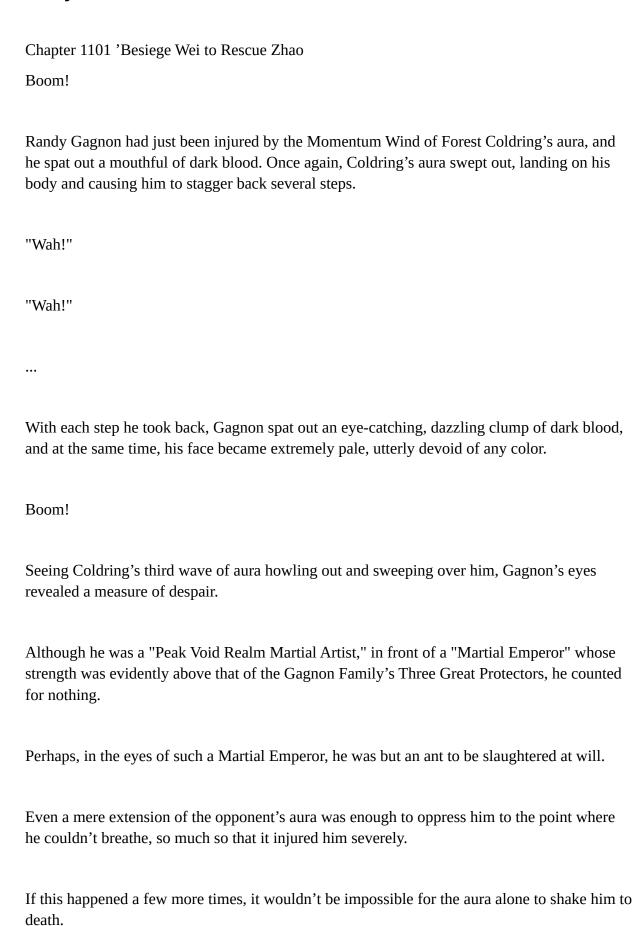
L. Wyatt 1101





But in his view, Elder Barnes's cultivation was at most on par with his own, at the peak of the Void Realm.

However, today's scene undeniably completely overturned his impression of Elder Barnes, "He truly is the 'Third Life' of the Samsara Martial Emperor... So young, and already he has stepped into the 'Martial Emperor Realm'!"

Since Wyatt Barnes was able to withstand Coldring's aura head-on, Gagnon guessed that Wyatt was a 'Martial Emperor.'

If he knew that Wyatt wasn't a 'Martial Emperor' but also didn't know what expression he would make.

"Hmm?"

On the other side, seeing that Wyatt Barnes was unfazed after being enveloped by Coldring's aura, and his face remained calm from beginning to end, Holland Keller was first taken aback, then his face grew solemn.

"Who exactly is this person? At such a young age, he is not only a 'Grade One alchemist' but can also withstand Coldring's aura!"

At this moment, Keller was thoroughly astounded by Wyatt Barnes.

Realizing that his aura had no effect on Wyatt, even Forest Coldring's indifferent face showed a hint of change.

Suddenly.

Coldring stepped forward, his hand shot out lightning-fast, making a beeline for Wyatt Barnes.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Instantly, the power of heaven and earth above Coldring's head stirred, triggering a series of explosive sounds like thunder, as if heralding his immense strength.

Seeing Coldring's hand reaching for him, Wyatt Barnes's face darkened, and a cold glint flickered in his eyes, menacing as if choosing someone to devour.

Now, with his strength greatly increased, he was composed as still water, even when facing a 'Martial Emperor' like Forest Coldring.

However, even though Wyatt was calm, his expression became extremely serious.

He could see.

This Forest Coldring was not an ordinary 'Martial Emperor'!

At the very least, with his current strength that could deal with a common Martial Emperor, it was hard to contend against him.

Swish!

Just as Wyatt Barnes was preparing to retreat temporarily, a fleeting sound of a sword's cry entered his ears, and he couldn't help but be taken aback as he found it somewhat familiar.

The next moment, he saw a sword-shaped flame rushing straight at Coldring, with overwhelming momentum.

"Winnie!"

Upon seeing the sword-shaped flame, Wyatt's face changed drastically, recognizing the person to be 'Winnie Romero.'

To be precise, it was the amnesia-stricken 'Winnie Romero.'

Swoosh!

The next moment, Wyatt moved.

However, he didn't charge at Coldring or pursue Winnie, who had just launched a sword strike at Coldring.

His target was the seemingly indifferent 'Holland Keller,' who stood quietly by, enjoying the scene.

Leaves in the Wind!

In an instant, Wyatt Barnes transformed into a storm, rushing straight at Keller, releasing all his power without any reservation.

The five mixed 'Nine Layer Transforming Void realms' he unleashed were akin to the strength of five thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

The 'Nine Layer High-Level Earth realm,' which utilized the 'Power of Earth,' could provide an additional strength of five hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

Fire fueled by Momentum Wind!

As the "Level Nine High-Grade Momentum Wind" fused with the "Level Nine High-Grade Fire Realm," the latter surged enormously, its force vast and majestic, further increasing by a strength of five hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

In other words.

All the realms Wyatt Barnes had comprehended were as powerful as the strength of six thousand ancient Horned Dragons!

Adding the surging strength from his body, equivalent to "twelve hundred ancient Horned Dragons" of the Transforming Void Realm Level Nine Origin Force, Wyatt's current speed was as if seven thousand two hundred ancient Horned Dragons were propelling him.

Swoosh!

Precisely because of this, Wyatt's speed was so fast that Holland Keller, whose cultivation was only at the Martial Emperor Realm First Level, struggled to react.

A typical "Martial Emperor Realm First Level warrior".

Their Origin Force alone was equivalent to the strength of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

A First-level Emperor Realm mystery, equivalent to the strength of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

Two types of "Level Nine Transforming Void Realms," equivalent to the strength of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

In total, that's six thousand ancient Horned Dragons' worth of power.

Holland Keller was just such a man.

Therefore, under the force of Wyatt's speed, which surpassed Keller's by a thousand ancient Horned Dragons' strength, Wyatt far exceeded him.

In the blink of an eye, Wyatt was already near him.

Meanwhile, facing the fierce attack of Winnie Romero's sword, Forest Coldring, who had initially intended to kill Winnie, saw Holland Keller's "predicament" and his expression drastically changed with urgent fear.

Following that, the anxious Coldring hastily struck out with his palm to meet Winnie's fierce sword.

As the palm print tore through the air, Keller quickly moved to the side, his sharp gaze shifting from Winnie's body to Wyatt's.

Boom!
The palm print, colliding with Winnie's sword that contained the strength of over eight thousand ancient Horned Dragons, not only obliterated the power within Winnie's sword but also caused Winnie to stagger back several steps, clearly suffering serious internal injuries.
"Don't kill him!"
At that moment, an urgent voice rang out, causing Winnie's and Randy Gagnon's expressions to change drastically.
Bang!
A loud noise startled Winnie, her eyes showing panic.
At a distance, as Winnie found herself in peril, the young man in purple who resolutely chose to pounce towards Keller to "relieve the siege" was sent flying by Coldring with a single palm strike.
"Ouch!"
Wyatt Barnes, spraying blood from his mouth and flying backward like an arrow released from its bow, felt excruciating pain throughout his body.
It was an unbearable sensation.
The injury started at the chest, then spread to the organs, and finally extended throughout his body.
Painful!
Uncomfortable!

Those were the only thoughts in Wyatt's mind at the moment.

Ultimately, Wyatt, unable to mobilize his Origin Force due to his injuries, was carried away by the force of Coldring's palm strike and flew a great distance before crashing harshly onto the ground.

Whoosh!

A figure, like a flame, dashed towards Wyatt immediately.

A woman in red clothes, though she did not speak, the "anxiety" between her brows undoubtedly betrayed her current mood.

"Elder Barnes!"

Randy Gagnon's face turned pale as he hurriedly followed.

As he leaped toward Wyatt, who had fallen due to his injuries, he produced a strange bead from his hand and immediately crushed it.

If Wyatt saw this bead, he would surely recognize it at once.

It was a bead inscribed with an "Inscription of Sensing."

Once crushed, someone would notice it at once and rush over.

Those who would respond to Randy Gagnon's bead call within the entire Gagnon Family were only a few, and all were above the "Martial Emperor Realm."

"I... I'm fine."

Wyatt Barnes, originally limp on the ground like mud, after taking a "Grade One Return-Life Pill" he had refined himself, miraculously managed to stand up with difficulty.

"Truly, a 'Grade One Return-Life Pill' with a purity of over 'ninety percent'!"

Seeing this scene, Keller's eyes brightened, and his breathing became involuntarily rapid.

One could imagine.

If he could obtain the 'method' to refine such high-purity Pill Medicine, his status within the Cloud Skies Continent Alchemist Guild would skyrocket!

In the future, even if he wished to become the president of the Alchemist Guild's highest council on the Cloud Skies Continent and to be worshipped by countless alchemists, it wouldn't be impossible.

"The 'method' to refine high-purity Pill Medicine, I am determined to obtain it!"

Holland Keller's gaze grew firmer.

This was also the reason he had shouted in time for Coldring not to kill Wyatt Barnes because he still wanted to pry the 'method' for producing high-purity Pill Medicine from Wyatt's mouth.

If Wyatt had died, his trip would have been in vain.

And Wyatt, having guessed Keller's thoughts, hence risked his own safety with a "diversionary rescue" strategy to save Winnie.

If he hadn't done so, Winnie would have surely died!

There was no doubt in his mind.

And in doing so, he was undoubtedly taking a risk with his life, but even more so, he wanted to take a 'gamble' that Keller would stop Coldring from killing him.

As it turned out, he had bet correctly.

"Wyatt Barnes, since you don't appreciate the face I'm giving you, don't blame me, Holland Keller, for tearing that face off!" Keller said to Wyatt with a chilling voice, "Today, as long as you reveal the method of refining 'grade one Pill Medicine' with a purity of 'ninety percent' or higher, I will spare your life!"

Chapter 1102: Playing with Fire

Holland Keller finally tore off his last disguise and revealed his true purpose for coming to the Gagnon Family to find Wyatt Barnes.

Wyatt had long guessed Holland's purpose, so he was not surprised.

Standing by, Randy Gagnon's eyes became somewhat peculiar after hearing Holland's words.

Others may not know why Wyatt could become a "Grade One alchemist" at such a young age and be able to refine Pill Medicine with a purity of "ninety percent" and above.

But he knew it crystal clear.

In his previous life, Wyatt was a powerful alchemist who had perfected the art of alchemy and, reincarnated with his memories intact, did not need to start from scratch in the field of alchemy.

In this life, he was a natural-born "Master Alchemist"!

As long as his cultivation was sufficient, he could conjure red flames of all grades at will, becoming an alchemist of corresponding grades.

"This Holland Keller seems to think that Elder Barnes has some special method that allows him to refine Pill Medicine with a purity above 'ninety percent' at such a young age."

As the patriarch of the Gagnon Family, Randy had a clear and wise mind and easily guessed what Holland was thinking.

He knew that Holland was just wishfully thinking.

Because Elder Barnes' method of refining Pill Medicine with a purity above 'ninety percent' was almost impossible for others to replicate.

It was an achievement won by a formerly powerful existence after a lifetime of effort!

"If I don't reveal the method of refining Pill Medicine with a purity above 'ninety percent'... do you really intend to kill me to silence me?"

Hearing Holland's ruthless words, Wyatt was far from intimidated; instead, he asked calmly.

"I will first kill all the people around you whom you care about, then I will torture you slowly until your spirit breaks. When you collapse mentally, I will kill you!"

A cold light flashed in Holland's eyes as he spoke with an icy tone.

When he uttered that sentence, his eyes deeply implied a glance at Winnie Romero, which caused an easily noticeable change in Wyatt's expression.

A dragon has its reverse scales, touch them and you die!

Wyatt's 'reverse scales' were nothing but those people around him whom he cared about.

If others wanted to kill him, should he truly be outmatched, he would accept his fate without a word.

But should anyone try to kill those he cared about, he would never allow it!

In an instant, Wyatt's face seemed to be covered with ice, his gaze coldly fixated on Holland as he said word by word, "Holland Keller, you're playing with fire!"

Playing with fire!

Playing with fire and getting oneself burned!

That was undoubtedly the message Wyatt's words conveyed.

"Playing with fire?"

Holland laughed, his smile radiant. "I might not know about other things, but I believe I have some tricks when it comes to 'playing with fire'... I can even handle a Grade One red flame, let alone a mundane fire."

By the end, Holland glanced at Wyatt with disdain, as if mocking Wyatt's previous words.

"Have you really thought it through?"

Holland's eyes, once again fixed on Wyatt, grew gradually colder in voice.

"Hmph! A 'worthless' braggart."

Wyatt scanned Holland with contempt, replying disdainfully, word by word.

