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"Is the kid really that powerful?" Jeremy was stunned. "Are you planning to recruit him into Herb Palace?"

"That's right. Herb Palace needs talent like him!" Spencer nodded.

"But Kai killed Zachariah. Also, didn't you say that the Jantz family has patrons in Jadeborough? If they attempt to exact revenge on Kai, what are we going to do?" Jeremy didn't understand why Spencer was interested in recruiting Kai when he was embroiled in so much controversy.

"Haha. Jeremy, although the Jantz family has Derek, have you forgotten about Herb Palace's patron in Jadeborough? Do you think that I'll be afraid of anyone?" Spencer burst out into hearty laughter.

Jeremy nodded repeatedly. "That's true. No one is stronger than the Baileys in Jadeborough."

"Go now. The Martial Arts Gathering is about to begin. We have to increase the value of the prize this year and finish the renovations for Trader Street. Only by increasing our fame can we attract a greater flow of precious herbs and treasures," Spencer instructed with a wave of his hand.

"I understand!" With that, Jeremy went off to do Spencer's bidding.

After Jeremy was gone, a man in his late twenties walked out from behind the hall. He was dressed formally and exuded an air of nobility.

Spencer got to his feet quickly and greeted with a bow, "Mr. Bailey."

Only someone truly distinguished could elicit such respect from the Palace Chief of Herb Palace. That person was none other than Tristan Bailey of the prominent Bailey family of Jadeborough. Despite being in his twenties, he was a Sixth Level Grandmaster who was stronger than an Internal Energy Grandmaster.

The reason he was able to achieve such power at a young age was due to the Bailey family's close relationship with Herb Palace. Every year, Herb Palace would send huge amounts of pills to the Baileys as tribute. The pills were then used to supplement the Baileys and their subordinates' martial arts training.

"Mr. Schmidt, welcome! Please take a seat."

Despite being an illustrious member of the Bailey family and possessing exceptional power, Tristan was someone reserved.

"Mr. Bailey, I'm surprised that you're attending the Martial Arts Gathering in person this year. Is there anything I can help you with?" Spencer probed, as he took his seat.

"Mmm-hmm." Tristan nodded. "My family has lost a magical tool. Not only can it nourish one's body, but it can also dispel any sinister effects. Thus, I'm here to see if the item will resurface in this year's Martial Arts Gathering."

Spencer was stunned to hear Tristan's reason. "Mr. Bailey, I'm shocked to learn that someone actually dared to steal from the Baileys."

Tristan let out an awkward laugh. "Let's not talk about that. Anyway, I'll be

sending my men over here. All you need to do is to take care of them. Also, you cannot tell anyone else of my visit.”

“Mr. Bailey, don’t worry. My lips are sealed.” Spencer nodded.

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As the Martial Arts Gathering approached, many martial artists began to arrive in Tayhaven. A small town of ten thousand people was now bustling with life. After spending a few days with Josephine in Horington, Kai returned to Summerbank. Initially, he had planned to leave Josephine in Horington. However, due to the recent attack by Crescent Sect, he no longer dared to let Josephine leave his side.

Therefore, Tommy drove both of them to Summerbank in the afternoon.

“You’re finally here! Do you know how many days I’ve been waiting for you?”

Lizbeth remarked anxiously when she saw both of them arrive.

“Lizbeth, why are you waiting for us? Aren’t you supposed to be at work?”

Josephine asked quizzically when she saw Lizbeth and the others waiting for them.

Equally curious, Kai enquired, “Did something happen?”

“I quit my job! Therefore, I don’t have to go work anymore,” Lizbeth explained.

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“Quit?” Kai and Josephine looked at Lizbeth in surprise.

They were cognizant of Lizbeth’s dream to become an investigator where she could take down criminals and protect the innocent.

Consequently, they were taken aback by her decision.

“Why did you quit?” Josephine asked.

“I have to become stronger before I can fulfill my dream. Therefore, I want Kai to be my master!” Lizbeth declared with a resolute expression.

Recently, Lizbeth was traumatized by the fact that she was helpless against the overwhelming power of her enemies even though she was a member of the Department of Justice. Therefore, she decided to quit and train so that she could become stronger.

Nevertheless, her words almost caused Kai to choke on himself.

