The Legendary Man Chapter 645 -

Chapter 645 Teaming Up

"What?"

Harvey and Graeme both leaped to their feet in unison.

"Say that again!" Graeme shouted at the guard.

He got so worked up that his spiritual energy went out of control, causing the furniture around him to start breaking.

That showed just how shocked Graeme was.

"There's trouble in Yaleview... Eva from the Salladay family has teamed up with Wilbur to assassinate Joshua. His cultivation level is revealed to be in the middle phase of God Realm, and he has gone missing after making an escape. His fate is currently unknown."

Harvey activated his force field to suppress the outburst of Graeme's spiritual energy.

Any higher and Graeme's spiritual energy would probably start hurting Colton and the others.

"Did you find out anything else?" Harvey asked the guard coldly.

"That was the only information we received from Yaleview. Because of the urgent nature of the situation, I've come over to report it as quickly as possible," the guard replied respectfully.

"Have all our spies in the country get to work! We must locate Joshua at all costs!"

"Understood!"

The guard then turned around and left the room.

Harvey walked up to Graeme and said, "Calm down, Father."

Graeme lowered his spiritual energy levels after hearing that, but the look in his eyes remained icy-cold as he exclaimed, "I can't believe Herman Whitley managed to slip right through our fingers!"

Harvey got a little worried when he heard that.

Herman was the patriarch of the Whitley family two generations ago. He had managed to escape the assault from the eight families.

Back when the Whitley family was in its prime, even Graeme had had to address Herman politely whenever he saw him.

Harvey led Graeme to the side and sat him down on the couch.

"According to the rules of the respectable families, children around the age of five who are found to be suitable for cultivation need to be sent to their ancestral grounds, where they will be trained and screened. Joshua is currently a Divine Realm cultivator, so he must've been well-trained before the Whitley family got annihilated. Looks like this is Herman's last-ditch effort to protect the family," he said with a sigh.

Colton and Zidane stared wide-eyed at Harvey in shock after hearing that.

Being the heirs of a respectable family, they had never experienced conflict in life, let alone heard about it.

After all, a respectable family like theirs couldn't possibly have survived all those years without being incredibly powerful and independent.

Those who even remotely tried to hurt them would likely end up dead. However, everything changed when Joshua's cultivation level was revealed.

It was over ten years ago when the eight respectable families had teamed up to annihilate the Whitley family.

Not wanting to give the Whitley family a chance to retaliate, they acted swiftly and suddenly. That was how they caught the Whitley family by surprise and managed to wipe it out.

Following the annihilation of the Whitley family, the eight respectable families proceeded to massacre all of its remaining family members and relatives, including the distant ones.

When did Herman plan this? No one has ever heard of Joshua. Did Herman start the preparations for the Whitley family's backup plan right after Joshua was born? That was thirty years ago! If that really is the case, then Herman is a lot more terrifying than we imagined.

Graeme let out a sigh as he glanced at Zidane and Colton.

"Someday, you two will be the ones managing the Blackwood family, so I don't mind letting you two in on some of its secrets. You two are well aware that the eight

respectable families are looking for a certain something that belongs to the Whitley family, right?"

Colton and Zidane nodded in unison.

The Blackwood family wasn't the only one looking for it. All the other respectable families had kept at it as well.

However, no one knew what they were actually looking for.

"It's a storage magical item. After the eight respectable families destroyed the Whitley family's ancestral grounds and looted their treasures, they realized the most important ones were nowhere to be found."

Harvey nodded slightly in response.

"The three magical items are Troop Summoner, Formation Crusher, and Hailstorm Fan."

"Those are magical items listed on the Supreme Arsenal!" Zidane exclaimed.

Harvey let out a sigh as he continued, "The functions of those three magical items are as their names would suggest. The Troop Summoner is capable of summoning soldiers, the Formation Crusher can be used to destroy formations, and the Hailstorm Fan can conjure up thunderstorms as well as formations. All three of those magical items are extremely powerful, but no one has seen them ever since the Whitley family got annihilated. We used to assume the other respectable families had found the magical items and were hiding them from everyone else. But now that Joshua's cultivation level has been exposed, it is highly possible that the magical items are with him."