His words left no mercy, condemning with every syllable.

"That won't work on me."

However, despite being called 'worthless,' Holland seemed not to care at all; instead, he stared back at Wyatt with eyes glistening sharp.

"All you're doing is trying to enrage me, hoping I lose my cool and face you in battle... Although, I don't know why you possess such formidable strengths at such a young age, I know better than to foolishly fall for your provocations!"

Holland spoke in an unhurried manner, with a facial expression that read 'I've already seen through your plan'.

Once his ploy was uncovered, Wyatt's expression soured, but he soon seemed to sense something, raising an eyebrow and quickly recovering.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Just then, three gusts of wind entered the great hall, and with them appeared three elderly figures, taking their places beside Randy Gagnon and Wyatt.

There were three old men: one round as a 'ball,' one thin as a 'bamboo pole,' and the last of average build.

Wyatt was familiar with these three old men.

They were the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family.

Kaizen Gagnon, Elio Gagnon, Kylen Gagnon.

All 'Martial Emperor Realm' beings, they were the mainstays of the Gagnon Family.

"Patriarch, Elder Barnes, Miss Winnie."

Upon arrival, the three greeted Randy, Wyatt, and Winnie in turn, before tacitly eyeing Holland and Forest Coldring standing opposite them, faces filled with vigilance.

They had come at once upon discovering the breaking of an inscribed pearl embedded with an 'Inscription' that their patriarch carried.

As the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family, they knew their patriarch very well.

They understood that if Randy hadn't encountered some major or urgent incident, he would never have willingly broken the inscribed pearl.

That's why they had hastened here without delay.

Whoosh!

Soon another gust of wind swept through the hall, a white-haired, white-eyebrowed old man with an air of immortal grace appeared beside Randy.

The immortal-looking old man stood by Randy's side, his face serene, unfathomable as an ancient well.

"Elder Yez Family Head."

After the appearance of the old man, whether it was the head of the Gagnon Family, 'Randy Gagnon,' or the other three Protector elders of the Gagnon Family, they all saluted him with the utmost respect.

The old man was the previous generation's family head of the Gagnon Family, Alaric Gagnon.

"Previous generation's family head of the Gagnon Family?"

Wyatt Barnes stood to the side, his heart slightly startled. He hadn't expected the previous generation's family head of the Gagnon Family to still be alive, and even staying within the Gagnon Family itself.

"The members of the alchemist guild really carry quite the air of authority! They've come to run wild in our Gagnon Family's territory."

After nodding at Randy Gagnon and the others, Alaric Gagnon shifted his gaze and casually swept Holland Keller and Forest Coldring with a look that was unmistakably mixed with anger.

"I've long heard that Elder Alaric Yez is 'the strongest in the Gagnon Family'... Seeing you today, it truly is an impressive sight!"

Holland Keller squeezed a smile onto his face again and greeted Alaric Gagnon.

However, Alaric Gagnon did not pay him any heed, instead turning to look at the green-robed middle-aged man next to him, Forest Coldring.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, Alaric Gagnon moved, without any warning, his entire being shooting toward Forest Coldring as if transformed into a cannonball fired from the barrel.

Swoosh!

At the same moment Alaric Gagnon made his move, Forest Coldring also moved, likewise shooting out like a cannonball, bravely meeting him head-on.

At the same time, both of their figures disappeared from the sight of Wyatt Barnes and the others.

Boom!

A loud explosion sounded, and Wyatt Barnes and the others saw Alaric Gagnon and Forest Coldring separate. Each taking five steps back before they finally steadied themselves, their eyes locking onto each other with a fierce and vigilant gaze.

In the instant the two men separated, waves of vast energy turbulence swept out in all directions, quickly turning into gusts of wind that caused the clothes on the bodies of Wyatt Barnes and the others to rustle and flap loudly.

Above the void, the heaven and earth force that hadn't yet had the chance to condense into extraordinary phenomena dissipated without a trace.

Everyone present understood.

Although the matter had transpired in the blink of an eye, it was clear that Alaric Gagnon and Forest Coldring had exchanged blows, and neither had bested the other.

"No wonder he dared to act brazenly in my Gagnon Family... It turns out that you possess such formidable strength!" remarked Alaric Gagnon after giving Forest Coldring a deep look.

"You're not bad either."

Forest Coldring's expression remained cold, but as he looked at Alaric Gagnon, his eyes betrayed a deep sense of wariness.

All of this happened in the blink of an eye.

Alaric Gagnon and Forest Coldring had a brief exchange, and it ended in a draw.

At this moment, Holland Keller's smile completely froze on his face.

Although he knew that 'Alaric Gagnon,' the elder family head of the Gagnon Family, was the strongest in the family, he hadn't realized Alaric Gagnon would be so powerful, with strength not inferior to Forest Coldring's.

"This Alaric Gagnon, he really deserves to die!" Holland Keller cursed inwardly.

It had been so close. The three months he'd been waiting were about to be completely in vain.

All of this was due to the emergence of the elder family head of the Gagnon Family, 'Alaric Gagnon.' If not for Alaric Gagnon's interference, he might have already succeeded by now.

"Elder Alaric Yez truly lives up to his reputation as the strongest in the Gagnon Family... I respect that," Holland Keller said, although inside, he was continuously cursing Alaric Gagnon. On his face, however, remained an utterly insincere smile from beginning to end.

Seeing Alaric Gagnon's appearance had turned the tide against them, Holland Keller did not linger. He took Forest Coldring and skulked away.

"Thank you, Elder Family Head."

As Holland Keller and the elder, Forest Coldring, left cleanly, Wyatt Barnes came back to his senses and turned to Alaric Gagnon, thanking him with a smile.

"Please, Elder Barnes, you don't need to be so polite," Alaric Gagnon replied, seemingly quite flustered by Wyatt's gesture of gratitude.

"Hmm?"

Initially, Wyatt Barnes had noticed that Alaric Gagnon's gaze toward him had been a bit off, and now seeing Alaric Gagnon's flustered expression, he was even more certain of his observation.

"Could it be that he also knows about my 'true identity'?"

Soon after, Wyatt Barnes privately speculated, and the more he guessed, the more certain he became.

"That's not right... The family head once swore by a 'Ninety-Nine Thunder Tribulation' that he would not reveal my 'true identity.' If that's the case, how did the elder family head figure it out?"

He was utterly puzzled by this.

In the end, unable to hold back, he used Origin Force to privately ask Randy Gagnon and momentarily learned many things from him, including how the elder family head guessed his 'true identity.'

"So that's how it is."

Suddenly, understanding dawned on Wyatt Barnes, and the confusion in his heart gradully cleared.

High above the Gagnon Family residence, two figures swiftly left, one after the other, like a pair of fleeting flashes of lightning.

They were none other than 'Holland Keller' and 'Forest Coldring' who had just departed the Gagnon Family estate.

However, the direction in which they now flew was not that of the alchemist guild.

"What a Gagnon Family, what an Alaric Gagnon... I will absolutely not let this matter rest!" Holland Keller said with a chilling light in his eyes.

"Let's go! We're heading to the Yez Family... and then, we'll make a trip to the main hall of the Artifact Refiner Guild in the South Outlands!"

Soon after, Holland Keller narrowed his eyes and, with a call to Forest Coldring, sped off into the distance.

Chapter 1103: Seclusion for Three Months!

"Are you feeling better now?"

After the Gagnon Family's top brass had left, Wyatt Barnes looked at Winnie Romero, who had just taken a Grade One Return-Life Pill, with a face full of concern.

"Mhm."

Winnie Romero nodded gently. At this moment, the icy frost on her breathtakingly beautiful face thawed a little, inadvertently revealing a faint blush.

"Why... Why did you do that just now?"

Soon after, Winnie Romero's autumnal eyes hardened as she gazed directly at Wyatt Barnes.

"What do you mean, 'do that just now'?"

Wyatt Barnes froze, unsure of what Winnie Romero was asking.





After greeting Wyatt Barnes, Winnie Romero promptly left, coming in a hurry and going just as quickly.

"Young Master, I'll go back to cultivate as well."

After confirming Wyatt Barnes was okay, Fill Bear was also eager to return to his cultivation. He now just wanted to quickly enhance his cultivation so he could better assist the Young Master.

"Go ahead."

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

After Winnie Romero and Fill Bear both left, the hall was left with only Wyatt Barnes.

"Holland Keller, Forest Coldring!"

In an instant, Wyatt Barnes's expression turned utterly grim, his eyes flickering with a piercing cold light, ready to devour his enemies.

If possible, he wished to personally take down those two men!

Holland Keller, from the moment he threatened Wyatt with his loved ones, violated his "taboo," Wyatt considered him as good as dead, and wouldn't let Keller live given the chance.

As for Forest Coldring, though merely a "lackey," daring to harm Winnie meant he would not be spared either.

"Strength... My strength is still too weak!"

Now, Wyatt Barnes only resented his own weakness.

If he had the strength to overpower Forest Coldring today, none of this would have happened.

"Continue to comprehend the 'Profound Mysteries' through the 'Mystique Fragments'... As long as I can grasp the 'Wind Profound Mystery', the 'Sword Mystique', and the 'Earth Mystique', my strength will rise to another level!"

"By then, my Origin Force will also transform, officially stepping into the Martial Emperor Realm!"

"Once into the Martial Emperor Realm, the domineering medicinal force of the Nirvana Pill hidden deep within my dantian will also erupt... Then, my cultivation will advance by leaps and bounds every single day!"

Muttering to himself, Wyatt Barnes's eyes gleamed brightly, and eventually, he left the hall like a gust of wind, heading back to his room.

Back in his room, Wyatt Barnes immediately took out three Mystique Fragments and began to comprehend three different 'Profound Mysteries'.

"Once the three 'realms' complete their transformation into 'Profound Mysteries', and I step into the 'First Level of the Martial Emperor Realm'... My strength will undergo a drastic change!"

Wyatt Barnes could be absolutely certain of this point.

At present, the three "realms" he was preparing to elevate, any one of which, once promoted to "Profound Mystery", even if only a "First-level Emperor Realm Profound Mystery", would result in an additional strength equivalent to one thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

Compared to before the breakthrough, it was an entire doubling of his strength!

With three Profound Mysteries, the additional strength would be three thousand ancient Horned Dragon units!

Moreover, simply by comprehending the "First-level Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery", he could thereby generate the "First-level Emperor Realm Fire Profound Mystery", which was akin to simultaneously raising four "realms" to the level of "Profound Mysteries".

Four "Nine Transforming Void Realms" compared to four "First-level Emperor Realm Profound Mysteries".

The former was comparable to the force of four thousand ancient Horned Dragons, whereas the latter was comparable to eight thousand, beyond compare.

And the latter, once coupled with the "earth force" borrowed from the "First-level Emperor Realm Earth Profound Mystery" as well as the additional power derived from "fire boosted by Momentum Wind" within the "First-level Emperor Realm Fire Profound Mystery".

Would be comparable to a staggering ten thousand ancient Horned Dragon units!

All of this was merely the power granted by the "Profound Mysteries".

The Origin Force at the "First-level Martial Emperor Realm", once unleashed, was comparable to the force of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons, with an Emperor Grade spirit sword to amplify the "doubling" of force, equal to another two thousand ancient Horned Dragon units.

By that time, with the additional power of the "Nine High-level Thunder Realm", Wyatt Barnes, when exerting his full strength, would be able to display the equivalent of fifteen thousand ancient Horned Dragon units!

Of course, the heavenly and earthly phenomena would undergo earth-shattering changes as well.

As "one ancient Horned Dragon phantom" would replace the "ten thousand ancient elephant phantoms", new heavenly and earthly phenomena would emerge, replacing the "ten thousand ancient Horned Dragon phantoms".

"Fifteen thousand ancient Horned Dragon units... should be almost enough to contend with that Forest Coldring! However, actually defeating him still falls short."

Wyatt Barnes thought to himself.

Although his spiritual power could not discern the specifics of Forest Coldring's cultivation level, Wyatt was able to infer an approximation of Forest Coldring 's overall strength from his successive actions.

"When Forest Coldring and the old patriarch fought, neither of them used spirit weaponry... However, one can roughly estimate that their strength is above the level of a few thousand ancient Horned Dragons."

"Their cultivation level should be around the 'Fourth-level Martial Emperor Realm'."

Wyatt Barnes speculated.

At that time, when Forest Coldring and Alaric Gagnon sparred, they both fought fiercely, with all their might.

Their transient display of power was too fast for the distressed forces of earth and sky to coalesce into heavenly and earthly phenomena.

So, they did not reveal their full capabilities.

All this was merely Wyatt Barnes's assessment.

However, Wyatt Barnes, after all, bore the dual-life memories of the Reincarnated Martial Emperor, and had an exceptional eye for these matters; he trusted his judgment to be very close to accurate.

Days went by.

The residence where Wyatt Barnes dwelt seemed to have returned to its tranquil state.

