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Chapter 673 Leaving

After the two days of investigations, Jonathan was not at all surprised by what had transpired in Horbah.

Sitting beside the computer, Jonathan looked at the anxious Hades. Jonathan knew that although Karl had betrayed Asura's Office, Eastern Army was still at a disadvantage, so Hades and the others wanted to provide aid.

"Adjustments?" Jonathan asked Hades coldly.

"Hades, among the seven Kings of War, you're the one in charge of Asura's Office. All along, you listened to me and never questioned my decisions. Now, you're saying that we need to make adjustments. I bet you all have discussed and agreed upon this in private already."

"Uh... Yes!"

After hesitating for a moment, Hades lowered his head and admitted everything.

"Mr. Goldstein, according to news Geoffrey sent me on Terrandya, the people who stopped us from giving aid to Horbah were spies from Jetroina. Karl left Asura's Office and caused nearly fifty thousand casualties in Mysonna Army. If I see him, I'll kill him without hesitation. However, I'll never allow others to encroach on Chanaea's land."

Jonathan's face turned dark after he heard Hades' words.

"You don't want others to encroach on our lands, but what can you do? Back then, I stationed Wilbur at Horbah so that he could be a sword separating Remdik and Jetroina. However, Karl has betrayed us, causing Chanaea's troops to be separated into three forces. Yaleview Army and Wilbur will definitely want to sit on the fence and reap the benefits while we fight Karl. Do you think you can cross Yaleview and bring troops to aid Doveston?"

"Then we can reach there by air or sea! Mr. Goldstein, we can't just sit back and watch the situation in Doveston worsen," Hades declared firmly.

"How many people can we even transport via air or sea? Don't you know?" Jonathan asked, vexed.

"Let's not talk about such meaningless suggestions anymore. I'll manage the matters regarding Doveston."

Suddenly, Jonathan raised his head to look at Hades.

"Oh right. Do you know what happened at Edenic Heights?"

"Asura's Office has received the news. I'm sorry, Mr. Goldstein, for not being able to protect Ms. Smith."

This time, even Hades sounded depressed.

Being commanders who had battled for decades, Hades and the other Kings of War only trusted the weapons they held and their armies.

They were disdainful of Yaleview and the eight respectable families.

What they believed in was having the enemy within a range of artillery fire.

However, the incident at Edenic Heights made them finally realize why Jonathan always rejected their request to battle Yaleview.

The defense of Edenic Heights could not be penetrated in a short duration, even if two mighty brigades went.

Yet, this time, only three people from the Osborne family came.

To be exact, only two God Realm elders fought, and it was as if there were no foe, for they easily restrained all the key members and kidnapped Josephine.

The confidence of all the Kings of War and their unrealistic fantasies of future war were immediately shattered with such a result.

For the first time, they realized that what Jonathan had been doing all along was correct.

Ever since the situation at Asura's Office stabilized, they requested to fight Yaleview and overthrow the eight respectable families numerous times.

From the looks of it, if Jonathan did not reject their request, the entire Asura's Office would have been destroyed by the eight respectable families' advanced-level cultivators.

Seeing Hades keeping quiet, Jonathan shook his head.

"This has nothing to do with you. You will only realize how powerful God Realm cultivators are when you fight them. What I want to discuss with you is Asura's Office," Jonathan said with a sigh and frowned.

"I have agreed to work with the Osborne family. They're doing these things so that when the Salladay family and Wilbur collaborate, they can make use of Asura's Office to restrain Yaleview Army. Now that Josephine is in their hands, I'm, to a certain extent, controlled by the Osborne family, so I'm no longer suitable to lead Asura's Office."

"Mr. Goldstein…"

Upon hearing Jonathan's words, Hades was shocked.

"Asura's Office belongs to you and can only belong to you! This will never change! If not, I'll be the first to disagree!"

