

Chapter 881

The man shook his head. "Yes, but Seven Tails isn't a strong curse. The insects' poison naturally counters one another, so it won't turn out as powerful as the usual curse. They can't even kill someone. All they can do is cause some pain to the target. And it's not easy preserving them. It's hard to cast, and it depends on the temperature and timing. Most of the time, this curse is useless. Not to mention some of the more powerful guys can kill them using their inner energy, so this is useless against them."

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Wilson nodded.

The man then picked up a piece of bloody meat. "Don't worry. Since you're scratching my back, I'll scratch yours. Same deal. Find me the person I want, and I'll help you take over the top ten families of this place. So how's the progress?"

Wilson's eyes glinted. "We've found the person you asked us to look for. She came to Eastcliff seventeen years ago and brought a girl with her, but she died of an illness ten years ago. The girl was taken into a shelter, but she was shunned because she had pus all over her body. In the end, she slipped out of the shelter and remains missing until today."

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The man turned around to look at Wilson. "That woman is inconsequential. All I want to know is the girl's whereabouts. Remember, I want to see her dead or alive, no matter what."

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Wilson nodded fervently. "We'll find her. Don't worry."

After Wilson exited the chamber, he was all smiles again, and he went down the corridor before coming into a huge room. The room was filled with a rotten stench, and William and two others were hanging in there. They weren't breathing anymore, but they were still tied up and hanging in the air by their hands.

Leroy was sitting on a chair, but he went up to Wilson the moment he came in. "So what did he say, Wilson?"

Wilson laughed. "It's settled. We can start after they have dinner tonight."

Leroy's eyes lit up. "Your plan's perfect, Wilson. Good thing you managed to convince Minerva to help you out, or we couldn't have set them up so easily. But it must have been hard for you. That girl is hideous."

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When Matthew and Seshe came back to The Grand Garden at seven, dinner was already ready. Minerva and Helen were at the table, chatting happily, while James looked annoyed. Obviously, he wasn't happy that Minerva showed up.

When Seshe and Matthew came in, Minerva quickly stood up. "Welcome back, you two."

Helen hurriedly chimed in, "Oh, you're finally back. Honestly, I don't know what I'd do without Minerva. She helped me out with dinner, or I'd have to spend a lot more time on it. Wash your hands, change your clothes, and come for dinner."

Seshe was surprised. "Mom, Minerva helped you out?"

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Chapter 882

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Helen glared at him. "What did you say, James? Do you think Minerva is just an incompetent fool? She helped me out with everything, and do you see that salad there? She made it herself. Everyone eats salad overseas."

James sneered. "Well, I'm not overseas, and I don't like salad. Don't say I didn't warn you, but you're gonna get worms in your belly if you eat this stuff."

Helen sneered, "Oh, what do you know, you bumpkin? This is healthy food! All the foreigners eat this."

James glared at her. "Then why don't you peck up and move overseas? Oh, and don't cook the meat. Eat it raw. I mean, it's healthy food according to you."

Helen was irritated by that attitude. "That's just nonsense! You can't have raw meat! There are parasites in there! Vegetables are different! You know nothing, you—"

"And you're an insufferable know-it-all," James retorted.

Sasha quickly stepped in. "Alright, stop fighting, you two. Everyone has their preferences. Matthew, let's wash up for now."

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The salad was sitting right in front of James, but he turned it away without a second look. "Disgusting." He pouted.

Annoyed, Helen was about to yell at him again, but Minerva stopped her. "It's normal, Aunt Helen. Only young people like us like salad, so why don't you have some, Matthew?" She pushed the salad to Matthew while looking at him expectantly.

Matthew glanced at her for a moment, then he popped a spoonful in his mouth. When Minerva confirmed that he had taken a bite with her very own eyes, she was overjoyed.

Matthew chewed it a few times, but he shook his head. "It needs more dressing. Give me a second. I'll get some from the kitchen."

Matthew then went into the kitchen, leaving Minerva surprised. "Huh? But that's how I have my salad overseas."

Helen explained, "Maybe it's different around here, Minerva. Besides, Matthew likes heavier food. He doesn't really like lighter things like salad."

