devour him, his expression and gaze remained unchanged, as tender as water as always.

Whoosh!

Winnie Romero, whose face seemed covered with a layer of frost, swept her sword toward Wyatt's heart, as if intending to kill him with a single strike.

However, seeing that Wyatt made no move to escape, her speed slightly reduced.

But, she was too close to him.

Even though her motion was slow, her sword quickly reached a spot not far from Wyatt's chest.

"Why... won't he dodge?"

"Why does it pain my heart to strike him with my sword?"

...

Like turning into a flame, Winnie Romero trembled inexplicably as she reached the front of Wyatt.

At the same time, she felt a sudden wave of panic and confusion.

Amid the lightning, her gaze happened to meet the sword close to Wyatt's heart, and she hastily moved the sword aside, trying to retract it.

Unfortunately, she was still too slow.

The strong 'inertia' carried her forward, driving her sword into the chest of the young man in purple.

Pff!

Blood splattered, onto her body, onto her hands.

Looking at the blood on her hands, she felt a heart-wrenching pain.

"Pain!"

She released the sword, covered her chest, her face in a daze, as if she had lost something in that instant.

Helpless and panicked, her breathing nearly stopped.

"Why... does my heart ache?"

"Do I really know him? Why is his gaze so gentle... What is our relationship?"

"Why won't he dodge? Why?"

...

Winnie Romero's beautiful face turned deathly pale, and she muttered to herself in a dazed and soulless manner.

Bang!!

It was not until a loud noise came that she snapped back to reality.

"Young Master!"

After bursting through the door, upon seeing the scene before him, Fill Bear's complexion drastically changed, and he quickly leaped forward, reaching the faltering figure in purple in an instant.

Whoosh!

In an instant, Fill Bear pulled out the red soft sword from the young man's chest and threw it on the ground, simultaneously using Origin Force to stop the bleeding.

"Thank goodness... thank goodness..."

Seeing that the sword had missed the heart and the young man in purple was not in life-threatening danger, Fill Bear breathed a sigh of relief.

"Cough!"

Always expressionless while watching Winnie Romero, as if soulless, having not even felt the sword enter his chest, Wyatt finally showed signs of life after Fill Bear removed the sword.

He coughed, a mouthful of clotted blood spraying out, staining the ground and forming a glaring, eye-catching red rose.

"Young Master? Who hurt you?"

Fill Bear's expression hardened, his eyes filled with a murderous intent.

At that moment, he seemed to completely forget that Wyatt's strength surpassed his own, and that anyone who could injure Wyatt was not someone he could handle.

Soon, Fill Bear got his answer.

That answer left him dumbstruck.

"You... why didn't you dodge?"

A voice devoid of any emotion came, causing Fill Bear's gaze to shift to the woman in red not far away.

"Miss Winnie... you... you're awake?!"

Fill Bear widened his eyes, his face filled with disbelief.

"Young Master... you... did you find Soul-stabilizing Root and Soul-setting Grass for Miss Winnie? This Gagnon Family is truly impressive, having both of these extremely rare treasures from the entire Cloud Skies Continent that even you mentioned."

Fill Bear quickly seemed to guess something, a smile appearing on his face.

But his smile soon froze.

For he noticed the blood on Winnie Romero's hands, which made his face change color, "Miss Winnie... was it you... did you stab the Young Master?"

Had it been someone else, even if he knew he would not win, he would have fought to the death to avenge his young master.

But now, the person was Winnie Romero, his young master's woman, the future Young Madam.

Although he was furious, he could do nothing.

"Why dodge? You... could you really kill me?"

Facing Winnie Romero's inquiry, Wyatt Barnes, pale from excessive blood loss, responded with a question of his own.

Winnie fell silent upon hearing his words.

Looking at the man's pale face before her, her heart inexplicably ached, as if it were being torn in two.

She didn't even know why.

"Could it be... did I really know him before? But why can't I remember anything?"

No matter how hard Winnie tried, she couldn't recall any memories related to the man before her.

Yet the man's injuries inexplicably pained her.

This forced her to believe that the man before her must have had a deep connection with her past self.

At this moment, any hostility Winnie had towards Wyatt had vanished.