At the same time, Josephine covered her mouth as she giggled. “Lizbeth, have you gone mad? If Kai becomes your master, how are you going to address me going forward? Are you going to call me mistress?”

"Sheesh, I'm not going to do that. Besides, aren't you embarrassed for saying that? Both of you aren't even married."

Lizbeth rolled her eyes at Josephine and returned her attention to Kai. "Kai, please accept me as your student and teach me martial arts!"

"I don't take in students." Kai shook his head.

"You have no choice. I'm going to follow you everywhere you go."

Lizbeth grabbed his arm and looked as if she was going to leech on him.

Faced with Lizbeth's cheeky action, Kai looked helplessly at Josephine, hoping that she would help him defuse the situation.

Josephine chuckled in response. "I'm not going to help you. You can always compromise."

Kai let out a sigh. "Fine. I'll teach you by giving you some pointers once in a while, but I won't be your master."

Left without a choice, Kai relented.

"Sure. As long as you're willing to teach me." After cracking a smile, Lizbeth pulled Josephine away. While leaving, she remarked, "Josephine, I'll take you to see my newest makeup foundation. It's amazing!"

Staring at the two of them, Kai smiled to himself.

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"Mr. Chance, Phoenix has brought the herbs over," Tommy informed Kai as he approached.

Nodding in acknowledgment, Kai followed Tommy into a room that had been specially prepared for Kai to make pills.

When Phoenix saw Kai, she reported, "Mr. Chance, Herb Palace has sent the herbs over. In fact, they have even given us extra. It seems that they aren't aware of the fact that Zachariah is dead."

Glancing at the herbs, he could tell that they were centuries old and of the highest quality just from the spiritual energy they were emitting.

"No, they are definitely aware of it," Kai replied with a smile.

Given that more than ten days had passed since Zachariah had been killed, it was impossible for Herb Palace not to know. The fact that such a huge organization would be oblivious to such news was simply inconceivable.

"If they already knew, why would they still deal with us? After all, my men were masquerading as the Jantz family when negotiating with them," Phoenix inquired with a puzzled expression.

"I don't have an answer for that. Perhaps, they have some other plan in mind." Kai was equally baffled by what Herb Palace was up to. Then, he added, "Since they have sent us the herbs, we'll just accept them. Coincidentally, I'm going to make some pills for both of you to further elevate your strength."

"Thank you, Mr. Chance," Phoenix and Tommy expressed their gratitude in excitement.

Tommy in particular was motivated by his arrival in Summerbank. He really wanted to increase his strength, hoping to become an Internal Energy Grandmaster one day. That way, he would no longer have any regrets. After getting Tommy and Phoenix to stand guard outside, Kai sat down with his legs crossed and made more than ten pills from the herbs that were worth billions.

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When he was done, he gave all of them to Phoenix and Tommy. Tommy was given a larger share, as he was a lot weaker than Phoenix.

Holding the pills in their hands, Tommy and Phoenix were filled with gratitude because they were well aware of the cost of the pills. Consequently, Kai's gesture further cemented their loyalty toward him.

"Tommy, I plan to make more revitalizing pills. Hence, please take this list of ingredients and procure all the herbs on it," Kai instructed.

"All right." Tommy nodded before leaving with Phoenix.

Kai wanted to make more revitalizing pills so that he could be prepared for any emergency. Given that he didn't have any money on hand, he planned to trade them for anything that caught his eye during the Martial Arts Gathering.

In the evening, Lizbeth invited Kai and Josephine to dinner to thank him for agreeing to teach her martial arts.

"Go on, just tell me what you would like to eat. There's no need to hold back!" Lizbeth offered.

"Why don't you decide? You would know better than us on what's good in Summerbank," Josephine replied.

"All right then, let's have teppanyaki. I know of a restaurant that's especially good!"

Just as she spoke, Lizbeth opened the car door.

When she was about to get in, her phone suddenly rang. Over the line, her family instructed her to return home for dinner, as there was something important going on."

When Lizbeth's expression turned awkward, Josephine smiled at her. "Don't worry about it. You should just head home. We'll just have dinner somewhere around here."

"Why don't you come home together with me? My parents are actually looking forward to seeing Kai," Lizbeth suggested.

"Your parents want to see Kai?" Josephine was stunned.