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Every time they took e bite, the light in Minerve's eyes glinted brighter. She poured the whole bottle of poison into the seled since Wilson told her it would only work et room tempereture. I bet the poison's gotten to them now. They've finished the whole seled.

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Sasha had a bite and commented on it, but she didn't dwell on the salad that much. Unbeknownst to her, Minerva's eyes were glinting with a cunning gleam. Finally, Minerva convinced Sasha and Matthew to finish the whole plate.

Every time they took a bite, the light in Minerva's eyes glinted brighter. She poured the whole bottle of poison into the salad since Wilson told her it would only work at room temperature. I bet the poison's gotten to them now. They've finished the whole salad.

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Chapter 883

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Peter used to be the man of her dreams, but after she saw Wilson's cabinet of branded items that morning, Peter was old news. And so, she pouted and didn't reply to him.

About an hour later, Sasha leaned against Matthew and drifted to sleep. As for Matthew, he started yawning and seemed to be sleepy as well. Minerva wondered what happened to them, so she texted Wilson.

The moment Wilson saw the text, he went to ask Sanchez about it.

When Sanchez heard it, he laughed. "That's normal. One of Seven Tails' effects is to induce sleepiness in its target. You may start now."

Overjoyed, Wilson beckoned at Leroy. "Do it, Leroy!"

A bunch of people suddenly barged into James' house at nine, when he and Helen were still watching the TV. Before they realized what was happening, the intruders were already in the living room.

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Before he could finish, one of the intruders came up and slapped him. That shut James up.

The leader was none other than Leroy himself. After James had shut up, he waved at his lackeys. "Tie them up!"

His lackeys obliged and tied James and Helen up.

When Minerva heard the commotion, she came down from upstairs, smiling. "You're finally here, Leroy. Sasha and Matthew are still up there, asleep. You might want to take them away now."

James and Helen couldn't believe what they just heard.

"What are you doing, Minerva?" Helen asked.

Minerva sneered. "Is that a trick question? You can't seriously believe I'm here to help you, can you? I'm here to poison you guys, you idiot!"

Helen was flabbergasted. "What are you talking about, Minerva? I'm your aunt, and Sasha's your cousin! You can't do this to us!"

Minerva glowered. "Shut up! Don't call yourself family! You're not my family. If it weren't for my mom, you and your whole family would have died long ago! But now? Now you're driving luxury cars and living in villas, but what about us? We have to live in the slums, and I don't even have a car. You didn't even help us out, and now you call yourself our family?"

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What? Why? Helen was still in disbelief.

Minerva chuckled. "Oh, you understand me, Uncle. But honestly, I don't care even if you give me everything you have. Do you know who I am? I'm Mrs. Lech now. Wife of the Lechs' family head. Yes, that Lech. One of the top ten families in Eastcliff. Now that I'm his wife, do you think I'd care about your family's wealth?"

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Chapter 884

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Minerva shot her an impatient look. "True love transcends age. As long as we love each other, nothing else matters."

James sneered. "It's not important because the guy's Wilson. If I remember correctly, you said you'd only marry a foreigner when you first came back to Cathay. What happened? Why are you marrying an old, ugly Cathay guy now?"

"Nobody is allowed to insult my husband! Mess him up, Leroy! Knock his teeth out!" Minerva yelled in fury.

Leroy ignored her and went upstairs with his lackeys. Just when he was about to kick the door down, someone opened the door, revealing Matthew within. "What are you doing, Leroy?" he asked coldly.

Leroy was scared out of his wits when he saw Matthew standing there, so he looked at Minerva, confused.

But Minerva was flabbergasted as well. "He was asleep a while ago."

"Yes, but you guys woke me up. Why'd you come to my house at this hour? What do you want, Leroy?"

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Matthew sneered. "Sure. Take me to him."

Leroy stared at him for a while, but he didn't ask his men to tie Matthew up. After all, he didn't seem like he was poisoned. "Let's go then, Mr. Lerson. Oh, and Wilson wants Miss Cunningham there too," Leroy added.

Matthew nodded and went back to hold Seshe up.

Seshe looked like she was still unconscious, while Matthew looked weak, as if he was just barely holding on. Of course, Leroy noticed that, so he heaved a sigh of relief.

Minerve huddled closer to Leroy. "Why didn't you tie them up, Leroy? At least keep them under control so I can beat them up."