The Gagnon Family patriarch, Randy Gagnon, still occasionally visited, bringing with him one Transforming Void Realm fruit after another that had been acquired through bounties.

Most of these spirit fruits ended up in the hands of Winnie Romero.

As for those spirit fruits that Winnie had consumed before, they were now in the hands of Fill Bear.

Of course, Fill Bear had not yet broken through to the Transforming Void Realm, so he had no immediate use for these spirit fruits.

At present, Fill Bear was struggling on his journey through the Cave Void Realm.

He had now comprehended the "Nine High-level Sword Realm" and was just a step away from the "Sword Profound Mystery", an advancement nearly impossible without "Profound Mystery fragments".

Therefore, he was currently focused on improving his cultivation level, piling up his strength using the "spirit fruits".

Both Winnie Romero and Fill Bear's strengths were continually improving.

As for Wyatt Barnes.

Ever since Holland Keller and Forest Coldring left that day, he had sequestered himself in his room, only leaving once.

That one time he stepped out, he instructed the maids to hand over any "spirit fruits" delivered by Randy Gagnon in the future to Winnie Romero and then did not leave again.

"Elder Barnes has not yet ended his seclusion?"

Many of the Gagnon Family elders who came to Wyatt Barnes' door seeking guidance in the path of alchemy arrived in high spirits but left looking as deflated as frosted eggplants.

Initially, many of the Gagnon Family elders thought that Wyatt Barnes would be in secluded cultivation for only a few days.

However, over the next three months, none of them saw Wyatt Barnes, eventually confirming that he was in deep secluded cultivation.

Suddenly, the Gagnon Family's cadre of alchemist elders stopped visiting and instead stayed at home, waiting for news.

They had already arranged with the several maids at Elder Barnes' residence so that upon Elder Barnes ending his seclusion, the maids would inform them immediately.

"Elder Barnes still hasn't ended his seclusion?"

Randy Gagnon, the Gagnon Family patriarch who once again visited Wyatt Barnes' residence, couldn't help but smile bitterly upon learning that Wyatt Barnes had yet to leave seclusion, and then turned to leave.

"That 'bounty' can probably no longer continue... The Grade One Return-Life Pills that Elder Barnes previously concocted are almost completely exchanged."

Randy Gagnon had just stepped outside the residence and sighed.

"He asked me to give this to you."

It was at this moment that an indifferent voice reached Randy Gagnon's ears.

Following that, Randy Gagnon only heard the piercing sound of gusting wind behind him, as if something was soaring through the air toward him.

Turning hurriedly, he reached into the air, and, with a helping hand, intercepted the object slicing through the sky, only to find it was an unclaimed Storage Ring.

"It's her."

Randy Gagnon caught a glimpse out of the corner of his eye of a fiery red figure disappearing into the depths of the residence.

This figure was not unfamiliar to him.

Winnie Romero.

Elder Barnes's beloved confidante, someone willing to sacrifice her life for Wyatt Barnes, and was suspected to be a formidable "Demon Emperor".

Chapter 1104: Making a Comeback

"Is this... given to me by Elder Barnes?"

Soon, Randy Gagnon's gaze returned to the 'Storage Ring' in his hand and he also realized that the 'he' Winnie Romero mentioned was none other than the first Honorary Minister Elder of the Gagnon Family, Wyatt Barnes.

He pricked his finger, and as a drop of blood fell, he took ownership of the Storage Ring and looked inside.

Ten bottles of Pill Medicine were neatly arranged inside.

Upon opening the bottles of Pill Medicine, he could see each pill inside, glowing with a faint halo, all of which he was all too familiar with.

Grade One Return-Life Pills!

"It seems Elder Barnes has long been prepared."

Randy Gagnon shook his head with a smile and then turned to leave.

In the land of Northumberland, high above the vast sky, five figures crossed the air, fast as lightning.

These were five people who had traveled from afar, weary from their journey.

Among the five, three took the lead, while another middle-aged man in green and an old man in blue closely followed the two, almost like their shadows.

The two being followed were also old men, now in conversation.

"Holland Keller, before long, you shall become an alchemist capable of refining pills with a purity 'over ninety percent.'"

One of the old men in a golden robe said to another in a silver robe.

"Although we still do not know what 'method' that young man used to refine Grade One Pill Medicines with a purity 'over ninety percent'... I shall take your auspicious words to heart."

Holland Keller replied with a faint smile, yet within the depths of his gaze lay a hint of sharpness and greed.

"Chairman Keller, this time I'm helping you... I hope you will keep your promise."

The person walking alongside the two old men was also a middle-aged man, ordinary in appearance, but with bright and spirited eyes. In his hand, he clutched a sheathed long knife.

Standing there, his entire being seemed to transform into an incredibly sharp 'knife.'

Now, he too looked at Holland Keller.

"Do not worry, Family Head Yez, the promise made by Holland Keller will never be broken!"

Holland Keller said with a serious face.

"Then that's good."

The man sharp as a 'knife' simply nodded and said no more.

"Holland Keller... you said earlier, our target from the Gagnon Family, that Grade One alchemist, is a young man who doesn't look a day over thirty?"

Suddenly, the man in the golden robe asked. "Yes." Holland Keller nodded earnestly, "And he is not just a Grade One alchemist, his martial cultivation is astonishing... I conjecture that his strength is likely in the 'Second Layer of the Martial Emperor Realm.'" Grade One alchemist! Second Layer of the Martial Emperor Realm! A young man under thirty? For a moment, except for the middle-aged man in green who seemed to be already informed, the other three visibly changed their expressions. Even the man sharp as a 'knife' standing aside was no exception, equally shocked because it was truly inconceivable. A human martial artist who becomes a 'Grade One alchemist' before the age of thirty could already be described as a 'demonically talented genius' favored by the heavens, a darling of the gods. However, such an alchemist, besides having astonishing alchemy skills, was also a 'Second Layer martial artist of the Martial Emperor Realm'?

The man in the golden robe's expression darkened slightly, looking at Holland Keller with seriousness.

"Holland Keller, are you certain you're not playing us for fools?"

The man sharp as a 'knife' also directed his gaze at Holland Keller, with two beams of sharp light shooting from his eyes like knives, hovering above Holland Keller's head, as if they could fall at any moment.

"Playing you for fools?"

Holland Keller looked at the man in the golden robe as if he were an idiot and said, somewhat speechlessly, "Why would I play you for fools? For no reason at all, just for fun? And to offend both of you at once?"

Upon hearing Holland Keller's words, both the man in the golden robe and the man sharp as a 'knife' withdrew their piercing gazes.

"I know you find this incredible... but it is the truth! When we reach the Gagnon Family tomorrow, you will know."

Holland Keller said to the man in the golden robe.

"Under thirty, a Grade One alchemist... in the history of Cloud Skies Continent, never has there been a tale of a 'demon' becoming an 'alchemist,' an 'Artifact Refiner'."

"That's why, he must be human. But to also be of the 'Second Layer of the Martial Emperor Realm' is truly unbelievable!"

The man in the golden robe narrowed his eyes upon hearing Holland Keller's words, muttering to himself.

"No! He may not necessarily be human."

The man sharp as a 'knife' suddenly spoke up as if he had just thought of something.

"Not necessarily human?"

Upon hearing the words of the knife-like man, not only the two old men beside him but also the middle-aged man in green and the blue-robed old man following behind them turned their attention to him.

Curiosity was brimming in their eyes, wondering why the middle-aged man would say such a thing.

The middle-aged man was none other than Jakai Yez, the Family Head of the Yez Family from Northumberland, and also the family's strongest member!

The Yez Family, renowned in Northumberland alongside the 'Gagnon Family,' was known as a family of Artifact Refiners.

However, Jakai Yez himself was not an Artifact Refiner.

He became the head of the Yez Family due to his powerful strength, a force capable of crushing anyone in the Yez Family!

For this reason, Jakai Yez held an absolutely supreme position within the family.

In the Yez family, the overt and covert authority Wyatt held far exceeded that of Randy Gagnon, the current family head of the Gagnon family.

Perhaps, in the Gagnon family, Randy, as the family head, wielded absolute authority on the surface, but in secret, the respect was given to the old family head of the Gagnon, Alaric Gagnon.

Of course, Alaric usually didn't appear when there was no issue and never interfered with Randy's management of the family.

Alaric held such a status within the family not only because he was the 'old family head' but more so because he was the strongest member of the Gagnon family!

The Yez family also had an old family head, but he was merely a Grade Two Artifact Refiner.

Therefore, the status of the old family head of the Yez family couldn't compare to the current family head, Jakai Yez.

"Jakai, although you are not an Artifact Refiner, you are still from the Artifact Refiner family, the Yez... Don't tell me you don't know that non-humans cannot become alchemists or Artifact Refiners?"

Holland Keller asked with a frown as he spoke.

"Yes, if he is not a human, but a 'Demon,' it's impossible for him to become an alchemist or Artifact Refiner, let alone a top-tier alchemist like a Grade One."

The man in the gold robe added.

For a moment, whether it was the man in the blue robe behind the one in the gold robe or the man in the green who stood behind Keller, they all nodded in agreement.

'Demons' simply could not become alchemists or Artifact Refiners.

It was an 'ironclad rule' of the Cloud Skies Continent.

For countless years, there'd never been a 'Demon' who had broken this iron rule.

"I just said he might not be human. When did I ever say he was a 'Demon'?"

Jakai Yez swept a glance at the man in the gold robe and countered with a question.

"Then what do you mean..."

The man in the gold robe paused, unable to hide his surprise.

"Odd Species!"



The man in the gold robe and the one following him in the blue robe now showed shock on their faces.

At last, the man in the gold robe nodded, "Unless I'm mistaken, he should indeed be 'Odd Species!' After all, the 'achievement' he made at his age is simply unattainable by ordinary humans."

The others also nodded their heads, concurring.

"Whether or not he is 'Odd Species'... this time, I must pry the method of concocting Pill Medicines with a purity of 'ninety percent' or higher from his mouth."

Keller's eyes gleamed more greedily, speaking almost word for word.

"Forest Coldring alone is enough to stand on equal footing with that old guy, Alaric Gagnon... As long as Forest Coldring keeps Alaric Gagnon occupied, for the few of us, to suppress the other Martial Emperor Realm fighters of the Gagnon family will be a breeze."

The man in the gold robe stated, "So, taking Wyatt Barnes away won't be difficult. However, Keller, you need to be prepared that even if we capture him, he might not reveal the method of concocting Pill Medicines with purity above 'ninety percent.'"

"There's no need to worry about that."

Keller stated with full confidence.

"Oh? Do you have a plan?"

The man in the gold robe's eyes brightened. "Let's hear it."

"That Wyatt has a woman by his side with no mean strength, suspected to be a 'Demon Emperor!' Her power should be at the Second Layer of the Demon Emperor Realm, equivalent to the Second Layer of the Martial Emperor Realm,"

Keller slowly said.

"You had already told us this...

I'm asking you, what method will you use to pry open Wyatt Barnes' mouth?" the man in the gold robe frowned and pressed.

"The reason I bring up that woman is precisely that this relates to her," Keller said irritably, glaring at the man in the gold robe. Then he continued in a leisurely fashion, "If Wyatt Barnes doesn't cooperate, in front of him, I will torment that woman thoroughly... until he agrees to cooperate."

Towards the end, an ominous smile crept across Keller's lips.

"You really are... despicable!"

The man in the gold robe took a deep look at Keller and said, "But how can you be sure he'll reveal his 'secrets' for that woman? That's not just any secret."

"That's something you don't know... That kid is quite the romantic," Keller said with a laugh.
"Last time, he nearly lost his life for that woman."

Chapter 1105: The Ancient Azure Dragon Phantom "Oh?"

Hearing Holland Keller's words, the golden-robed old man immediately became interested, "How so?"

At that moment, whether it was Jakai Yez, the head of the Yez Family, or the green-robed old man following behind the golden-robed old man, they were all curiously looking at Holland Keller, clearly also interested in this matter.

"The last time, Forest Coldring was just a hair's breadth away from killing that woman... At the critical moment, he actually attacked me, thus drawing Forest Coldring's attention."

Holland Keller said, "Although he saved that woman, he himself was targeted by Forest Coldring... If I hadn't told Forest Coldring not to kill him, he would have been dead by Forest Coldring's hand long ago."

Holland Keller finished in one breath.

"This 'Odd Species' does seem to be different from most Odd Species in the rumors... The rumors say that most 'Odd Species' are cold-blooded and rarely show true feelings, let alone risk their own life to save someone else's."

The golden-robed old man exclaimed.

"No matter whether he's different from the other Odd Species... This time, I will definitely pry the 'secret' I want from his mouth!"

Holland Keller's eyes were filled with cold light, his face full of strong confidence.

A day's time quickly passed by.

The next day, a group of buildings appeared in the distance in front of Holland Keller and the four others.

"The Gagnon Family, we've arrived."