Colton, who was standing at the side, furrowed his brows when he heard that.

"Uncle Harvey, Joshua has been concealing his cultivation level while ruling over Yaleview. Now that Wilbur has exposed his cultivation level, Joshua will be targeted by all the respectable families. We need to catch him now, or it'll be a lot more difficult in the future."

Harvey nodded in response. "That's not all. The fact that Herman has Joshua as a backup plan suggests he might have several others."

As everyone in the room fell silent, Graeme said solemnly, "Even if Herman has made such arrangements, I doubt he'd expect Joshua to pull off such a brilliant and sneaky move. He went from being humiliated by the heirs of respectable families to the commander-in-chief. Had he not chosen Wilbur, Joshua would probably have made Yaleview Army his own private armed force. If the Whitley family has identified the locations of the eight respectable families' ancestral grounds, Joshua could destroy

them all simply by bombarding them from afar. Oh, and let's not forget about the Salladay family. The fact that they only sent Eva to help Wilbur with the assassination is proof that they don't know Joshua's background at all. Otherwise, they'd have surely sent all of their most powerful elders after Joshua just to ensure his death."

The look in Harvey's eyes grew solemn after he heard Graeme's words.

"Father, are you saying the Salladay family's original goal was simply to team up with Wilbur to compete for power?"

Graeme slowly stood up and replied, "It's highly possible. The Salladay family is the most powerful out of the eight respectable families, and yet, they're still trying to gain more power. I imagine they'll soon end up sharing the Whitley family's fate. With the exception of sects and respectable families, there are only a few God Realm cultivators in Chanaea. Jonathan from Asura's Office, Wilbur from Yaleview Army, Karl from Eastern Army, and Joshua, who is currently on the run. Now that the Salladay family has teamed up with Wilbur, the other respectable families are bound to team up with the others as well."

A glint flitted across Graeme's eyes as he added, "Find a way to contact Lauryn. Tell her to sort out her relationship with Jonathan and to refrain from coming home. As for you, Harvey, you are to contact Pentonius and have him return at once. I want him to meet up with Karl before the other respectable families do!"

The Legendary Man Chapter 646 -

Chapter 646 Please Forgive Me

All eight of the respectable families had heard about what happened in Yaleview. Sure enough, they all decided to send their men over to Horbah in Doveston.

Apart from wealth and power, the respectable families also competed for control over the military over ten years ago.

Although the soldiers were nothing compared to those from Asura's Office, Yaleview Army, and Eastern Army, they were good enough to keep the other respectable families in check.

After defeating the Whitley family, the eight respectable families suffered heavy casualties and prioritized their recovery over their military forces. That led to the birth of a few key individuals, who were later known as the eight Kings of War of Asura's Office.

As the soldiers were no longer bound to the respectable families, they started abusing their power and committing lots of crimes.

To maintain order, Chanaea had set up eight armed forces all over the country.

Three years ago, Jonathan joined the armed forces and helped expedite the process tremendously. It wasn't long before order was restored to Chanaea. Jonathan then elected the Eight Kings of War after taking into account their accomplishments in the military.

That marked the end of the eight respectable families' control over the military power in Chanaea.

Since neither of them had a significant advantage over the other, they were okay with the outcome.

After all, the eight respectable families prioritized being more or less equal in power with one another.

However, the Salladay family secretly forming an alliance with Wilbur disturbed that balance. Regardless of whether Wilbur had chosen to side with the Salladay family, the alliance would still tip the scale of power in the latter's favor.

With six hundred thousand soldiers from Yaleview Army on their side, the Salladay family had an unfair advantage over the other respectable families.

Naturally, they didn't take too kindly to that.

Jonathan's Asura's Office was out of the question as he was determined to stand against the respectable families. Lauryn had made that very clear the last time she returned home.

As such, Karl was the only one they could try to ally with.

Although Karl was also against the respectable families, he betrayed Asura's Office and ended up with the Medved Army bearing down on him.