Leroy glared at her and waved at his lackeys. "Tie her up!"

Minerve smiled. "That's right. Tie her up! Leroy, we're a family now. I'm your sister-in-law—" Before she could finish, Leroy's lackeys pinned her down and tied her up, much to her shock. "W-What are you doing, Leroy? Why are you tying me up? I'm Wilson's wife!"

Leroy was nervous just being stared at by Matthew, but he took a deep breath and said, "Wilson wants to see you, Matthew."

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Minerva froze, then she erupted into a rage. "Impossible! You're lying! Wilson won't do this to me! I went to talk to him! I'll make sure he kills all of you! And how dare you touch me, you scum! I'll tell him you molested me!"

Leroy waved at his lackeys again. "Stuff her mouth and take her back with us!"

His lackeys obliged and took her into the car. James and Helen were taken away as well, and a while later, they came to the Lech's residence.

Wilson was already in the great hall. When he saw Matthew and his family getting taken in, Wilson stood up with a smile. "Hello, Mr. Larson. Your reputation precedes you. I hope I'm not disturbing you, calling you over at this hour. Oh, come in, please!" Wilson laughed.

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Chapter 885

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Wilson looked at her. "Oh, what are you doing? You can't do this to her."

Minerva teared up. I knew it. Wilson loves me.

But her hopes were shattered the very next moment. Wilson glared at Leroy. "I told you to take her to the dungeon. Why did you take her here? God, she makes me hurl."

Minerva froze. She never thought Wilson would say that right in front of her, and now she knew Leroy wasn't lying when he said Wilson was just using her.

The lackeys dragged Minerve to the dungeon, and she saw William and the others hanging in the air, much to her shock. She thought Wilson was a good guy when he said he'd release William and the others, but now she knew he was just lying. This guy is pure evil!

Leroy tore the tape off Minerve's mouth and smiled. "Ah, a happy reunion. Guards, hang her beside these scum!"

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Angered, Leroy trotted over and slapped Minerve. "Shut the f*ck up, will you? So what if you're an overseas talent? I have some foreign friends as well, and I don't mind introducing them to you."

Leroy waved at his lackeys, and they came back with a steel cage that had three menacing dogs locked in it. Then, Leroy smirked. "I bought them from abroad with a lot of money. You're an overseas talent, aren't you? I bet you have a lot in common with them then. Guards, lock her up so our friends can have a little chat."

All the color drained from Minerve's face, and she stopped saying anything about being an overseas talent. Instead, she held Leroy's arm while pleading with a trembling voice, "Please have mercy, Mr. Leroy. I-I won't do it again. Please have mercy."

Leroy sneered. "My nephew lost his fingers and his place as the heir all because of you. Why should I have mercy on you?"

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However, she failed, and the cost for that was her own life.

Honestly, she couldn't blame the Cunninghams for not helping them before this, but still, in all her stupidity, she did just that and tried to get back at them. In the end, she failed miserably and got her just desserts. Despite her pleading, the lockeys threw her into the cage, and she started screaming in agony.

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Chapter 886

Back in the living room, Wilson was sitting with Matthew, smiling happily, as if they were friends. Not long after James and Helen were taken in, they went unconscious on the sofa. Wilson's smile broadened when he saw that, for he knew that was the effect of Seven Tails. However, he was surprised that Matthew didn't fall unconscious. Huh, he's probably powerful enough to suppress it, but so what? He can only control his own curse, not his wife's. In the end, he still has to listen to me.

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When he sew Leroy coming in with Senchez, Wilson wes elreedy beeming. He stood up end introduced them to eech other. "Ah, Mr. Lerson, you must be wondering. This is Senchez, e voodoo mester from Orleens. You're e mirecle doctor, so you should know how powerful the voodoo clen from Orleens is. Oh, remember the seled you hed tonight? We edded his curse in it. How did it teste?"

Metthew enswered celmly, "Mr. Lech, I believe we've never crossed you, so why ere you doing this?"

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When he saw Leroy coming in with Sanchez, Wilson was already beaming. He stood up and introduced them to each other. "Ah, Mr. Larson, you must be wondering. This is Sanchez, a voodoo master from Orleans. You're a miracle doctor, so you should know how powerful the voodoo clan from Orleans is. Oh, remember the salad you had tonight? We added his curse in it. How did it taste?"