Realizing that her words had come out wrong, she quickly explained with a blushing face, "It's all Oliver's fault. He has been singing Kai's praises all day at home until my parents were so curious about Kai!"

"Do you think this is appropriate?" Kai asked embarrassingly.

"Why wouldn't it be? Quick, get in the car!"

After ushering both of them into her car, Lizbeth sped home right away.

Although her parents were important officials in Summerbank, they stayed in an ordinary neighborhood. Despite living in a three-bedroom apartment, it was quite spacious inside.

At that moment, a Rolls-Royce was parked inside the neighborhood and looked extremely out of place.

"Whose luxury car is that? It even has a Jadeborough car plate," Lizbeth mumbled.

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At the same time, Kai and Josephine followed behind her with gifts in their hands. Since it was their first visit to Lizbeth's home, they naturally couldn't show up empty-handed.

The moment Lizbeth opened the door to her home, she noticed that there were two more guests. Also, a somber atmosphere seemed to have dominated the house.

Upon entering, Kai and Josephine sensed the awkwardness in the air too.

When Kai looked at the young man sitting on the couch, he could tell that the young man had the strength of an Internal Energy Grandmaster from the martial energy he was emitting. In fact, the man was even more powerful than Zachariah. Behind the young man was a burly and stern-looking middle-aged man. He emitted an aura that was even more powerful than that of the young man. Both of them were top-tier warriors in Summerbank. At that instant, Kai understood why Luke wanted to send his son out into the world. Evidently, there was always someone more powerful within the martial arts world.

Meanwhile, when the young man felt Kai's aura, he raised his gaze at Kai before averting his eyes quickly.

"Dad, Mom, why is he here?" Lizbeth questioned her parents angrily at the sight of the young man on the couch.

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The young man stood up and smiled at Lizbeth. "Lizbeth, I'm here to see you. Although our engagement has been called off, both of us are still single. Therefore, there's still a chance of us reconciling."
"Franco, you should just give up. I would rather die alone than marry you. Haven't you humiliated me enough back then? Why don't you go look for Ms. Bailey instead? Or have you been dumped by her?" Lizbeth gave Franco a look of disdain. Instead of being angered, Franco simply smiled. "Lizbeth, actually, I still like you and have dumped Mandy a long time ago. This time, I came specifically to visit you!"
Just as he spoke, Franco tried to grab Lizbeth. Even though she tried to avoid him, he was just too fast for her.

The moment she felt his grip on her hand, her expression drastically changed. Subsequently, she tried desperately to struggle free. "Franco, you b*stard! Let go of me!"
Right when Lizbeth's parents were about to protest, the middle-aged man shot them a glare. They were so intimidated by it that they recoiled in fear. All of a sudden, Josephine bellowed, "Who are you? Are you trying to cause trouble here? Let go of Lizbeth!"
Upon Josephine's protest, the middle-aged man unleashed a frightening force in Josephine's direction.

"Hmph!"
Snorting, Kai pulled Josephine behind her and intercepted the middle-aged man's attack with a burst of his own spiritual energy. As the two massive waves of energy collided, the middle-aged man was pushed back by a few steps before he could steady himself.

After that, Kai stepped forward and pried Franco's hand away from Lizbeth. "You should treat a lady with more respect," Kai snapped with an icy tone as he gave Franco a deathly stare. In response, the middle-aged man's gaze was filled with murderous intent. "I'm surprised to see that Summerbank still has such young talent."
The moment he finished, the middle-aged man clenched his fists and prepared to attack.

"Eddy, stand down!" Upon Franco's instructions, the middle-aged man withdrew his fists. Subsequently, Franco gave Kai a hostile look. "Who are you to Lizbeth?"

"A friend!" Kai replied indifferently before he released his grip on Franco's hand. After scrutinizing Kai from head to toe, Franco suppressed his hostility. "I'm here for business, not to fight. We can spar next time when the opportunity arises."
Franco then turned toward Lizbeth's parents. "Mr. Grange, I hope you will consider what I have proposed just now. As long as you can help me find who I'm looking for, I promise to leverage the Coopers' entire network to get you transferred to Jadeborough for work."
"I'll think about it," Lizbeth's father replied.
After nodding satisfactorily, Franco left together with Eddy.