The golden-robed old man said.

He, as the President of the South Outlands Artifact Refiners' Guild, was not visiting the Gagnon Family for the first time.

However, in the past, he had always been a Guest of Honor at the Gagnon Family and received a warm welcome.

This was his first time coming to the Gagnon Family to abduct someone.

Originally, he did not wish to offend the Gagnon Family too much, but the promise made by Holland Keller was too tempting, and driven by interest, he decided to give Holland Keller a hand.

Even if it meant turning against the Gagnon Family.

"Over there!"

After arriving in the skies above the Gagnon Family's residence, Holland Keller was the first to look towards the eastern side of the residence and, with a flicker of his figure, flew out towards it.

Following Holland Keller, Jakai Yez and the golden-robed old man swiftly followed, with Forest Coldring and the blue-robed old man following behind the golden-robed old man.

The blue-robed old man, like Forest Coldring.

If Forest Coldring could be described as Holland Keller's 'shadow', then the blue-robed old man was the shadow of the golden-robed old man.

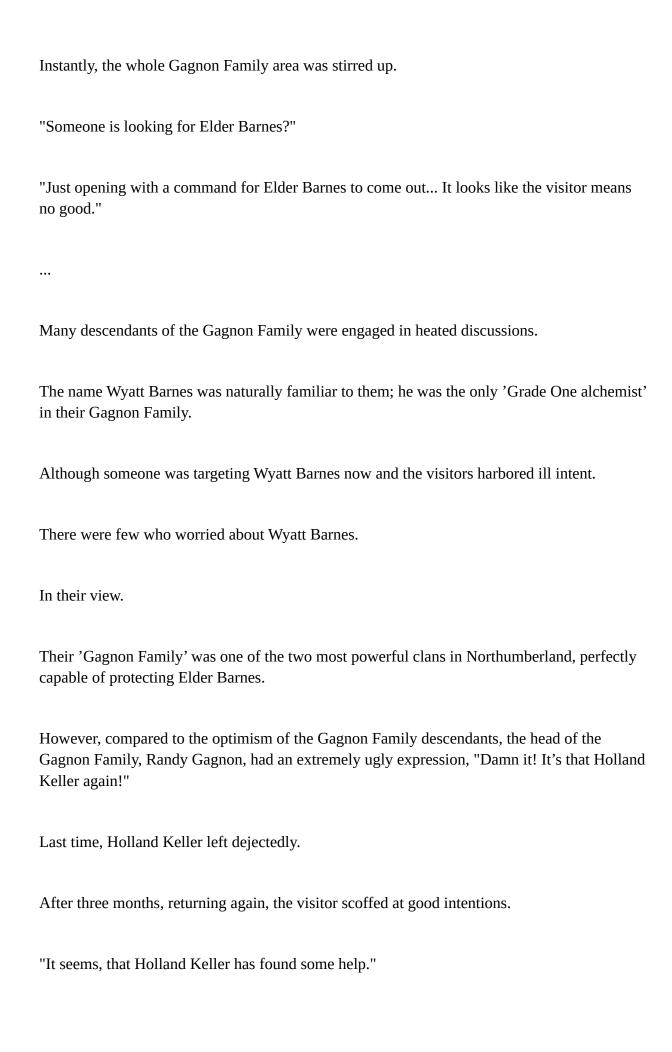
As the only known 'Grade One alchemist' in the South Outlands and also the President of the South Outlands' Alchemists' Guild, the golden-robed old man was highly regarded by the mainland Artifact Refiners' Guild.

For this reason, the mainland Artifact Refiners' Guild dispatched the blue-robed old man to follow closely by his side, tasked with protecting his safety at all times.

In a moment, the group of five arrived above a spacious residence.

"Wyatt Barnes, come out!"

Suddenly, Holland Keller opened his mouth and bellowed loudly, his voice imbued with Origin Force that rolled out and spread without restraint throughout the entire Gagnon Family residence, and even the entire Gagnon Family's grounds.



In a moment, Randy Gagnon and the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family gathered together and floated into the air, looking distantly at the five figures in the distance, their faces indistinct due to the long range.

However, they knew that 'Holland Keller' must be among them!

They guessed that 'Forest Coldring', who was assigned to protect Holland Keller, should also be there.

"Let's go over and have a look... to see what kind of help Holland Keller has found, giving him so much confidence to make him dare to return!"

The rotund 'Kaizen Gagnon' with twinkling small eyes was the first to take to the air.

Randy Gagnon, Elio Gagnon, and Kylen Gagnon closely followed.

In a moment, all four also arrived in the air above the eastern side of the Gagnon Family residence.

In the air above the eastern side of the Gagnon Family residence, two figures were already confronting Holland Keller and the other four, the atmosphere tense and on the verge of eruption.

These two figures were not strangers to Randy Gagnon and the others.

They recognized them as the people accompanying their Gagnon Family's first Honorary Minister Elder, Wyatt Barnes, Miles's close female companion, and the middle-aged man who always followed behind Elder Wyatt, ready to serve.

"Looks like today Wyatt Barnes is planning to play the tortoise, hiding his head... even letting a woman come out in his place. However, my goal this time, aside from Wyatt Barnes, includes you too."

Holland Keller looked at the woman dressed in a red robe, standing not far away, his eyes flashing briefly as he spoke with deliberate slowness.

"You... dare to insult him?"

Almost the moment Holland Keller had finished speaking, the flames around the stunningly beautiful woman surged violently, then condensed into sword-shaped flames. Her voice ice-cold, she looked at Holland Keller as though she was looking at a dead man.

Just as she spoke in a heavy tone and before Holland Keller could respond, she moved.

Swoosh!

Her five-foot long sword led the charge, and she followed closely behind, the tip of the sword-shaped flames locking onto Holland Keller, coming at him like a streak of red lightning, so fast that it turned his complexion completely pale.

"How could her strength have improved so much in just three months?"

This was the only thought left in Holland Keller's mind.

At the same time, the sword-shaped flames reached Holland Keller's vicinity, their speed so incredible that he found it impossible to dodge; they were simply too fast for him to avoid.

"Hmph!"

As Holland Keller tensed up, his heart hanging by a thread, a cold snort spread through the air.

The next moment, a green silhouette appeared in front of Holland Keller's eyes. Seeing the green figure, Holland Keller breathed a sigh of relief, his tense spirit relaxing, his hanging heart also settling back into place.

He knew that since this person had made a move, he was no longer in any danger.

Boom!

Just as Holland Keller's thoughts took a sharp turn, the green figure collided with Winnie Romero, and the great red sword, formed by Winnie with person and sword, crashed together, emitting a loud bang.

As the two forces collided, the airflow in the air exploded, lifting waves of shock and currents of air, which spread out in all directions, then turning into a series of fierce winds.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

A violent wind blew, sweeping through the east side of the Gagnon Family estate as if a monstrous wind had risen, knocking down many maids with no martial abilities, leaving them in a sorry state on the ground.

As for those in the sky, their robes merely fluttered and rustled, suffering no real harm.

Their eyes were intently locked onto the two people clashing together.

And then, following the huge noise, the two figures separated.

The power swirling around the green figure dissipated, revealing his true form, a middle-aged man in a green outfit.

Because he had acted so swiftly, the power of heaven and earth that undulated above his head had not even managed to converge into a 'heaven and earth anomaly' before it dispersed again, as if it had never appeared.

Unlike the middle-aged man in green who stood still, the 'great red sword' formed by the woman and her sword was knocked flying back, only steadying herself after traveling several tens of meters.

"Wow!"

The woman in red clutched her five-foot red soft sword as the sword-shaped flames on her body began to fade; she, with her pale face, couldn't help but spit out a mouthful of blood.

Above the red-dressed woman's head, in the void, the power of heaven and earth had congregated into a heavenly anomaly, showing signs of dispersal.

There were visual shadows of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons and a shadow that was more than ten times larger than the Horned Dragon shadows, sinuously descending, creating a strong visual impact.

It was also a dragon, but not an ancient Horned Dragon.

Its body was thick and long, equivalent to an ancient Horned Dragon magnified more than ten times.

Of course, there were still significant differences in detail.

This dragon, whether it was the claws on its body or the dragon scales, all exuded a majestic aura, far beyond what an ancient Horned Dragon could compare to.

If an ancient Horned Dragon is a young dragon,

Then this dragon is a mature dragon, not only completely different in body details from the Horned Dragon, but even the dragon's head is completely different from an ancient Horned Dragon.

The dragon's head of the ancient Horned Dragon looked somewhat fierce and quite different from the legendary pure-blooded Divine Dragon.

However, this 'dragon,' more than ten times larger than the ancient Horned Dragons, both in detail and the dragon's head, did not differ much from the legendary 'Divine Dragon.'

Not only that, but its sharp eyes also emitted a majestic aura at all times, leaving behind an oppressive feeling.

"Ancient Azure Dragon shadow!"

From afar, the patriarch of the Gagnon Family, 'Randy Gagnon,' looked at this scene, dumbfounded.

"Patriarch, didn't you say... at full strength Miss Winnie could only muster the power of a little over eight thousand ancient Horned Dragons? How... how is this possible?!"

Kaizen Gagnon stared at the scene before him, his small eyes growing wide, murmuring to himself.

"Miss Winnie, with a single move, drew upon the power of heaven and earth to manifest an ancient Azure Dragon shadow and two thousand ancient Horned Dragon shadows... Her full strength now is comparable to the power of an entire ancient Azure Dragon, in addition to two thousand ancient Horned Dragon powers," Kylen Gagnon said with a grave expression.

"The power of an ancient Azure Dragon is the conversion of the power of ten thousand ancient Horned Dragons... Miss Winnie's current strength, just considering ancient Horned Dragon power, is the equivalent of twelve thousand ancient Horned Dragons!" Elio Gagnon inhaled sharply.

This was a far cry from the patriarch's claim of a little over eight thousand ancient Horned Dragon power, wasn't it?

"I... I don't know either."

Randy Gagnon stared blankly at the woman in red who had suffered significant injuries, his face filled with bewilderment.

He truly couldn't comprehend the scene before his eyes.

"Could it be that Miss Winnie had always been holding back?"

Even though he found it hard to believe his own explanation, he could think of no other possibility.

Chapter 1106: The Newcomer is Up to No Good

"Miss Winnie!"

Seeing that Winnie Romero was injured, Randy Gagnon and the three old men beside him all changed their expressions.

After all, she was the beloved confidante of Elder Barnes from their Gagnon Family, and now she was injured in front of them; how were they to explain this to Elder Barnes?

At the same time, 'Fill Bear,' who had stood beside Winnie Romero, also drastically changed his expression after she was injured. He glared at the man in green and shouted coldly, "You're courting death!"

In a flash, due to his anger, his Origin Force surged wildly, transforming into a milky-white, sword-shaped flame that completely enveloped him, emitting bursts of fierce aura.

Whoosh!

Above the void, the power of heaven and earth stirred, converging into an extraordinary phenomenon.

One thousand one hundred and twenty phantom images of ancient Horned Dragons.

A nine-tier high realm of sword intent, comparable to the power of a thousand ancient Horned Dragons!

Nine levels of the Cave Void Realm, full burst of Origin Force, comparable to the power of one hundred and twenty ancient Horned Dragons!

This was the entirety of Fill Bear's current strength.

"You're courting death!"

Originally, when everyone saw Fill Bear coldly shouting at the man in green, including the man in green himself, together with Holland Keller and others, their expressions turned rather grave.

To them, whether it was the woman in red or this middle-aged man, both were unfamiliar faces.

And now, this middle-aged man dared to coldly shout at the person who had severely injured the woman in red; in their view, he must possess some strength.

Possibly not weaker than the woman in red.

However, when they saw the heavenly phenomenon appearing above the middle-aged man's head in the void, they couldn't help but exchange glances with each other, their faces showing confusion.

The 'strong' person they had originally thought was someone who hadn't even touched the threshold of the 'Cave Void Realm's peak.'

"Ant!"

The man in green who had just injured Winnie Romero, who was constantly following behind Holland Keller, namely 'Forest Coldring,' spit out two words. Simultaneously, his figure moved and completely vanished from Fill Bear's sight.

Boom!

Just as Fill Bear's scalp tingled, realizing he might be facing a great disaster, a loud bang emanated from not far in front of him, the rolling air wave spread, stirring up winds again.

At the same time, Fill Bear felt as if he were in the center of a storm and before he could react, he was blown away by a powerful gust.

As he gritted his teeth and managed to stabilize himself a hundred meters away, the first thing he saw was the aged figure of an old man appearing before his eyes, blocking Forest Coldring.

Forest Coldring was only a dozen meters away from where he had just been.

Instantly, a chill ran up from Fill Bear's feet and shot straight to his forehead, causing his body to shiver involuntarily.

Without knowing when, cold sweat had broken out on his forehead.

He knew.

Had it not been for the timely intervention of the old man before him, he would have already died.