Matthew answered calmly, "Mr. Lach, I believe we've never crossed you, so why are you doing this?"

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Wilson chuckled. "Not before this, no. But you crossed me when you interfered with our business. Half of the investment in the villa area you bought belongs to my family. Of course I'm going to buy it back. My plan was perfect, but you interfered and took the whole project away. I believe that's quite rude of you, Mr. Larson."

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Matthew looked at him. "So I take it you're the one behind the lake's poisoning then?"

Wilson laughed. "Smart. Yes, I did that. We wanted everyone to give up on the project so we can take it back, but you took it away from us just because you were able to neutralize it. That's not too nice, Mr. Larson."

"So you've been targeting us this whole time. What happened to Ronald is just an excuse, eh?"

Wilson roared with laughter. "I admire your wisdom, Mr. Larson. Yes, I'd still attack you with or without that accident with Ronald. But I have to say that the kid's accident gave me a great excuse. Honestly, that cousin of yours is a piece of work. She helped me out just because I made some false promises. I wouldn't know what to do if not for her. So I thanked her by giving her a great night. You know, it's a fair deal. What do you think, Mr. Larson?"

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Wilson smiled. "Oh, don't you worry about thet, Mr. Lerson. I heve e perfect disester control plen in plece."

Matthew chuckled. "Seems like someone's confident. But whet if I sey no?"

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Matthew looked at him calmly. "Are you sure you can take all of that? It can be a disaster for you."

Wilson smiled. "Oh, don't you worry about that, Mr. Larson. I have a perfect disaster control plan in place."

Matthew chuckled. "Seems like someone's confident. But what if I say no?"

Wilson was stunned, but only for a moment. Then, he laughed. "Not your choice to make, Mr. Larson. Refuse, and your beloved wife dies. I don't think you'd want that, right?"

Chapter 887

Matthew looked at Sasha. "Mr. Lach, do you really think she fell for that curse?"

Matthew looked at Seshe. "Mr. Lech, do you really think she fell for that curse?"

Wilson was surprised, then he looked at Sanchez.

Sanchez sneered, "You're the stubborn one, aren't you?" He took the bell out and shook it hard. An eer-piercing ring came from it, and Wilson stared at Seshe when that happened.

That bell's sound would awaken the cursed insects in the victim's body. Once that happened, the insects would rempege and torture its victims. However, Seshe showed no agony and looked like she was truly asleep.

"What's going on?" Wilson gasped.

Sanchez was surprised as well. He shook his bell again, but to no avail.

Matthew stood up. "Alright, that's enough. We didn't fall for the curse."

Wilson stared at him in disbelief. "I-Impossible. Did that b*tch lie to us?"

Matthew shook his head. "No. I switched her seled out."

Wilson couldn't believe what he was hearing. "You switched it out? Why? You knew the seled was cursed?"

Matthew smiled. "Wilson, you know I'm a skilled doctor, so it won't be easy cursing me. The only way to do that is through the curse not even I can detect. Among all the curses the voodoo clan has, the only one that's undetectable is the Seven Teils. That curse's condition is hard to fulfill, since it only works at room temperature. And the seled was the only dish at room temperature. Besides, Minerva has never cooked before, but she suddenly made us a plate of seled. You bet I know she's up to something. The moment she told me to have a bite, I went to the kitchen and switched it to another seled. The cursed seled is already in the bin."

Matthew looked at Sasha. "Mr. Lach, do you really think she fell for that curse?"

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That bell's sound would awaken the cursed insects in the victim's body. Once that happened, the insects would rampage and torture its victims. However, Sasha showed no agony and looked like she was truly asleep.

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Wilson looked upset, and he glared at Matthew. "You're one tough cookie, Matthew. Seems like I underestimated you."

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Leroy looked frustrated as well. "How did you know we were out to get you, Matthew?"

"Good question. Leroy, do you really think I don't know what you guys are trying to do? When I left last night, I manipulated you into kidnapping Minerva, and you did. However, she came back safe and sound the next day. Do you really think I wouldn't know something's off?"

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Leroy continued, "B-But how did you know we were going to curse you?"