Upon seeing Hades' agitated look, Jonathan felt warm, but he still retorted angrily, "Nonsense! Asura's Office was established to return peace and stability to Chanaea. You Kings of War have a high level of autonomy over your territories and don't even need to report to Asura's Office when dealing with non-strategic related issues. How can it belong to me? I will die one day, perhaps due to an assassination or during cultivation. Will you and the millions of members of Asura's Office die with me?"

Stunned, Hades could not think of a reply to Jonathan.

"But... But you built Asura's Office up from scratch..."

Before Hades could finish his words, Jonathan waved his hands and cut the former off.

"I already told you half a year ago that I want to return to Jadeborough and live a normal family life. Of course, the main reason why I decided to leave Asura's Office last time was to put your requests to fight Yaleview Army aside. However, this time, I'm really going to leave Asura's Office."

Jonathan then took a deep breath and slowly stood up.

"Hades, I have an order for you!"

"Yes, sir!"

Hades' eyes turned red when he heard Jonathan's words, but he still puffed out his chest and replied loudly.

"As Josephine is being threatened by the Osborne family, I'm no longer fit to command Asura's Office. Now, I order you to remove my access to Asura's Office's intranet and backend. Only leave me with the most basic communication function. After removing my access to the backend, the headquarters, all the crucial agencies handling information, and subordinates must immediately move out to prevent unnecessary fights from occurring in the future.

Although Jonathan's command was simple, he did not leave any way out for himself.

Removing his access to the backend meant he would not receive any key information and would no longer have the power to manage his subordinates and crucial agencies.

Changing the location would also prevent Jonathan from knowing the location of those agencies, thus ensuring Asura's Office's safety.

Hence, although the Osborne family kidnapped Josephine, Jonathan managed to cut down the influence he had on Asura's Office as much as possible.

If he completely cut off all connections with Asura's Office, the Osborne family would think that he had no value anymore and might kill Josephine in a fit of anger if they found out.

After weighing the pros and cons, Jonathan knew that was the most he could do.

"Mr. Goldstein..." Hades began, still wanting to say something.

Yet, Jonathan sat down again and continued, "Hades, after I left, it was you who dealt with all the matters regarding Asura's Office. In the future, I'll leave Asura's Office in your hands."

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Chapter 674 Ambitious

After completing the arrangements made for Asura's Office, Jonathan opened the website skillfully.

Jonathan stared at the simple login interface before him. Finally, he keyed in a password after thinking for a long moment.

As the chat boxes popped up one after another, Jonathan deftly tapped on the keyboard. Following that, he connected the phone to the computer and called a number. Beep, beep, beep...

The phone rang thrice before the sound of the call connecting sounded.

"Hello? Who's this?" A slightly raspy and weary voice sounded from the other end of the phone line.

Upon hearing the familiar voice, Jonathan was silent for a moment before casually speaking. "The logistics supply in Horbah has been cut off. Karl is facing off against Medved Army at the moment and he simply cannot spare the manpower to rebuild the supply network. I know you've been waiting for my phone call. You should make your move now."

Inside a mansion in Zedfield, Yaleview, Wilbur glanced at the document before him. An old model Nokia phone was placed beside him.

Apart from receiving phone calls, the old phone did not have other functions. Even if someone wanted to eavesdrop on the conversations, there was no way to hack.

Wilbur chuckled as he glanced at the document in hand. "Jonathan, the Eastern Army's backup supply line was destroyed. That matter is the concern of Asura's Office. Perhaps you dialed the wrong number when you called Yaleview Army?"

Jonathan snickered when he heard the voice on the phone. "Wilbur, we both know the reaction of Yaleview Army if I really send people to support Doveston. Let's cut to the chase. Didn't you keep your phone precisely for this day? Although Terrandya and Baridoki can muster up some supplies, it's simply not enough to provide for the consumption of one hundred and sixty thousand people."

Jonathan fell silent after he spoke and stared at the phone in his hand.