"With my current strength, when will I be able to assist the Young Master?"

At this moment, Fill Bear's heart was filled with unspeakable bitterness; in front of these people who came to trouble the Young Master, he was powerless to do anything.

"Family Head."

Just as Forest Coldring made his move against Fill Bear, Randy Gagnon, and the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family all changed color and immediately leapt into action, hoping to save Fill Bear.

But their speed was far inferior to Forest Coldring's, and since he was much closer to Fill Bear, they could only watch helplessly as Fill Bear fell into a life-and-death situation.

"He belongs to Elder Barnes; if he dies... how are we to explain it to Elder Barnes?"

Just as they thought Fill Bear was destined to die and this thought crossed their minds,

The situation abruptly changed!

The strongest man from their Gagnon Family, the old Family Head, Alaric Gagnon, appeared, stopping Forest Coldring and saving Fill Bear.

After Alaric Gagnon stopped Forest Coldring, Forest could do nothing but quickly retreat back to where Holland Keller stood.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At this time, Randy Gagnon, and the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family also reached Alaric Gagnon's side, standing shoulder to shoulder with him.

"Family Head."

Following that, the four of them respectfully bowed to Alaric Gagnon.

Alaric Gagnon nodded at the four, then turned to look at Holland Keller and others, his gaze sweeping over them one by one.

"Family Head Yez, Chairman Moore... What brings you all the way here?"

Finally, Alaric Gagnon's gaze settled on the middle-aged man and the golden-robed old man beside Holland Keller, and he asked as calmly as possible.

Upon hearing Alaric Gagnon's words, Randy Gagnon and the Three Great Protectors all changed color again.

Family Head Yez?

Chairman Moore?

In the land of Northumberland, and perhaps even the entire South Outlands, there were only two people who the old Family Head addressed in this manner.

Jakai Yez, the Family Head from Northumberland Yez Family.

Canaan Moore, the Chairman of the South Outlands Artifact Refiners Guild.

Immediately after, they followed Alaric Gagnon's gaze and in one look, they saw two figures all too familiar to them.

"Jakai Yez!"

"Canaan Moore!"

Seeing the man standing like a 'blade' and the old man dressed in gold, the expressions of Randy Gagnon's group turned somewhat ugly momentarily.

"Alaric Gagnon, let's speak frankly... Today, if your Gagnon Family hands Wyatt Barnes over to Holland Keller, I will still consider myself friends with the Gagnon Family."

Canaan Moore looked at Alaric Gagnon, his eyes flashing briefly as he spoke in a calm and unhurried manner.

Friends?

As soon as Canaan Moore spoke, the five members of the Gagnon Family unconsciously flinched.

After a moment, Alaric Gagnon was the first to react, looking at Canaan Moore and coldly scoffed, "If that's what friendship means to you, then I'm afraid the Gagnon Family is really too inferior to climb to your level!"

Randy Gagnon and the others came to their senses, each showing anger on their faces.

This Canaan Moore, bullying their way to the Gagnon Family and still having the audacity to call himself a friend of their family?

"Since that's the case, from today onward, there will be no affection between the Gagnon Family and me, Canaan Moore!"

Hearing Alaric Gagnon's words, Canaan Moore's tone grew a bit colder.

The man in blue following behind him, his blue robes rustling without wind, his eyes shimmering with cold light, stared intently at Alaric Gagnon as if ready to strike at any moment.

"Family Head Yez, have you also come here today... to help Holland Keller take Elder Barnes away from our family?"

Randy Gagnon's eyes sparkled as he asked Jakai Yez.

Jakai Yez glanced at Randy Gagnon and nodded slightly.

"Insolence!"

Randy Gagnon's face darkened, and he immediately scolded Jakai Yez angrily.

Insolence?

Hearing Randy Gagnon's words, not only Jakai Yez was stunned, but Holland Keller, Canaan Moore, and the two men following them were also taken aback.

"Family Head Gagnon, Old Family Head Gagnon."

Quickly recovering, Jakai Yez cast a faint glance at Randy Gagnon and Alaric Gagnon, "Your Gagnon Family and our Yez Family, both from Northumberland with a heritage of ten thousand years and endless feuds and friendships, are mostly considered intergenerational friends..."

"Today, I am here at your Gagnon Family only to help Elder Holland Keller take the person he seeks... As for the Gagnon Family, neither I nor the Yez Family behind me have any intention of offending."

Jakai Yez finished his words with a calm tone.

"Well said, 'no intention of offending'!" Randy Gagnon sneered, "Jakai Yez, the moment you decided to help Holland Keller take Elder Barnes, you've already positioned yourself against our Gagnon Family... From now on, the Gagnon Family and the Yez Family will be irreconcilable!" Irreconcilable! Randy Gagnon's words resonated loudly. For a moment, many within the Gagnon Family mansion heard Randy Gagnon's words. "It's the voice of the family head!" "It sounds like the family head is declaring the Gagnon Family and the Yez Family irreconcilable!" "Could it be that the one demanding Elder Barnes to get out so aggressively is from the Yez Family?" "Perhaps." Suddenly, the whole Gagnon Family mansion buzzed with discussions, many Gagnon Family elders and members rose into the air, but they only dared to watch from a distance, fearful of getting too close. Who knew if a fight might break out any moment.

Once a fight broke out, being a clash between 'Martial Emperor' powerhouses, the shockwaves alone from their clash would be enough to blow them away, even possibly

injuring them.

"Randy Gagnon! Deciding that the Gagnon Family and our Yez Family will be irreconcilable... such a big decision, should it really be yours to make?"

Hearing Randy Gagnon's words, Jakai Yez asked calmly.

Meanwhile, his gaze fell on Alaric Gagnon standing in the distance, "As far as I know, you don't seem to qualify to make such decisions for the Gagnon Family in front of Old Family Head Gagnon."

As Jakai Yez spoke, his face remained calm, expressing neither joy nor anger.

But his words were clearly laced with irony, mocking Randy Gagnon's nominal headship.

"Haha... Family Head Gagnon, do you really think everyone can have complete control over their entire family like you?"

Holland Keller laughed heartily, looking at Randy Gagnon with a mocking smile, "Some may hold the title of family head, yet they don't hold absolute say... Such people, in my eyes, are nothing but puppets!"

"Chairman Moore, you always speak so bluntly... Even if we talk about a family head, a respectable person, ridiculing him publicly doesn't seem quite appropriate, does it?"

Canaan Moore followed with a laugh.

However, his tone, marked with sarcasm, was hardly that of someone defending Randy Gagnon.

Rather, it seemed more like mocking Randy Gagnon further.

Randy Gagnon's face turned pale and then flushed as his eyes flickered with cold light.

"Who says Randy Gagnon doesn't have the authority to make decisions for the Gagnon Family?"

At that moment, Alaric Gagnon spoke up, scoffing coldly, "The moment I handed over the position of 'Family Head' to Randy Gagnon, he became the supreme head of the Gagnon Family!"

"His words represent the will of the Gagnon Family!"

Alaric Gagnon affirmed resolutely, legitimizing Randy Gagnon's position as Family Head of the Gagnon Family.

For a moment, Randy Gagnon's face softened, his eyes showing a touch of gratitude for Alaric Gagnon helping him out of a tight spot.

"Furthermore, from today onward, aside from protecting the Gagnon Family and its interests, I, Alaric Gagnon, will no longer interfere in any other matters of the Gagnon Family!"

Quickly, Alaric Gagnon declared again, preventing others from ridiculing Randy Gagnon further.

"The internal affairs of the Gagnon Family, you wish us to intervene, yet we do not want to... Today, we come not to be enemies with the Gagnon Family, only to take Wyatt Barnes away!"

Holland Keller stepped forward, staring straight at Randy Gagnon, "Since the Family Head now holds absolute authority in the Gagnon Family... then please, Family Head, give us a response!"

As Holland Keller's words fell, Jakai Yez and Canaan Moore stepped forward, standing by his side, putting pressure on Randy Gagnon together.

Chapter 1107: Cohesion

Holland Keller, himself the chairman of the Alchemist Association of the South Outlands, was a "Grade One Alchemist."

Of course, if it were only a Grade One Alchemist, he wouldn't pose a great threat to the Gagnon Family; the most threatening was the green-robed middle-aged man, Forest Coldring, who followed behind him.

Forest Coldring's strength was no less than the Gagnon Family's strongest member, Alaric Gagnon.

Three months earlier, Holland Keller had brought Forest Coldring to visit the Gagnon Family, and their target at the time was Wyatt Barnes.

However, because Alaric Gagnon intervened, and with the three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family watching closely, they failed to gain any advantage and only managed to leave in embarrassment.

Three months later, they returned with reinforcements they had recruited.

One of the helpers was the chairman of the Artifact Refiner Association of the South Outlands, Canaan Moore.

Canaan Moore, a Grade One Artifact Refiner deeply immersed in the "Art of Artifact Refining," had limited accomplishments in the Martial Dao; his status was comparable to Holland Keller's, both being ordinary warriors at the first level of Martial Emperor Realm.

However, Holland Keller sought his help not for his strength, but for the person who constantly protected him.

That person was the blue-robed old man always following behind Canaan Moore.

In terms of strength, the blue-robed old man was no less powerful than Forest Coldring or Alaric Gagnon; he was a remarkably strong fighter.

Another helper was the current head of the Yez Family from Northumberland, Jakai Yez.

Jakai Yez, a rare martial prodigy of the Yez Family, had successfully broken through to the Martial Emperor Realm in his forties, becoming a Martial Emperor powerhouse.

Now, his strength was also no less than that of Forest Coldring or Alaric Gagnon.

The three fighters, each equal in strength to Alaric Gagnon, were Holland Keller's greatest reliance on this trip.

He believed that as long as the Gagnon Family wasn't foolish, they absolutely wouldn't dare to confront them directly.

And taking Wyatt Barnes away today would be as easy as flipping his hand.

"Family Head Gagnon, you better choose wisely... Do not let the Gagnon Family suffer unnecessary losses just to display temporary courage."

Holland Keller looked deeply at Randy Gagnon, with a victorious smile on his face.

"Hmph!"

Randy Gagnon snorted coldly and mocked, "What, does Chairman Keller perhaps intend to destroy our Gagnon Family?"

"To destroy the Gagnon Family, I myself do not have that capability... However, if a few Martial Emperors from the Gagnon Family were to fall, I doubt those forces from the inner lands would stand up for the Gagnon Family."

Holland Keller spoke indifferently, his lips curling into a devilish smile towards the end.

"You!!"

Randy Gagnon's face drastically changed, and he was so angry that his blood surged.

But he also knew that what Holland Keller said was the reality.

To annihilate the Gagnon Family, whether it was Holland Keller, Canaan Moore, or Jakai Yez, none had the courage.

That was because the Gagnon Family was protected by several 'first-class forces' from the inner lands.

Of course, those 'first-class forces' would only act if the Gagnon Family were to be annihilated; as long as the Gagnon Family wasn't destroyed, even if all of the Gagnon Family's Martial Emperor powerhouses perished, they would not intervene.

Taking a deep breath, Randy Gagnon looked at Forest Coldring with a wary expression, then turned towards Jakai Yez and next looked at the blue-robed old man behind Canaan Moore.

These three Martial Emperor powerhouses were all as strong as their first fighter, Alaric Gagnon.

If the Gagnon Family truly decided to battle them, it would greatly deplete their strength.

The three Great Protectors might not survive.

At this moment, Randy Gagnon found himself in a dilemma.

On one side were several main pillars of the Gagnon Family, each at risk of falling.

On the other side was the future Pillar of Heaven of the Gagnon Family, whom Holland Keller wanted to take away.

To save the main pillars, he had to let go of the future Pillar of Heaven of the Gagnon Family, which would cause the Gagnon Family to lose a rare major opportunity.

That opportunity could propel the Gagnon Family to soar sky-high, even reach the peak of Cloud Skies Continent!

After all, the background of that Pillar of Heaven was frighteningly impressive.

In a previous life, he had stood at the peak of Cloud Skies Continent, and now undergoing his final reincarnation, achieving a peak beyond his previous life was without doubt.

Of course, all this was predicated on his not dying prematurely.

Once dead, there would be no future to speak of.

"If we hand over Elder Barnes, our Gagnon Family will not suffer losses, but Elder Barnes will still be taken away... If we do not hand over Elder Barnes, our Gagnon Family will suffer a great blow, and in the end, Elder Barnes will still be taken away."

"Either way, the result is the same... However, the 'nature' is completely different!"

"The former would mean we gave up on Elder Barnes, and even if he doesn't resent us after being captured, our relationship with him would still be shattered; the latter would mean we did our utmost but still couldn't keep Elder Barnes, and even if he gets captured, he would still appreciate us."

In that instant, Randy Gagnon thought of many things, torn between options.

Finally, he couldn't help but turn his head to look at Alaric Gagnon, wanting to ask for his opinion.