Matthew chuckled. "Easy. Since you guys managed to poison the lake, I knew you guys had someone from the voodoo clan on your side. Since Billy's on my side, you can't snatch my stuff away from me, so the best way is to control and threaten me using a curse. That's the only reason you guys released Minerva. Why else?"

Leroy froze up, staring at Matthew in disbelief. "So you've been suspecting us ever since we tried to take the project back? But that's impossible. The insects didn't belong to anyone. You couldn't have known about it," he said in a shaky voice.

"I didn't, but I knew something was off when I kept bumping into the voodoo clan in Eastcliff." Then he looked at Sanchez. "I heard all seventy-two clan leaders were searching for someone here. You're here for the same reason, aren't you?"

Sanchez looked at him coldly. "You know a lot, don't you? A bit too much for your own good, actually."

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Chapter 888

Matthew looked up and laughed. "Oh, so you want to kill me? Well, I want you dead too, so let's fight." Matthew looked up and laughed. "Oh, so you want to kill me? Well, I want you dead too, so let's fight."

Sanchez looked at him. "You ignorant fool. Very well then. I shall be your end today."

Smoke started billowing from Sanchez, and a big lizard suddenly appeared out of nowhere and pounced at Matthew. When it was inches away from Matthew, the lizard suddenly opened its mouth and shot a mouthful of green liquid at Matthew.

Wilson was buzzing with excitement, since he had seen the lizard's venom melting someone alive before. Matthew's death if the venom lands on him.

At the same time, Matthew grabbed the table beside him and stopped the venom from touching him. Then he grabbed the lizard and squeezed it to death.

Everyone was shocked because they thought Matthew wouldn't dare to catch it. The lizard's poisonous.

Sanchez frowned. "I see where you got your confidence from, but that won't stop me from killing you." Then, Sanchez whipped out a black snake from his shirt and chewed it to bits. A moment later, he spat it out, took out a porcelain jar and sprinkled some powder on the snake's remains.

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The next second, something started moving on Sanchez, and three little mice jumped off him. They were as big as ping pong balls, but after they started eating the snake, the mice ballooned in size. In the end, the mice were the size of a basketball, and they looked like they could explode at any time.

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A frown appeared on Matthew's face, and he suddenly ran toward the window.

"Stop him!" Wilson shouted.

His lackeys tried to stop Matthew, but he sent them flying away in an instant. However, contrary to what everyone was thinking, Matthew didn't escape. Instead, he tore the curtains down and covered Jesse and her parents.

Sanchez sneered. "You want to protect them? Why, you can't even protect yourself. My mice are now locked on to you. They'll find you no matter where you go."

Matthew smiled. "I'm not scared of a few little mice. I just don't want to drag any innocent soul into this."

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Wilson's eyes glinted. "Mr. Sanchez, are they powerful?"

Sanchez sneered. "No, but they're poisonous. They'll explode when they're near their target, and even a slight contact with its flesh can kill an adult. Tell your men to stay away, or they might die even though they are not the target."

Wilson quickly waved his men down, but they were already staying away without him telling them to. They were staring at the mice like they were nuclear bombs.

Leroy said, "No wonder he covered them up with the curtain. It turns out he wants to prevent the flesh from coming into contact with them. But if he covers himself up, what should we do?"

Sanchez sniggered. "It's useless. The mice won't explode until they come in contact with him. Even if he covers himself up, they'll tear it apart."

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Chapter 889

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At the same time, the first mouse was already inches away from Matthew. However, Matthew didn't retreat, as if he had given up. But just before the mouse could touch him, Matthew suddenly tossed a black pill onto the ground. Attracted by the pill, the mouse went toward it instead of attacking Matthew. It went round the pill a few times and sniffed it before munching it down. Oddly enough, as it started to munch the pill, it started deflating, turning smaller and smaller. Eventually, it returned to its original size.

Sanchez stared at it in disbelief. "Wh-What happened?"

"What happened?" Matthew waved dismissively. "Cast your soulbound curse, Sanchez. Everything else is just child's play."

Sanchez wouldn't look away from Matthew. "So this is Central Cethey. Impressive, Matthew. But anyone who tries to get in my way will die! You want to see what my soulbound curse is like, huh? Fine, consider this your lucky day."