Since Karl was stuck with nowhere left to go, the respectable families believed it would be easy to ally with him if they lent him a helping hand.

Karl, who was staying thirty miles south of River Onxy, had no idea that the turn of events in Yaleview had made him a prime target for the seven respectable families.

Meanwhile, in Sparaville of Terrandya, Jonathan had a deep frown on his face as he lounged on the couch.

He was reading through a report sent by a sleeper agent he had planted deep within Zedfield.

Ever since the death of Agent 018, Jonathan had ordered all of his spies to go into hiding.

With Wilbur's cultivation level reaching God Realm and Yaleview under total control of the Yaleview Army, Jonathan didn't want his spies to lose their lives in vain.

This report was sent by Agent 009. Asura's Office has lost contact with him, so it's highly possible that he has been compromised and killed...

"Geoffrey, I need you to do me a favor. Look up a man named Federico Laderman. His ID card number ends with 061125. I want you to ensure that his children are well looked after and treated fairly. Do not let anyone harm them."

"Yes, Sir! By the way, Mr. Goldstein, who is this person?"

"He's a spy I planted in Yaleview. I've long since gotten rid of his true identity by faking his accidental death. He risked his life to send me this intel, so his sacrifice is priceless."

"Got it. I will make sure his family and children are treated fairly and well provided."

Jonathan nodded without looking away from his tablet.

Joshua is in the middle phase of Divine Realm and has disappeared without a trace. Wilbur and the Salladay family are working together, forming a powerful alliance between a respectable family and the Yaleview Army. Did the Salladay family plan this ahead of time? Lauryn once advised me to work with the Blackwood family. I imagine her moving into Edenic Heights was also an intentional act. If that really is the case, then Karl and the remaining Kings of War are the ones most affected. The quickest way for the other respectable families to stop the Salladay family is to ally with the remaining forces...

With that in mind, Jonathan turned to look at Geoffrey and asked, "Is there still no update from the guys at Baridoki?"

"I mentioned your name when I contacted Baridoki's intelligence department. Camden was scared sh*tless and is currently carrying out investigations. However, due to how advanced the maritime transport industry is over at Baridoki, it will take at least two days to perform a detailed investigation," Geoffrey replied.

"Two days? If Jetroina's cultivators really are infiltrating the country, they would've made it to Horbah by then! Tell Camden to either provide me with his findings by dawn tomorrow or choose how he wishes to be executed!" Jonathan exclaimed with a frown.

Speed and efficiency are key when it comes to gathering intel. If the information in Agent 009's report is true, then it would be of no use to me if I received it two days later! Asura's Office will not tolerate such incompetence and inefficiency!

While Geoffrey ran off to make the arrangements, Jonathan stared at Nina, who was sitting in front of him.

The look in his eyes was as cold as ice. He didn't even care if Nina had heard his conversation with Geoffrey earlier.

"What's the matter? You haven't recovered yet?" he asked with a chuckle.

"I might need a few more hours," Nina mumbled weakly while clutching a pillow in her arms.

With a faint grin on his lips, Jonathan said, "I have a very special identity. You'll need to undergo a thorough background check if you wish to work with me. Now that I know for sure that you're clean, you are allowed to remain by my side from here on."

Nina simply smiled weakly at him after hearing that.

Geoffrey had forced her to swallow a tiny explosive device while he ran a background check on her. After making sure that she had a clean record, he forcefully fed her lots of laxatives to help remove the explosive device.

Had it not been for her cultivation level, the laxatives alone could've landed her in the emergency room.

Nina had a conflicted feeling in her heart when she looked at Jonathan.

"Mr. Goldstein, may I know what you actually do?"

"I'm Jonathan Goldstein of Asura's Office. Everyone calls me Asura," Jonathan replied honestly.

Nina sat up and stared at him in disbelief. "You're Asura?"

Jonathan nodded. "You wanted someone to help you, right? Well, I'm the only one in Chanaea who can provide you with the best resources."