"Karl and Eastern Army betrayed Asura's Office. This cannot be helped," Wilbur ventured slowly. "Jonathan, when we were at the Valley of Elites, you could not bear to cripple the elite warriors who fought against us. You even said something about them being crippled for life if you did that. Truly, I do not understand why you cannot rid yourself of this softhearted behavior. Can't you just kill Karl directly and take back Eastern Army?"

Upon hearing that, Jonathan let out a sigh. "I know. Although you pursue power, you will not watch Eastern Army being defeated. Just state your conditions."

"Hehe..." Wilbur's chuckle sounded from the phone. "Jonathan, you're the same as always. You haven't changed at all. Since you let me state the condition, I will tell you. Otherwise, you will be worried."

Wilbur paused for a moment. "Jonathan, your goal was always to overthrow the monopoly of the eight respectable families and to return peace and prosperity to Chanaea. The path you seek is for a great cause. I am just an ordinary man and not a noble person like you. What I seek has always been power and status. After we join forces for the plan, I will help you destroy the eight respectable families. After that, you will disband Asura's Office and never get involved in anything else. How does that sound?"

Disband Asura's Office...

Jonathan stared at the phone without any expression. Even his breathing seemed to have slowed down.

He was aware that Wilbur was not just after the disbandment of Asura's Office. The latter planned to devour Chanaea's military power in order to strengthen his position and complete the unification.

"Wilbur, do you intend to help me slay the dragon, only to become the dragon yourself?"

"Jonathan Goldstein!" Through the phone, Wilbur's voice suddenly rose. "Do you really think you're the savior? Or do you think that tumors like respectable families can be completely eradicated after you clean them up? Dream on! As long as humans exist, they will eternally be driven by desires and interests. There will always be a hierarchy in society."

Wilbur continued, "Those respectable families have been passed down for hundreds and thousands of years. Even if you destroy them, someone else will take their place. The Goldstein family is one of the prominent families. If it wasn't for the suppression of respectable families, do you think the Goldsteins would have been satisfied to just remain an ordinary family? Or perhaps, Asura's Office in your grasp right now isn't reigning above society? There will always be someone standing at the top. Why can't that person be me? I understand you and likewise, you also understand where I am coming from.

"At the very least, if I stood at the top, I will not be as rotten and broken as the current respectable families. I've prepared supplies for Eastern Army that are sufficient for ten days. I've also notified the army of two hundred thousand to enter Level 1 battle formation. As long as you agree to my terms, they will follow the railway line and move into Horbah within half a day. Of course, it doesn't matter even if you don't agree with my condition. I will clean up Doveston after Eastern Army is taken care of."

Wilbur's blunt words pierced through Jonathan's heart.

It was not only in Chanaea but everywhere else in the world. Those respectable families were parasites and roaches that could not be killed or exterminated.

It was as Wilbur said—even if he was not the one, someone else was bound to stand on top of society.

"I agree to your condition." Without further ado, Jonathan agreed. "However, I have one last question for you."

"Shoot." Wilbur laughed as he spoke.

"What is the real reason you're working with the Salladay family?" Jonathan inquired. He did not beat around the bush. Wilbur was not only ambitious, but he was also a strategist. Otherwise, he would not be able to command an army of six hundred thousand. Someone like Wilbur would not overlook the repercussions of joining hands with a respectable family. He must have his own plans.

Wilbur's reply was blunt. "Jonathan, everything I do is for the purpose of climbing up. Those respectable families are nothing but stepping stones for me to achieve a partnership with you. The more chaotic Chanaea becomes, the greater my chances are."

"Understood." Upon hearing Wilbur's reply, Jonathan finally felt relieved.

Wilbur intended to drag the eight respectable families and Chanaea's three great military forces down. However, as long as it was not in pursuit of power as an underling of respectable families, it did not matter.

The scheme was bound to be revealed someday. Jonathan only hoped that the day would not be too far away.