Noticing this, Wyatt sighed in relief and a sincere smile formed on his lips.

He knew his decision to not dodge was correct.

At least, he had broken through the defensive barriers of the amnesiac Winnie; it was a successful start, and now she was no longer rejecting him.

Soon, she might completely accept him.

Had he dodged earlier, he would have faced an even more furious assault from the amnesiac Winnie, and she wouldn't have stopped rejecting him like she presently was.

"Young Master... what is this play between you and Miss Winnie?"

Fill Bear, standing to the side and seeing Wyatt smiling despite his injuries, was completely baffled.

"Fill Bear, I only found the 'Soul-stabilizing Root' at the Gagnon Family's place, but couldn't find the 'Soul-setting Grass'... After Winnie took the medicine refined from the Soul-stabilizing Root, she woke up but seems to have lost her memories about me," Wyatt explained succinctly to Fill Bear.

"Lost her memories? I see."

Upon hearing Wyatt's words, Fill Bear felt as if he were listening to some fantastical tale, until later, when he suddenly understood.

This explained why Miss Winnie, who was devoted to his Young Master, would hurt him.

So, it turned out that Miss Winnie had lost her memory.

"Young Master, what should we do now?"

Fill Bear asked.

"As long as we find the 'Soul-setting Grass' and refine the medicine for Winnie to take, her wounded soul can fully recover... By then, she will naturally remember everything," Wyatt said.

"That's good."

Fill Bear nodded and breathed a sigh of relief, genuinely worried that Miss Winnie might not recover and might attack his Young Master again.

Winnie overheard the entire conversation between Wyatt and Fill Bear.

"Why did I lose my memory?"

Winnie looked at Wyatt and asked.

Now, although her face was still frosty, it was not as repellent toward Wyatt as before, which was evident from her initiating conversation with him.

Hearing Winnie Romero's inquiry, Wyatt couldn't help but recall the painful memories of the past.

For him, it was undoubtedly a painful past he didn't wish to revisit.

However, facing the amnesiac Winnie, he shared everything candidly.

He mainly recounted how Winnie had forcibly enhanced her 'Fire Essence' for his sake in the past and how it caused the power of the 'Fire Spirit Body' within her to collapse.

Of course, he also mentioned how he, after undergoing Devil Transformation, suppressed the volatile 'Fire Spirit Body' within her but still caused severe damage to her soul,

and what followed thereafter.

"So it was like that... In the past, for you, I was willing to risk everything, even my own life?"

Winnie murmured.

Although Winnie had learned about the past from Wyatt, she was amnesiac and heard his recounting as if it were a story, completely unable to be as close to him as before.

However, despite becoming 'colder' than before, she was still able to accept Wyatt and no longer rejected him.

This pleased Wyatt tremendously.

At minimum, he didn't have to worry about Winnie attacking him with knives or swords anymore.

"Now, we just need to find the 'Soul-setting Grass' to restore Winnie's memory... Without her memories, even knowing about the past, she won't revert to her former self," Wyatt thought to himself.

The current Winnie was cold as ice, entirely different from her past self.

Except for him, she wore a cold expression towards everyone, almost as if they owed her a great debt.

To this, Wyatt felt quite helpless and tried to change her, but eventually found it impossible.

In the end, Wyatt had no choice but to let her be that way.

In a mansion in the eastern part of the Gagnon Family estate.

Whoosh!

A swift figure swooped down like a hawk and steadily landed in the backyard pavilion.

Inside the pavilion, a young man in gray clothes was sitting at a stone table, holding a 'wooden sword' in his hand, his expression somber, lost in thought.

"Young Master, are you thinking about the young master again?"

The visitor was an old man who, upon entering the pavilion, immediately noticed the wooden sword in the young man's hands.

"Elder Lester, do you still remember this wooden sword?"

The young man in gray rotated the wooden sword in his hand and asked.

"I remember,"

The old man nodded, then sighed, "You personally made this wooden sword for him on his fifth birthday... Back then, the young master was so happy when he received this birthday gift."

"Yes... In the blink of an eye, nearly thirty years have passed."

The young man in gray nodded.