"Family Head, from today onwards, you decide all matters concerning the Gagnon Family... Whatever your decision, I will support you."

Before Randy Gagnon could even speak, Alaric Gagnon had already expressed his stance.

"Family Head, we will all support you."

Kaizen Gagnon, Elio Gagnon, and Kylen Gagnon also nodded; their attitude was the same as Alaric Gagnon's.

For a moment, Randy Gagnon felt as if he was shouldering a mountain, a vast and towering mountain, pressing so hard he could hardly breathe.

"If I choose the former, to give up Elder Barnes... once Elder Barnes survives this ordeal and returns to his peak, even if he doesn't hold the Gagnon Family accountable, he won't bother with the Gagnon Family anymore."

A single choice was enough to break the "friendship" between the Gagnon Family and Elder Barnes.

"If we choose the latter, the Three Great Protectors and even the old family head are in great danger... Elder Barnes will also be taken away. But if Elder Barnes survives, our Gagnon Family's future will be bright!"

Another choice would result in severe losses for the Gagnon Family, and Elder Barnes's fate would be uncertain.

However, once Elder Barnes survived, the Gagnon Family would rise to glory!

Randy Gagnon was caught in a moral dilemma, finding it hard to decide.

"Family Head Gagnon, I hope you can give us an answer within ten breaths... If you don't respond after ten breaths, we will have no choice but to take matters into our own hands," Chairman Keller said, glancing at Randy Gagnon with a cold smile. "At that point, don't blame us three parties for forgetting past affections!"

"No need to wait for ten breaths!"

At that moment, Randy Gagnon clenched his teeth and made a decision, "To think you can make us Gagnon Family hand over Elder Barnes is absolutely impossible! From the moment Elder Barnes became our Gagnon Family's 'First Honorary Minister,' he has been one of our own."

"Our Gagnon Family, with a heritage of ten thousand years, would never commit an act like 'betray a friend for glory'! Even if it means a fight to the death today, we of the Gagnon Family will do everything in our power to protect Elder Barnes."

Randy Gagnon's words were resolute and spread far and wide.

On hearing this, the eyes of the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family brightened, and they faced Chairman Keller's party of five squarely. Despite knowing that three of their adversaries were powerful enough to instantly defeat them, they showed no fear at that moment. Everything for the Gagnon Family. For the Gagnon Family, they would die without regret! Their actions embodied the meaning of 'Protector' in their titles, without tarnishing these two words. Fight! Randy Gagnon's words also reached the ears of Alaric Gagnon, making him smile, his earlier unease completely dissipated. Whoosh! At the same time, Alaric Gagnon appeared in front of the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family, his face stern as he stared down Chairman Keller's party. Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Before long, figures from all around rapidly approached; these were the Gagnon Family elders who had been watching from afar. Their hearing was far superior to ordinary members of the Gagnon Family, so they had heard

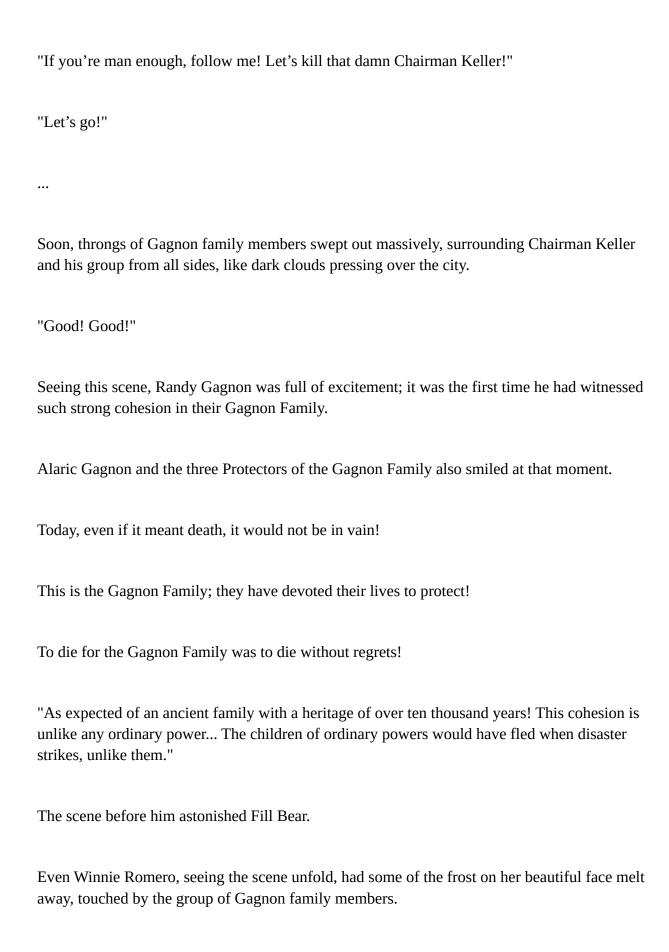
Randy Gagnon's confrontation with Chairman Keller and had their blood boiling from it.

"To death in battle!"

"To protect Elder Barnes at all costs!" "To kill Elder Barnes, you'll have to step over my dead body!" Within moments, a group of Gagnon Family elders had surrounded Chairman Keller and his group, continually shouting loudly with an imposing momentum. "What?! Those five guys want to handle Elder Barnes?" Soon, the surrounding Gagnon family members also stirred up. "Some words, my second uncle initially didn't allow me to say... but, I think I still need to say them." One of the Gagnon family members bit his teeth and said, "Just now, my second uncle told me they wanted to take Elder Barnes away, but our head refused." "Now, our head has declared war on them! However, they are very strong, and our head, the old head, and the three protectors have no chance of winning." This Gagnon family member said all this in one go. "Why didn't you say it earlier?!" "Want to take Elder Barnes away? Damn it! Our Gagnon Family finally has a 'Grade One Alchemist,' and nobody should think about taking Elder Barnes!" "This matter seems to be provoked by the chairman of the alchemists' guild, 'Chairman Keller'... In my opinion, he feels threatened by Elder Barnes who emerged as the second

'Grade One Alchemist' from the South Outlands after him, which is why he wants to eliminate

Wyatt Barnes."



Simultaneously, seeing themselves surrounded by Gagnon Family elders and members on every side, Chairman Keller's group's expressions were not very pleasant.

Killing a few from the Gagnon Family was a minor issue and would not attract the protection of the 'first-tier powers' of the Inner Lands.

But once these people were killed, they were also finished!

Chapter 1108: Purity '97%

Surrounded by three layers inside and three layers outside, the members of the Gagnon Family were like mere ants in their eyes.

Killing these people from the Gagnon Family would be a piece of cake!

However, this group represented the entire Gagnon Family, and if they were killed, it would mean the extinction of the Gagnon Family.

By then, those inner land 'first-rate powers' that had promised to protect the Gagnon Family would unleash thunderous retaliation against them. Even if they couldn't destroy the power they belonged to, these few culprits would surely not escape death.

After all, they were the instigators.

"Other people from the Gagnon Family, we must not touch... that Randy Gagnon, we also cannot touch. Once we kill those four old geezers, no one in the Gagnon Family will be able to stop us! By then, taking Wyatt Barnes away will be a breeze."

Holland Keller said to the other four.

At the beginning, his expression was incredibly serious, but as he spoke, a cold and biting gleam appeared in his eyes, as if choosing victims to devour.

Upon hearing Holland Keller's words, the four people, including Jakai Yez and Canaan Moore, all nodded in agreement, endorsing what Holland Keller had said.

Destroying the Gagnon Family was too costly and not worth it.

However, killing a few Martial Emperor powerhouses from the Gagnon Family was insignificant as long as the foundation of the Gagnon Family remained unshaken.

"Forest Coldring, I'll leave Alaric Gagnon to you to hold off."

Holland Keller ordered Forest Coldring.

"Mm."

Forest Coldring nodded indifferently, his eyes, flickering with cold light, fixated on Alaric Gagnon as if they had taken root on him.

"Jakai Yez, the other three old fellows from the Gagnon Family are yours... no problem, right?"

Holland Keller looked towards Jakai Yez, wanting him to deal with the other three Protector elders of the Gagnon Family.

"Within three breaths, they will be dead!"

Jakai Yez was a man of few words, but his statement exuded strong self-confidence that was convincing.

"As for Canaan Moore and I, we are responsible for stopping Randy Gagnon and the others from the Gagnon Family... Elder Chen, Wyatt Barnes' woman is not weak, you're responsible for holding her back. Remember not to kill her; she still has her uses."

Toward the end of his remarks, Holland Keller looked at an old man in blue who had been following Canaan Moore like a shadow.

The old man in blue nodded.

"After you kill those three old folks from the Gagnon Family, Jakai Yez, join forces with Forest Coldring to kill Alaric Gagnon... Once Alaric Gagnon is dead, you both go and capture Wyatt Barnes to take him away."

Finally, Holland Keller looked again towards Jakai Yez.

Jakai Yez nodded, signifying his understanding.

Just as the atmosphere at the scene became extremely tense and the five of them, including Holland Keller, were preparing to strike,

"Winnie, you're hurt?"

A voice filled with sudden urgency and burgeoning fury unexpectedly broke the brief silence on the scene.

For a moment, everyone's gaze was captivated by a figure that appeared in the sky without anyone noticing when.

This was a young man dressed in purple, handsome with chiseled facial features, and with eyebrows sharp as swords, his eyes revealed cold light and intent to kill.

Right when the people set their sights on the young man in purple, he moved.

Divine Dragon Soaring Through the Nine Heavens!

He transformed into a purple Divine Dragon, darting out like lightning, sweeping across the nine heavens, and in an instant, he was beside a red-dressed woman standing in the distance, her complexion slightly pale.

"Winnie, take this."

The young man in purple reached the red-dressed woman's side and lifted his hand to pass a Pill Medicine, glowing with a profound aura, into her mouth.

The red-dressed woman trusted him unconditionally and swallowed the Pill Medicine without any hesitation.

"That Pill Medicine... how is that possible?!"

At that moment, Holland Keller standing in the distance started to tremble violently.

His gaze had been locked onto the Pill Medicine in the young man's hands, not returning to his senses until it entered the red-dressed woman's mouth.

But his face revealed a look of genuine astonishment.

"Hmm?"

Holland Keller's shock caused the four people beside him to be taken aback, then they all looked at him with puzzled faces.

"The 'Return-Life Pill' he just took out has a purity of over 'ninety-five percent'!"

Facing the puzzled looks of the four, Holland Keller stated, word by word.

As if in emphasis of Holland Keller's words,

Far away, the red-dressed woman who had taken the Pill Medicine started to show a flush on her face, her body filled with vitality, completely recovered.

Where was any sign that she had been injured?

Seeing this scene and hearing what Holland Keller had just said, many were stunned.

"Is this a 'Return-Life Pill' with a purity of over 'ninety-five percent'?"

After a brief pause, Randy Gagnon was the first to recover, swallowing hard.

"Just now, Miss Winnie had already taken a 'Return-Life Pill' with a purity of 'ninety-one percent,' and although her wounds had healed somewhat, they hadn't fully recovered."

Kaizen Gagnon stood frozen, watching the scene before him, completely dumbfounded, "A 'Return-Life Pill' with a purity of over 'ninety-five percent' has such a strong medicinal effect?"

"The 'purity' of a Pill Medicine, the closer it approaches the perfect 'hundred percent,' the more terrifying its medicinal strength will be!"

Kylen Gagnon said with a grave expression, "But I never imagined that Elder Barnes could take out a 'Return-Life Pill' with a purity of over 'ninety-five percent'... Such a Pill Medicine, already extremely close to the perfect 'hundred percent,' has at least more than twice the strength of a 'ninety-one percent' pure 'Return-Life Pill'!"

While the group of Gagnon Family elders shocked by Holland Keller's words stood aghast,

"Wyatt Barnes, it seems I have underestimated you... I really didn't expect you to be able to concoct a Grade One Pill Medicine with a purity above 'ninety-five percent'! The one you just administered to her, its purity should be at 'ninety-seven percent', right?"

Holland Keller's eyes were fixed on the distant purple-clad young man as he resoundingly inquired.

This time, his voice was louder, reaching the ears of every member of the Gagnon Family present.

"What?! A 'ninety-seven percent' pure Grade One Return-Life Pill?"

"Are there Pill Medicines of such high purity on the Cloud Skies Continent?"

"Impossible, right?"

. . .



Very quickly, each Gagnon Family disciple looked at the distant purple-clad young man, Wyatt Barnes, with fervent eyes.

Among the current young generation of the Gagnon Family, Wyatt Barnes was absolutely an 'idol'-level figure, deeply admired by the young disciples of the Gagnon Family.

"Second Brother, that's why they looked somewhat familiar just now in their red clothes... It turns out to be them."