The next thing he knew, Nina knelt in front of him and pleaded, "I'm sorry, Mr. Goldstein. Please forgive me…"

The Legendary Man Chapter 647 -

Chapter 647 A Gracious Host

At the moment, Nina was deeply conflicted.

A miserable feeling descended upon her as she stood face-to-face with Jonathan.

Geoffrey's investigations showed that she was innocent not because she had wiped her history clean.

Instead, she simply had an unremarkable background.

The better one's acting was, the better a spy one made.

While hiding amidst the enemy, a spy who wasn't called up could be anyone, be it a vegetable seller or a white-collared worker. In fact, one could even be an unemployed bum who stayed home all day.

Some spies—while lying in wait—would even get married and start a family.

Nevertheless, once they were issued a mission by the organization, they would deliver the required information right away.

As for Nina, her clean background was the result of her masquerading as a Chanaean for twenty years—from kindergarten up to university.

Just like ordinary Chanaeans around her, she studied, fell in love, started a business, and joined the rat race.

In order not to raise any suspicion, Jetroina would only contact her once a year, never issuing any missions.

That was why the background checks yielded nothing about her.

Her mission was to be deployed when a grand strategy was put in place, such as the current situation where Jetroina and Remdik formed an alliance to attack Karl.

Previously, Nina had paid a handsome price to rent a shop in the same building as Seamus for her cosmetics business. It was part of her preparations in the event she was called up for duty.

Ten days ago, she finally received orders to assume her role as a spy.

Once she had executed the mission related to the Eastern Army's rear, she would be able to return to Jetroina.

However, she discovered that Seamus was dead before she could even get close to him.

Coincidentally, Team Oracle was also preparing to eliminate Seamus in their attempt to sow chaos in Horbah, Baridoki, and Terrandya.

Unfortunately, the bomb went off before Nina could stop them in time.

Subsequently, in an attempt to hide her identity, Nina killed the cultivators who were sent to assist her from Fairlake. Moreover, she even created the illusion that her heart was pierced by glass shrapnel from the explosion.

It was after all that that she encountered Jonathan.

Initially, she assumed he was a member of Terrandya's intelligence network. Little did she expect fate to embed her by Asura's side.

By then, it was impossible for her to dissociate herself even if she wanted to.

How did this happen?

When Nina dropped to her knees with a pleading look on her face, the puzzled Jonathan furrowed his brows.

"What are you doing? By cultivating with me, you can obtain the resources you want. Isn't that what you're aiming for?

"It is what I want..." Nina elaborated wryly, "But what I aim to be is just the treasured partner of someone powerful and not participate in a powerful organization such as Asura's Office. Mr. Goldstein, I beg of you, please let me go. I have saved up some money and am willing to give it all to you, all right?"

Even though Nina was already on the brink of tears, Jonathan simply shook his head.

"Nina, I trust the results of Geoffrey's investigation and the fact that you're innocent."

He leaned into her ear as he spoke.

"Having said that, Agent 009, whom I sent to Zedfield has a record that's manifold cleaner than yours. He's also one of the best spies in Asura's Office. Be it you or someone else, it's rare for anyone who approaches me to truly be innocent. Most of the time, they have an ulterior motive.

"Even though I don't know what your intention is and neither do I have any evidence, I can assure you that I'm a patient man. If you stay by my side without exposing yourself for life, I'll treat you as my servant accordingly. However, the moment I catch you making a mistake, I'll make sure you suffer a fate worse than death. Do you understand?" Jonathan threatened with a smile.

By then, Nina's face had lost all color, and tears were streaming down her cheeks.

"M-Mr. Goldstein, I-I really don't know what you're talking about... I just want to leave. I beg of you... Please let me go..." she choked, for she was already terrified of Jonathan.

Despite Nina's reaction, the latter was a sea of calm.

It wasn't because he was cold-blooded, but because he was inherently cautious after being plotted against countless times in the past.

Factions from within and beyond Chanaea have continuously tried to get close to him, not only to take his life but also to annihilate Asura's office.

As for the women who tried to do so, be it Yasmin, Lauryn, or even Nina, all of them had their own agenda.