"Wilbur, send your troops. I will keep my promise."

"I knew you'd agree to it. The transport plane has left for Doveston when I received your call. It has already entered Terrandya's territory." Wilbur chuckled. "By the way, although the two hundred thousand troops I've transferred are to assist the defense of Doveston along with Eastern Army, I've ordered them to only listen to your order, not Karl's."

"Do you trust me so much?" Jonathan laughed. "Aren't you afraid that your troops will become cannon fodder that I'll throw into River Onxy? Can you bear with that?"

Wilbur chuckled again. "If you're truly so fearsome, Yaleview Army would have been absorbed into Asura's Office."

"Then, why not Karl?" Jonathan continued to pry. "He's good at leading troops. His leadership abilities are certainly no weaker than mine."

Wilbur sneered. "He's the same as me. We're both ambitious!"

The Legendary Man Chapter 675 -

Chapter 675 How Have You Been

Late at night, Yaleview Army's northern military district was illuminated brightly.

All the railway tracks, main roads, and highways had been blocked off by the military.

The supplies and firearms were transported to Horbah by land and air freight.

Wilbur was quite ambitious, for he could easily adapt despite Yaleview's chaotic situation and make a name for himself.

Not only did he know how to maintain good relationships with others, but he could also come up with strategic and systematic plans in battles.

It took Wilbur less than three hours from the call with Jonathan for the first reinforcement team to arrive at Horbah.

Plus, Yaleview Army had also built its own intelligence network at Doveston.

When the soldiers arrived, they split into teams of two without delay. While one team was responsible for rebuilding the supply line for Eastern Army, the other team would hunt down the remaining Jetroina assassins.

When Jonathan got wind about that, his expression darkened greatly.

It's obvious that Wilbur is well-versed in the situation in Doveston by his swift reaction. However, he did not try to stop the assassins in Jetroina. Instead, he waited until the Eastern Army's supply lines failed before taking the opportunity to strike a deal in exchange for his help. Did Wilbur not care about the safety of Chanaea's citizens? He didn't mind hurting the Eastern Army just to achieve his goal. It's the lives of one hundred sixty thousand people at stake! Perhaps in his eyes, these people's lives are just stepping stones for him to achieve the peak of his power.

However, the situation in Chanaea became completely muddled ever since Yaleview Army sent troops into Doveston.

Firstly, Asura's Office was enemies with respectable families and the forces surrounding Chanaea, including the penetration of international organizations like Dark Web.

On the other hand, Eastern Army was being coveted by Remdik, Asura's Office, Yaleview Army, and many forces in Jetroina.

Yaleview Army, in turn, was the most troublesome out of all of the armies.

As their vision was to unify all the forces, they did not stop their conquest of power.

Thus, Wilbur's plan involved many parties.

Wilbur had the support of the Salladay family, which was the most influential family out of the eight respectable families. Therefore, the other seven families would not dare to lay a finger on Yaleview Army out of respect for the Salladay family.

This gave room for Wilbur to progress.

As for the military, Wilbur had agreed with Jonathan and got the support of Asura's Office.

In the past few years, power in Chanaea was split into three parties—the respectable families' alliance, Asura's Office, and Yaleview.

At the moment, Wilbur was overseeing Yaleview, placating the respectable families, and forming allies with Asura's Office. Even Eastern Army, which had just declared independence became unpredictable after Wilbur sent two hundred thousand soldiers to support them.

There was a saying that people who had gone through hardships and happiness would have a special place for each other.

Now that Eastern Army was in dire straits, they would have a strong friendship with the two hundred thousand soldiers Wilbur sent in to defend Doveston. After all, they would sleep, eat, and even fight against the same enemy.

If Karl decided to move against Yaleview Army one day, there was a chance Eastern Army might refute.

Wilbur was nipping the problem right in the bud, and it was undoubtedly a perfect plan.

Even if Jonathan saw through the plan, there was nothing he could do. All in all, it was a conspiracy by Wilbur.