Within a group of Gagnon Family disciples, a girl with a hint of youthful innocence on her face murmured as if she'd had an epiphany. Standing next to her was another young man. "I didn't expect you could recognize them." The young man said with a slight smile. This young man was none other than Jadiel Gagnon, the Second Young Master of the Gagnon Family. As for the girl beside him, her identity was as clear as day, none other than 'Angelica Gagnon,' the sister from the siblings saved by Taoi Romero in the past. The brother was indeed 'Jadiel Gagnon.' "Wyatt Barnes, you really have given me a great gift." Jadiel Gagnon looked at the distant purple-clad young man with eyes full of gratitude. Recently, Jadiel had learned of Kartier Gagnon's death, and he knew that, unless something unexpected happened, he was bound to inherit the position of the next head of the Gagnon Family. And all this was because of the purple-clad young man before him. Without the purple-clad young man, he might not be able to sit in that 'seat' in the future. Wyatt Barnes was slightly surprised that Holland Keller could so easily discern the 'purity' of that Grade One Return-Life Pill.

"Good eyesight... what a pity, lacking the drive to progress, focused on crooked paths, you are

destined to not improve in this lifetime."

At the same time, he gave Holland Keller a cold glance, and spoke calmly, very much like a senior lecturing a junior.

"You, a kid who got lucky, who doesn't know from where you got a 'secret technique', dare to presume to judge me?"

"When I became an alchemist, let alone being unborn, your mother might not even have been born yet... and you, you dare to lecture me?!"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Holland Keller's eyes, filled with rage, seemed like they could shoot fire.

"Yes, when you became an alchemist, my mother might not even have been born yet..."

Wyatt Barnes sneered, pausing for a moment before continuing, "If I were you, I would have committed suicide a long time ago... having lived for so long, you've lived down to the level of a dog! To think you can't even compare to a young kid like me."

The tone of Wyatt Barnes was full of sarcasm.

He was mocking Holland Keller for not even being able to compare to a young kid like himself!

Once Wyatt Barnes had spoken, many Gagnon Family disciples laughed, looking towards Holland Keller with undisguised contempt on their faces.

"The head of the alchemist guild in the South Outlands, that's all he amounts to!"

"Exactly! Our Elder Barnes of the Gagnon Family might not even be a third of his age, yet his achievements in the art of alchemy have already completely surpassed him."

"In front of Elder Barnes, he is simply trash!"

"Trash? That description is quite fitting."

...

The Gagnon Family disciples whispered to each other, their words unreservedly sarcastic towards Holland Keller.

Although their voices were not loud, they still reached Holland Keller's ears word for word, causing his face to alternate between shades of green and white, his eyes brimming with even more indignant fury.

"Wyatt Barnes, don't be smug! You're just lucky to have gotten a 'secret technique', otherwise, could you concoct Pill Medicines with a purity above 'ninety percent'?"

Holland Keller took a deep breath to calm his turbulent emotions before speaking disdainfully.

Even now, he was still convinced that Wyatt Barnes was only able to concoct Pill Medicines with a purity above 'ninety percent' thanks to some 'secret technique' he had stumbled upon.

If he got that 'secret technique', he too could concoct Pill Medicines with a purity above 'ninety percent'.

Secret technique?

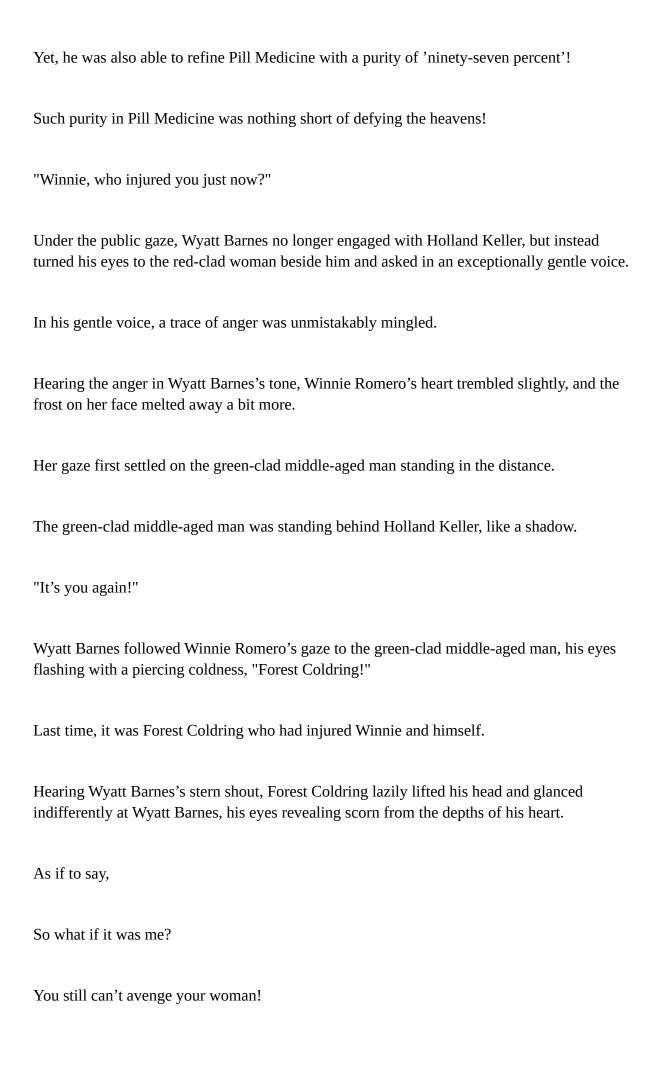
Hearing Holland Keller once again bringing up 'secret technique,' the gazes of everyone present converged on Wyatt Barnes.

Chapter 1109: On the Verge

"Could it be that Elder Barnes truly knows some 'secret technique'?"

Many members of the Gagnon Family privately wondered.

After all, Wyatt Barnes's achievement in becoming a 'Grade One alchemist' at such a young age was already enough to shock anyone.



Boom!

In an instant, milky-white flames erupted from Wyatt Barnes's body, emitting an intimidating presence.

Above the void over his head, the power of heaven and earth stirred, eventually coalescing into a heavenly phenomenon with a total of two thousand ancient Horned Dragon illusory images.

With just Origin Force, he matched the power of two thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

This was the symbol of 'Level One in the Martial Emperor Realm'!

"Elder... Elder Barnes is a 'Martial Emperor'?!"

For a time, most of the Gagnon Family's elders and young members were visibly astonished.

"Wyatt Barnes has broken through to the 'Martial Emperor Realm'?"

Jadiel Gagnon was also massively shocked.

Previously, although he had witnessed Wyatt Barnes kill a Gagnon Family elder of the 'Transforming Void Realm Level Eight,' he didn't believe that Wyatt Barnes was a Martial Emperor.

He had assumed that Wyatt Barnes was at most at the 'peak of the Void Realm.'

Now, the scene before him made him realize that Wyatt Barnes was either already a Martial Emperor back then or had only recently broken through to the 'Martial Emperor Realm.'

In contrast to the astonishment of the Gagnon Family elders and young members, the Gagnon Family's patriarch 'Randy Gagnon' was not very surprised.

Last time, he had personally witnessed Elder Barnes demonstrate his formidable strength and nearly kill Holland Keller, a first-level Martial Emperor.

At that time, he had guessed that Elder Barnes was a Martial Emperor.

As for the old patriarch of the Gagnon Family, 'Alaric Gagnon,' and the Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family, although they had heard from Randy Gagnon that Wyatt Barnes was a Martial Emperor, seeing it with their own eyes today still shocked them a little.

After all, Wyatt Barnes was simply too young!

Of course, if it were just a matter of 'youth,' that would be one thing.

The problem was that 'youth' was not the key point!

One must realize that this young Elder Barnes of the Gagnon Family was not only a 'Grade One alchemist' but also one who could refine Grade One Pill Medicine with a purity of 'ninety-seven percent.'

With his current age, the achievements he had made in 'the way of alchemy' could make more than ninety percent of the alchemists on the Cloud Skies Continent feel utterly inadequate.

Such a prodigious young man on 'the way of alchemy' was also a 'Martial Emperor'?

"Monstrous talent!"

"Is Elder Barnes even human?"

•••

After an eerie silence at the scene, the Gagnon Family elders and the young members erupted, each one looking in awe at the distant purple figure.

"I never imagined that in my lifetime, I, Canaan Moore, would see the legendary 'Odd Species'."

At this moment, the president of the South Outlands Artifact Refiners Guild, Canaan Moore stepped forward and looked deeply at Wyatt Barnes, "They say Odd Species each possess their own 'Divine Ability'... but I wonder, what is your Divine Ability?"

Odd Species!

Divine Ability!

As Canaan Moore spoke up, his voice, though not loud, penetrated the ears of everyone present, stirring up a thousand waves with a single stone.

"Odd Species? Divine Ability?"

Many young members of the Gagnon Family were utterly baffled.

"Does he mean... Elder Barnes is an 'Odd Species'?"

Some of the Gagnon Family's elders couldn't help but have their pupils constrict as they had a certain understanding of 'Odd Species.'

"What is an 'Odd Species'?"

The majority asking this question were young members of the Gagnon Family.

"An Odd Species is a being born from the union of humans and 'demons'... An Odd Species can either be mediocre or monstrously talented! The former are quite common on the Cloud Skies Continent; the latter, however, are extremely rare."

An elder of the Gagnon Family said with a grave expression.

"Yes!"

Another Elder of the Gagnon Family took over the conversation and continued, "The latter, it is said, has talents and comprehension in all aspects far superior to human beings... Even the most gifted and perceptive humans of the Cloud Skies Continent cannot compare to them."

"Moreover, the monstrous Odd Species also possesses a 'Divine Ability'... Every Odd Species has a Divine Ability that is unique in the world."

Someone else added.

Whoosh!

Having learned what 'Odd Species' represented, some of the Gagnon Family Elders and the majority of their juniors who had just heard of 'Odd Species' were taken aback with amazement, their faces filled with shock.

"Does this mean that Elder Barnes is an Odd Species?"

"That's the only explanation... Given that Elder Barnes is a Grade One alchemist, he can't possibly be a 'monster'! For a human to achieve such accomplishments in both 'Martial Dao' and the alchemical arts at his age is nearly impossible."

"That's true."

...

As a group of Gagnon Family Elders and juniors discussed, they quickly confirmed something.

Their Gagnon Family's Honorary Minister Elder 'Wyatt Barnes' was an 'Odd Species', and an extremely monstrous one at that.

Now, they finally understood why Elder Barnes could possess such achievements at such a young age.

If there was anyone present who still didn't think Wyatt Barnes was an 'Odd Species', it was none other than the head of the Gagnon Family, 'Randy Gagnon', and the former patriarch 'Alaric Gagnon'.

Because they knew about Wyatt Barnes' 'background'.

Wyatt Barnes, in his previous life, was someone who achieved against-the-heavens accomplishments in three fields: alchemy, Artifact Refining, and Inscription.

In this life, reincarnated, he needed only his cultivation and mental strength to reach a certain level, and he would be the most outstanding alchemist! Artifact Refiner! Inscription Master!

In their eyes.

The claim of being an 'Odd Species' was utterly baseless.

"Last time I said that you were 'playing with fire'... Today, since you've come, you might as well stay together!"

Creamy white flames erupted from Wyatt Barnes' body, and his icy gaze fell upon Holland Keller and Forest Coldring as he spoke word by word.

His voice was as if coming from an ice cave, filled with extreme and bone-chilling cold.

"Hahahahaha..."

At Wyatt Barnes' words, Holland Keller couldn't help but burst into a wild laugh.

After a long while, the laughter subsided, and he looked at Wyatt Barnes with a sneer, disdainfully saying, "You want to keep us here? With your mere 'Martial Emperor Realm First Level' cultivation?"

"Last time, just after a brief encounter, you were seriously injured by Forest Coldring... It seems that today you want to repeat the same mistake! I really wonder where you get the courage from, to talk nonsense about keeping us."

As he spoke, Holland Keller's face was full of scorn.

At the same time, Canaan Moore also laughed softly, saying, "Confidence is a good thing for a young man, but it becomes 'arrogance' if it goes too far."

Canaan Moore's words carried a tone of lecturing.

"Elder Barnes may be a Martial Emperor, but he's only at the 'First Level'. It won't be easy for him to deal with these people."

"Elder Barnes has such strength at such a young age, which is certainly shocking! But his power is probably even less than that of our Gagnon Family's Three Great Protectors, let alone dealing with these people."

"Give Elder Barnes another ten years, and these fellows wouldn't even be worth a glance!"

"Of course! Elder Barnes is the rumored 'Odd Species', an existence that could be called 'defying the heavens' on the Cloud Skies Continent."

•••

Many Gagnon Family Elders and juniors discussed fervently, and they also didn't believe Wyatt Barnes could contend with Holland Keller and his group.

"Elder Barnes!"

Just as the Origin Force turned into creamy white flames around Wyatt Barnes became more intense, Jadiel Gagnon looked at Wyatt Barnes and firmly said, "You should take Miss Winnie and leave... As for them, our Gagnon Family will hold them back for you!"