“Dad, who is Franco asking you to find? Haven’t our family been humiliated enough by him? Why do you still help him?” Lizbeth questioned her father loudly after Franco was gone.

Her father brought out a photo of a girl. “He wants me to use all my contacts in Summerbank to find her, saying that she might be here in this city. Hence, it’s not really a big deal.”

“You should have rejected him on the spot. Why are you even considering it? It appears to me that you are desiring an official position in Jadeborough!”

After she yelled at the father, Lizbeth turned around and ran out of the house.

Feeling awkward, Kai and Josephine had no choice but to put down the gifts they brought and run after her.

Inside the car, Lizbeth cried pitifully.

Josephine consoled her softly, “Lizbeth, who is that man? Why did he break off his engagement with you?”

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After wiping away her tears, Lizbeth began to relate her story.

When Walter was still an official in Summerbank, he was on good terms with the Coopers of Jadeborough. Back then, the Coopers were still an ordinary family. Their influence began to grow only after leveraging Walter’s network.

When Lizbeth had just graduated from university, she was engaged to Franco under Walter’s auspices. Back then, she liked Franco for his distinguished looks and capabilities.

However, the good times didn’t last. After Walter retired, Franco not only called off the engagement but also proposed to Mandy Bailey of the prominent Jadeborough family in front of everyone. Consequently, the matter dealt a severe blow to both Lizbeth and her family. From then on, the two families fell out with each other.

Gritting her teeth, Josephine cursed, “Franco is worse than an animal!”

Kai let out a gentle sigh at the wheel. The relationship only lasted while it was still in their interest to do so. The Coopers have been extremely ruthless in this matter. Unfortunately, many in this day and age behave the same way too.

After having a simple dinner outside, Kai went back, while Josephine spent the night with Lizbeth to comfort her. Subsequently, Kai used the time he had to make more revitalizing pills.

The next morning, Jesse came to see him.

"Mr. Chance, if you want to attend the Martial Arts Gathering, we will have to travel there today. Or else, we might not be able to find any accommodation if we're late," Jesse informed him respectfully.

"All right then. Please wait for a moment. Let me leave some instructions with my men."

After nodding in acknowledgment, Kai ordered Tommy and Phoenix to keep an eye on Josephine. With that, he traveled to Tayhaven Town together with Jesse. A long time ago, Tayhaven was a poor town. It wasn't until Herb Palace developed it and held the annual Martial Arts Gathering did it become a thriving place.

In every corner of the town, one could see medical institutions, hotels, and heavy traffic. Compared to many third or fourth-tier cities, it bustled with a lot more activities.

"Mr. Chance, I have already made reservations for our accommodation. However, the hotels here are a lot simpler than those in Summerbank. Therefore, you will have to lower your expectations."

Jesse led Kai to a small hotel and stopped at its entrance.

"It's okay." It didn't matter to Kai where he stayed.

When Kai followed Jesse into the hotel, he swept his gaze across the lobby and noticed the presence of many warriors with strong internal energy. Among them were a few Internal Energy Grandmasters.

As Jesse walked across the lobby, many of them greeted him. Evidently, he was well known in that area.

It wasn't until they arrived at the last room along the third-floor corridor that Jesse remarked, "Mr. Chance, this is already the hotel's best room. You'll have to bear with it for the trip."

When Kai entered the room, he noticed that it was only slightly bigger than ten square meters. There was also a bed and a washroom. Even though the facilities were rudimentary, the entire place was very clean and had cheerful surroundings. When Kai opened the window, he was greeted by the sight of the largest street in Tayhaven Town.

"Jesse, did you make reservations for the room?"

At that moment, a group of men approached both of them.

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In their lead was an elderly man who looked to be in his seventies. He was thin and frail with veins bulging all over his body. In fact, he looked no different from a shriveled corpse. Nonetheless, his eyes sparkled brightly while he walked with a spring in his step.

Behind the old man were two young men. One of them was massively built and had a brawny air to him. As for the other, he looked a lot scrawnier. In spite of that, he had a set of mesmerizing eyes and emitted a smoldering aura, just like a proud fighting cock ready to strike at any moment.

The one who had just spoken to Jesse was the burly man, who happened to be smiling at Jesse at that very moment.