In the event any information about Asura's Office was leaked to its enemies, the ensuing consequences would be devastating. Mysonna, where almost a hundred thousand soldiers were killed or injured, was an example of that.

As a result, Jonathan didn't dare let down his guard toward those who appeared by his side for no reason.

"There is a way to leave me," Jonathan remarked.

"What is it?" Nina asked, grasping at straws.

"Death."

After turning off his tablet computer and heading out, Jonathan was slightly stunned the moment he opened the door.

He was greeted by the sight of ten glowering men walking in his direction.

At the sight of him, the group, too, was slightly taken aback. Despite the minute reactions, they didn't escape Jonathan's notice.

"Hold on."

Jonathan stepped out the door and blocked the men's way.

One of them, who was nearest to Jonathan, raised his right hand by reflex.

It was the typical stance of a sword drawing technique that was ingrained into the muscle memory of a trained swordsman at the first sign of danger.

Suddenly, an old man within the group let out an exasperated snort before shoving the man in front of him aside.

He was none other than Zebedee.

As for the group, they were members of Team Oracle whose operation was stopped by the explosion.

"What are you doing?" Zebedee barked at his subordinate.

"I hired you to protect me, not cause any trouble."

Thereafter, Zebedee walked up to Jonathan and nodded with a smile.

"Young man, is there any reason you're blocking our way?"

"Not at all. I mistook you for someone else."

Jonathan stepped aside with a polite grin.

After giving him a cordial nod, Zebedee led his men past the former.

With a slight twitch of his ear, Jonathan picked up the racing hearts that passed him by.

"Chottomatte..."

Staring at their silhouettes, Jonathan let slip a word in Jetroinian, causing the group to stop abruptly in their tracks.

By the time they turned around, they were greeted by the sight of Jonathan staring at them while holding a long black staff that was emitting sparks.

"That was easy. Gentlemen, now that you have arrived in Chanaea, let me be your gracious host."

The Legendary Man Chapter 648 -

Chapter 648 Exposed Identity

Jonathan was now in a standoff with Zebedee and Team Oracle who numbered thirteen men.

Watching them through the door, Nina didn't dare make a single move. Instead, she gripped the couch's corners so tightly that the veins in the back of her hands began to bulge.

Prior to having her meridians sealed, she—as a Grandmaster—would have been capable of giving Jonathan a hard time even though she was still no match for him.

What she didn't expect was Jonathan sealing her meridians out of caution even though she had used a magical item to suppress her cultivation level to that of Superior Realm.

As a God Realm warrior, is it really necessary to be wary of someone from Superior Realm?

Having her powers sealed and suffering the effects of the laxative, the ashen-faced Nina could no longer move, let alone flee.

Along the corridor, the ring of the nearby elevator interrupted the standoff.

As its doors opened, Geoffrey stepped out, phone in hand.

"Mr. Goldstein..."

No sooner had he spoken than he stared at Zebedee and his men in shock.

With Jonathan brandishing a magical weapon against a group of hostile-looking men, even a fool could sense that something was amiss.

Zebedee, with an emotionless gaze, gave Jonathan a look.

"Mister, you know how to speak Jetroinian?"

"A little," Jonathan replied with a smile as he swung his staff around.

He continued, "So, what are a bunch of Jetroinians pretending to be Chanaeans up to?"

"Pretending?" Zebedee sounded surprise. "Since when were we pretending? We only spoke Chanaean to you out of courtesy."

"Is that so? In that case, what are you doing here in Chanaea?" Jonathan probed in a mischievous tone.

From the men's earlier sword stances, it was evident that they were Jetroinian warriors. To be in Chanaea at such a sensitive time, it was obvious what their objective was.

Despite that, Jonathan was curious as to why he couldn't feel any spiritual energy from the group.

Did they seal off their spiritual energy with some magical item or technique? If that's the case, I have to get my hands on it. Something like that is invaluable for assassinations.

Zebedee's men began to chuckle at Jonathan.

"Mr. Goldstein... right? We're here in Chanaea to make an investment."

"Tell me your name and entry date into the country," Jonathan demanded calmly.