Jadiel Gagnon spoke with resolute determination, exuding the aura of a warrior who knows he may not return.

As soon as his words ended, he had already soared into the sky, rushing towards Holland Keller and his four companions.

"In my twilight years, it would be no regret to die for Wyatt Barnes! Elder Barnes, live well."

The previous patriarch of the Gagnon Family, 'Alaric Gagnon', laughed heartily, his voice spreading as he already stood with Jadiel Gagnon, glaring fiercely at Holland Keller's group.

If Holland Keller and his group dared to make a move, they were ready to launch a thunderous attack at any moment.

"Elder Barnes, live well... If we die, avenge us!"

The Three Great Protectors of the Gagnon Family shouted in unison, before leaping into action, joining Jadiel Gagnon and Alaric Gagnon in encircling Holland Keller's group.

"Elder Barnes, live well!"

At this moment, a group of Gagnon Family Elders and juniors also leaped into action, adding further layers around Holland Keller's group, each with a decisive expression.

The 'unity' and 'integrity' of the Gagnon Family, were plainly visible at this moment!

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

•••

In a flash, led by Jadiel Gagnon, the senior members of the Gagnon Family saw their Origin Force surge wildly, with 'mysteries' and 'realms' shadowing them closely.

Soon, all members of the Gagnon Family unleashed their surging Origin Force and 'realms', staring fiercely at Holland Keller's group, ready to strike at any moment.

"The Gagnon Family..."

Surrounded by a dense crowd, Wyatt Barnes completely lost sight of Holland Keller's group, feeling a tremor in his heart.

At this moment, he was moved by the solemn atmosphere created by the Gagnon people.

The Gagnon Family.

This kindness, I, Wyatt Barnes, will remember it!

But today, let me, Wyatt Barnes, sort out my own affairs.

"Stick to the original plan!"

At the same time, Holland Keller, surrounded by the Gagnon people, shouted explosively, speaking to the other four.

Chapter 1110: Wyatt Barnes Three Months Later

Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

As Holland Keller yelled, the Origin Force surged from the bodies of the five people, including himself, and their "Austere Arts" and "Realms" followed like shadows, as they immediately prepared to scatter in different directions.

Forest Coldring's gaze locked onto Alaric Gagnon first.

Jakai Yez's gaze fixed on the three Gagnon Family's Great Protectors.

The remaining three, including Holland Keller, each zeroed in on their own targets.

Whoosh!

Crack!

Just as Holland Keller and his group were about to make their move, a sword cry, which
seemed capable of making their souls tremble, suddenly echoed out of nowhere, fleeting as a
shooting star.

Accompanying the sword cry was a loud noise, like something being torn apart.

When the other four reacted instantly, their expressions changed drastically.

Heaven!

What did they see?!

They saw Forrest Coldring, who had just been floating in the air with them, now bisected horizontally, life extinguishing instantly.

From the stern expression on Forest Coldring's face, and his gaze that had been focused on Alaric Gagnon, it was clear.

From beginning to end, until his body was split in two, Forest Coldring hadn't had time to react.

Forest Coldring, a Fourth-Level Martial Emperor capable of wielding a spirit weapon to unleash the strength nearly comparable to two ancient horned dragons.

Such a being had died just like that, quickly and thoroughly!

"Dead?"

"My eyes didn't even have time to blink, and he was dead?"

•••

Many from the Gagnon family appeared visibly shocked. "Who is it? How could they be so powerful?" Many were filled with doubt. Soon, including Holland Keller and the three beside him, as well as Randy Gagnon, the head of the Gagnon family, and others turned their eyes toward the center of the encirclement from the Gagnon family. There, stood a solitary figure, a figure clad in purple. "No... it can't be!" Seeing the purple figure, Holland Keller's pupils shrank suddenly, his face filled with shock, and then he shook his head continuously, as if unable to believe the reality before his eyes. The three standing next to Holland Keller also didn't look good. "Damn! Why didn't Holland say that this young man was so terrifyingly powerful?" Now, this was the only thought in their minds. They all felt betrayed by Holland Keller. "Elder...Elder Barnes?"

They had never expected Elder Barnes, who had just shown the strength of only the First Level of the Martial Emperor Realm, to be so strong.

The Gagnon family members, staring at the purple figure, were each filled with shock.

Especially Alaric Gagnon, the former patriarch, not only shocked, but his eyes also revealed considerable wariness and disbelief as he looked at the purple figure.

"Old patriarch, did you see clearly what Elder Barnes did just now?"

At this moment, the voices of Randy Gagnon and the three Great Protectors of the Gagnon family, condensed by Origin Force, reached Alaric's ears.

Alaric shook his head.

At the moment when Forest Coldring had focused on him, his gaze had also locked onto Forest Coldring first.

Even as Forest Coldring was killed, he never shifted his gaze.

However, although he witnessed the scene of Forest Coldring's body being split, he couldn't see clearly who moved, he couldn't even spot a figure.

He just heard a fleeting sword cry and the sound of Forest Coldring's body being violently torn apart.

"This..."

Upon seeing Alaric shake his head in denial, Randy Gagnon and others' pupils contracted again, their eyes filled with incredulity as they looked at the purple figure again.

Especially Randy Gagnon.

He remembered that three months ago, when facing Forest Coldring,

the young man in the purple outfit had been seriously injured by Forest Coldring in just an encounter.

Yet, today, he had easily killed Forest Coldring, a Martial Emperor of this caliber, without any reaction from him.

The speed at which he killed Forest Coldring was so fast that even 'Alaric Gagnon', one of the strongest present, couldn't see clearly.

"Young...Young Master."

In the distance, Fill Bear looked at the proud figure in purple floating in the air, his expression somewhat dazed.

When had his young master become so powerful?

"His strength... has greatly improved."

Winnie Romero whose injuries had healed, also focused her gaze on the purple figure, murmuring to herself while a gentle softness filled her autumn eyes.

She knew clearly.

What he was doing now was avenging her.

The person who died had just hurt her.

"Elder Barnes is too strong, isn't he? Was he not just a 'First-Level Martial Emperor'?"

At this moment, many astonished elders from the Gagnon family had recovered their senses, their eyes also fixed on the purple figure.

"Elder Barnes is so powerful!"

"Didn't even have time to blink, and that guy was already taken down by Elder Barnes."

...

Each Gagnon family descendant looked at the young man in purple with fervent eyes, their faces, without exception, filled with deep admiration that stemmed from their souls.

Inside everyone's heart, there was a dream to become an outstanding person, and even to stand at the pinnacle as a mighty being.

However, not many people could achieve it.

Today, in the young man in purple, they saw the shadow of their ideal selves and felt an intense resonance.

The purple figure, the young man in purple, was none other than "Wyatt Barnes"!

Wyatt Barnes stood there empty-handed.

The milky white flames formed by the Origin Force in his body had extinguished, unknowingly, and the celestial phenomenon above his head had dispersed, leaving everyone only layers of mystery.

"You... you killed Forest Coldring?"

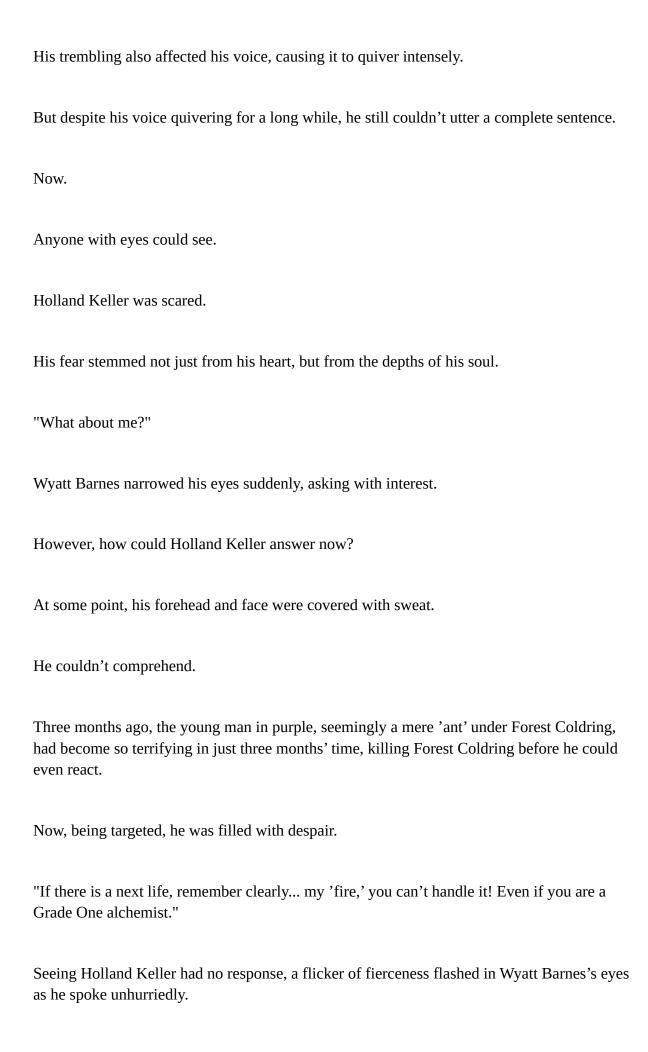
Now, when Holland Keller looked at Wyatt Barnes, there was no scorn in his eyes, only fear.

"What? Has Chairman Keller grown so old that even his eyes have gone bad?"

Wyatt Barnes turned around, glanced at Holland Keller indifferently, and asked.

"You... you..."

Seeing Wyatt Barnes's sharp, sword-like gaze sweeping over, Holland Keller's face flushed and his body trembled.



Towards the end, a terrifying killing intent radiated from him. "No!!" Sensing the killing intent emanating from Wyatt Barnes, Holland Keller's face drastically changed, and he cried out in alarm. However, as soon as his voice sounded, it abruptly cut off. Just because, at some point, there appeared a fine sword mark on his throat. As the sword mark split open, blood gushed out like water from a burst pipe. As for Holland Keller, his eyes dimmed completely when the sword mark appeared on his throat, his body silent thereafter. Following this, accompanied by a cluster of blindingly brilliant red roses, Holland Keller's body fell down, dead beyond doubt. From then on, the president of the South Outlands Alchemist Guild, dead! With Holland Keller's death, the scene fell into dead silence again. Until Wyatt Barnes looked up, and the attention of the Gagnon family members present followed his eyes to Holland Keller's three assistants. Jakai Yez, the head of the Yez Family from Northumberland. Canaan Moore, the president of the South Outlands Artifact Refiners Guild.

Apart from them, the last old man with the surname Chen, who constantly followed him and protected him, was no less powerful than Jakai Yez, Forest Coldring, or Alaric Gagnon.

However, facing Wyatt Barnes who could kill Forest Coldring in one confrontation, even with Mr. Chen's protection, he felt no safety.

"Elder Barnes... I was also instigated by Holland Keller this time, I have no intention of being unbeatable against you, nor opposing the Gagnon family!"

Canaan Moore, taking a deep breath, looked towards Wyatt Barnes in a flustered manner and explained.

Now, he no longer had the arrogance from before; in front of Wyatt Barnes, he was as meek as a little lamb, making Wyatt Barnes somewhat unaccustomed.

"Hmph!"

However, Wyatt Barnes paid him no attention, his gaze suddenly turning cold.

The next moment, everyone saw that Wyatt Barnes still stood in place, seemingly without any movement, yet the president of the South Outlands Artifact Refiners Guild, Canaan Moore, died.

Canaan Moore's head and body separated, both falling through the air.

"Dead!"

With Canaan Moore's death, the blue-robed old man, Mr. Chen, paled and his gaze turned icy.

He produced a knife in his hand and swept toward Wyatt Barnes, his momentum fierce.

At the same time, above his head in the void, the power of heaven and earth began to stir.

Finally, the celestial phenomenon materialized, showing the image of an ancient Azure Dragon and eight thousand ancient Horned Dragons.

Buzz!
The old man's spirit knife swung down toward Wyatt Barnes with ferocity; if it struck true, Wyatt Barnes would be cleaved in two.
However, the knife in the old man's hand, containing the force of an ancient Azure Dragon and even eight thousand ancient Horned Dragons, faster than lightning, still missed its target.
Simply because, in the instant his knife fell, his target disappeared into thin air.
Even Jakai Yez and Alaric Gagnon, the strongest onlookers, saw the purple figure completely vanish, unable to capture any trace of him.
Whoosh!
Like a gust of wind, the purple figure reappeared behind Mr. Chen.
"Is this all the strength you have?"
As Wyatt Barnes appeared behind Mr. Chen, he spoke indifferently, his tone openly carrying a bit of contempt, mocking his incompetence.
Bad!
Hearing the voice from behind, Mr. Chen's face drastically changed, wanting to quickly distance himself from the source of the voice.
However, before he could even move, his head separated from his body.