Wilbur was undoubtedly born a strategist and a high-powered careerist.

Not only did he stabilize the respectable families and form an agreement with Asura's Office, but he also set a trap for Eastern Army. The Four Great Forces of Chanaea had fallen into Wilbur's schemes. It made one wonder if that was all it took for Wilbur to unify all the forces.

While sitting in the military Jeep, Jonathan was organizing a timeline in his mind.

Meanwhile, a young and polite-looking military officer sat next to him.

The man was Sawyer Drudy, one of the potential successors Wilbur trained after he came into power. Sawyer was now in charge of Yaleview's northern military district's affairs.

"Reporting in! Eastern Army's base is located just thirty miles ahead. We're here," Sawyer told Jonathan excitedly with a reddened face.

After Wilbur came into power, he started to train new soldiers maniacally. Although he claimed it was to infuse new blood into the army, it was all because he did not trust the seniors of the army.

Naturally, the newly-promoted leaders like Sawyer had not had a chance to see Wilbur's repulsive ambitions.

Therefore, they worshipped Jonathan and Wilbur as if they were gods of war.

In the eyes of young soldiers, it was a perfect arrangement for Chanaea Asura's Office to manage external affairs while Yaleview Army dealt with internal matters. The thought of the duo being enemies was just nonsensical to them.

When faced with such a general, Jonathan was utterly speechless.

After all, as the commander of two hundred thousand soldiers, Sawyer actually asked for Jonathan's signature the moment he saw him.

However, Jonathan had to admit that the young man was meticulous in managing other affairs. Sawyer handled the coordination between the two hundred thousand soldiers so flawlessly that Jonathan could not find any faults against him. Therefore, Jonathan was not so worried.

"Is there any news about Karl?" Jonathan asked indifferently.

After glancing at his tablet, Sawyer quickly replied, "Yes, Asura. Eastern Army has already given us a response. Karl wishes to talk to you; the location has been set at his camp."

"All right. Let's go over right now."

In Karl's camp, an SUV was passing through at an unhurried pace.

Meanwhile, the soldiers were rather excited and saluted the SUV on both sides of the car. It was an understatement to say that the soldiers were thrilled.

"Asura, look around you. No matter where you go, everyone respects you. It'll be great if I can achieve at least half of what you have," exclaimed Sawyer while looking out the window.

Upon hearing that, Jonathan smiled mockingly.

"Really? In exchange, I had to go through countless assassinations and wars. If you want to endure all that, I don't mind giving all their respect to you."

As Jonathan finished speaking, the SUV slowly came to a stop.

In front of the SUV was a line of soldiers wearing coats. The man leading the front seemed exhausted with stubbles covering his face. He was currently standing and looking at the SUV with a complex expression.

That man was none other than Karl.

At that moment, the duo gazes fixated on each other through the car window with one standing outside and the other inside the SUV.

After a long moment, Karl slowly raised his right hand and saluted Jonathan.

Following his salute, Jonathan pulled open the door and bowed slightly to exit the car.

"Greetings to Asura!" Karl said with a hoarse voice.

Meanwhile, a large crowd of people was shouting behind and around him.

"Asura!" they let out a deafening cheer in unison.

Sawyer felt the same kind of enthusiasm he had for Asura from the other generals of Eastern Army.

Fire blazed in Sawyer's eyes as he looked at Jonathan.

This man is the esprit de corps of Chanaea's military—the real Asura!

Lifting his right hand, Jonathan saluted swiftly.

"All this while, Eastern Army has been stationed at the battlefield of Doveston's River Onxy. It must have been a tiring fight with Medved Army!"

"We don't feel tired at all! We will fight for Chanaea until our deaths!"

Their angry roars even caused the brutal northern wind to die down a little.

While the air was filled with fighting spirits, Jonathan turned to look at Karl.

"It's been a while, Karl. How have you been?"