"My name's Zebedee Makino. I'm the head of Team Oracle," Zebedee answered with a slight bow and a grin on his face.

The very next instant, the flash of a blade could be seen bearing down upon Jonathan's lower body.

Clang!

Amidst the clash of metal, Jonathan stopped the blade with his staff.

As sparks continued to fly from the magical staff, a lava-like substance began to flow along the motifs on its surface, spreading from where Jonathan's grip was to both its extreme ends.

In Zebedee's hands, a meter-long broken blade was emitting an icy frost.

Despite having a contest of strength discreetly, both of them wore a smile on their respective faces.

"Team Oracle is one of Jetroina's mysterious organizations that report directly to the Emperor. Obviously, you're considered big fish," Jonathan remarked smugly.

As for Zebedee, his earlier calm was now replaced by a cold and hostile look. "Jonathan Goldstein, also known within Chanaea's military circles as the legendary Asura. I didn't expect to run into you here. Now, die!" Zebedee had barely spoken when—with a twitch of his tongue—a sharp needle shot out without warning.

Ding!

A slight wave of Jonathan's staff deflected the needle away. Immediately after, he raised his right fist and slammed it on top of his staff while tweaking the spell with his left hand, causing the staff to shrink into a stick which was shot in Zebedee's direction.

Clang!

Holding his sword in front of his face, Zebedee sent the staff flying.

As the spell in Jonathan's hand changed again, the flying staff extended its length in mid-air with both its ends stabbing into the walls of the corridor.

Leaping into the air, Jonathan threw forward a magical meteor hammer before grabbing the staff with both his hands and launching a double kick at Zebedee's chest.

The latter had hardly blocked the meteor hammer with his blade when he felt a devastating blow to his chest, throwing him backward.

Boom!

Crashing through the corridor wall, Zebedee ended up buried in the rubble.

"I expect nothing less from Asura."

Zebedee's voice echoed from inside the wall.

Narrowing his eyes, Jonathan stared at Zebedee's chest.

His kick had ripped off the latter's suit to reveal the Jetroinian armor plate underneath it.

Since they had fallen out with each other, there was no need for Zebedee to hide his cultivation level anymore.

Releasing waves of spiritual energy, he demonstrated the power of advanced phase God Realm to the extent Jonathan felt pressured by him.

"Just as expected of someone with the title of holy master," Jonathan commented as he kept his staff and meteor hammer.

Even though Zebedee had a kick slammed into him earlier, he came out unscathed due to the armor he was wearing.

Looking at his surrounding subordinates, Zebedee ripped off the suit he was wearing.

"Since our cover is blown, all of you should do as you see fit. As for our battle, you're not in a position to interfere," Zebedee instructed his men while keeping his eyes locked on Jonathan.

"Understood!" the members of Team Oracle acknowledged with a bow.

Thereafter, they pulled out long swords from their magical storage, and without any hesitation, charged at Jonathan.

Amidst the flash of a sword, members of Team Oracle were sent flying while the swords they were holding showed a faint crack across the blades.

Holding a long sword, Jonathan stared at Zebedee.

"None of you are leaving as long as I'm here."

He subsequently turned to Geoffrey.

"Take Nina away with you. If she tries anything funny, kill her!"

"Understood," Geoffrey grunted in acknowledgment before entering the room with a pistol. Despite the presence of more than ten Grandmasters less than five meters away, he showed no signs of fear at all.

After all, Jonathan standing in the corridor was a reassuring sight.

Back inside the room, Nina saw Jonathan ordering Geoffrey to take her away as an opportunity for escape.

So, what if my cultivation level has been sealed? As a Grandmaster whose body has been nourished by spiritual energy, I'm still stronger than an ordinary person. Once I leave Jonathan's side, I'll be able to eliminate Geoffrey easily.

Little did she expect Geoffrey to point a gun to her forehead the moment he entered.

"W-What are you... Mmm..."

Before she could finish, Geoffrey held her mouth and stuffed a couple of pill-like objects down her throat.

"Geoffrey! You've got to be kidding me! Again?"