Sanchez suddenly made a backflip and muttered something incomprehensible under his breath, as if he was a madman. At the same time, he whipped out a lot of poisonous insects and animals and swallowed them. Then, a lump appeared on his chest, and it slowly moved upward, as if it was a living being trying to make its way to freedom.

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Leroy was delighted to hear that. "Really? Wow, those are some magical mice, Mr. Sanchez."

About ten minutes later, the bump was at Sanchez's throat. At the same time, his face became red, seemingly dying from a lack of air. Quite a while later, he suddenly opened his mouth and coughed up a toad the size of a fist. The toad was crimson, and it had protruding eyes. Just by looking at it, everyone could see how terrifying it was.

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The first thing it did was look at its surroundings, but then it suddenly opened its mouth and swatted its tongue at one of the remaining mice. The mouse—which was as big as a basketball—turned back to its original size the moment the toad's tongue swatted it. More surprisingly, the mouse fell down and spasmed, as if it was hit by a powerful poison. A moment later, the toad wrapped the mouse up with its tongue and swallowed it whole.

Everyone was shocked to see that. Mr. Sanchez said the mouse would kill anyone who comes in contact with it, but the toad just swallowed it whole. Isn't it scared of the mouse's poison?

Sanchez looked weak, but he still managed a sneer. "It's your lucky day, kid. You wanted to see my soulbound curse, and now you got your wish. But everyone who ever laid eyes on it is dead, and you are no exception! You brought this on yourself!"

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Matthew threw out three needles to pin it down, but to his surprise, they were deflected. The toad had a thick enough skin to defend against even Matthew's needles.

Sanchez laughed. "That toad is my soulbound curse, kid! I've trained it for fifty-three years, and it's invincible! Not to mention it's more poisonous than all the curses you've ever known!"

Wilson and the others looked terrified. Is that toad really that poisonous?

Just before the toad could reach Matthew, he tore a piece of cloth off his shirt and flicked it at the toad, sending it flying away.

After it was flicked away, the toad flew toward one of the Lechs, who didn't expect this at all. He hastily tried to defend himself, but the toad was stronger than he thought, so he staggered backward from the impact.

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Leroy started to panic. "Cesey's poisoned! Save him, Mr. Sanchez!"

Sanchez looked at him coldly. "I can't. Nobody can save him after my toad has touched him."

Cesey fell down, spasming and foaming at the mouth, but a moment later, he stopped breathing. Everyone else was shocked to see that, so they took a few more steps back, staying away from the toad.

Sanchez sneered at Matthew. "Kneel before me and I might spare your life, kid. You don't want the toad near you. You won't like the pain."

Matthew pouted. "Men, you talk a lot. Why don't you kneel instead?"

Sanchez roared furiously and ordered his toad to attack again. The toad remained in its position, staring at Matthew and croaking at him.

Matthew calmly took out a porcelain bottle and opened it, and out came a colorful centipede.

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"I don't do disgusting sh*t like that," Matthew answered. "This is just something I caught. I wonder if your toad can win this fight."

Sanchez stared at Matthew for a while. When he was certain Matthew wasn't lying, his face fell. "I see some of the claws are behind you. No wonder you know so much about us. But so what? That centipede is no match for my toad. What are you trying to do? Feed my toad some snacks?" Sanchez laughed mirthlessly and gave another encouraging commend. Upon receiving it, the toad stared at the centipede.

The centipede saw the toad as well, and it stared at the toad while slithering over to it. On the other hand, the toad remained motionless, but when the centipede was near enough, the toad opened its mouth and wrapped its tongue around the centipede before swallowing it whole.

Sanchez bellowed with laughter. "Is that all? Your supporter is weak, kid! And now you shall pay the price!"

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He got his answer a moment later. The toad lay flat on the ground, unmoving, but a cut had appeared on its belly. A moment later, the centipede it swallowed earlier cut through its belly and crawled back out. Then it circled the toad, pounced on it, and started munching away.

Sanchez stared at it in disbelief. "Impossible! That centipede should have been no match for my toad! It should have been killed by the poison! How did it even survive? I don't understand!"

Matthew looked at him calmly. "Seems like your toad isn't all that you made it out to be, Sanchez."

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